

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.107
ANSWERED ON 18.11.2019**

MAHATMA GANDHI TOURISM CIRCUIT

107. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to initiate Mahatma Gandhi tourism circuit connecting all Gandhiji's historic work places in his 150 anniversary;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has promoted any tourism circuits so far or has it been the responsibility of the States so far;**
- (d) whether the Government is considering to formulate a tourism circuit connecting the important places of India's freedom struggle in future; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism under its scheme of Swadesh Darshan is developing thematic circuits in the country in a planned and prioritized manner.

Under the scheme fifteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Heritage Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Tirthankar Circuit.

Ministry has not identified any specific thematic circuit for development of places related to Mahatma Gandhi and India's freedom struggle. However, a number of places associated with Mahatma Gandhi and India's freedom struggle are covered under the projects sanctioned under the scheme. The following two projects sanctioned under the scheme covers places associated with the life of Mahatma Gandhi:

- i. Development of Heritage Circuit: Ahmedabad- Rajkot- Porbandar –Bardoli- Dandi in Gujarat**
- ii. Development of Rural circuit: Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia in Bihar**

Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination covering its various tourism circuits, destinations and products across different States/Union Territories in the country.
