

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†1363
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

DEVELOPMENT OF BIRTH PLACE OF LORD MAHAVIR

†1363. SHRI CHIRAG KUMAR PASWAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to develop the birth place of Lord Mahavir in Lachhuar of Jamui district, Bihar along with the details thereof;**
- (b) the project on which work is going on to develop tourism in Lachhuar and the time by which it is likely to be completed along with the details thereof;**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to attract foreign tourists in Lachhuar;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to work on PPP model to provide world class facilities to the tourists; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Ministry of Tourism has identified Tirthankar Circuit as one of the fifteen thematic circuits for development under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme. All sites associated with Jainism in the country are covered under this circuit. Ministry has sanctioned a project Development of Tirthankar Circuit: Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Jamui-Champapuri in Bihar in 2016-17 for Rs. 52.39 Crore. The project covers development of facilities like Parking, Signages, Souvenir shop, Drinking Water Fountain, Toilet, Benches, Pathways, Battery Operated Vehicles etc. at Lachhuar in Jamui. The project has registered 45% physical progress as on date.

(c): Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination under the Incredible India brand-line. As part of its on-going activities, the Ministry annually releases print, electronic, online and outdoor media campaigns in the international and domestic markets, to promote various tourism destinations and products of the country, including those in the State of Bihar. In addition, the Indiatourism Offices in India and overseas disseminate information and undertake various promotional activities with the objective of showcasing the varied tourist destinations and products of the country.

(d) and (e): The Ministry under the scheme of Viability Gap Funding provides financial assistance to promote Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in tourism infrastructure development. The financial assistance is provided to Central Ministries, State Governments, Statutory Authorities and Private company for large projects like Tourist Trains, Inter-Island/ Intra-Island/ Inland Waterway Ferries, Sea Cruise Vessels, Convention Centre's, Rope-ways/ Cable Cars/ Funicular Rail, Theme Parks, Amusement Parks, Ski-Cable, Heli-Tourism, Spas. etc.
