Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mithila region has been a centre of many historical and religious sites;
(b) whether due to lack of proper development of these historical and religious sites, the influx of pilgrims and tourists has declined drastically;
(c) whether the Tourism Ministry proposes to renovate such sites by bringing major historical and religious sites of Mithila region under Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD scheme in order to develop them as a tourist circuit;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (e): Ministry of Tourism under its PRASHAD Scheme has identified development of Punaura Dham in Sitamarhi District in Mithila for development. As of now no other proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar for development of Mithila region under the “PRASHAD” and revamped scheme 2.0 of Swadesh Darshan. Under “PRASHAD” scheme of the Ministry of Tourism, Central Financial Assistance is provided to the respective State Governments/Union Territories Administrations for development of pilgrimage and/or heritage tourism infrastructure at such places on receipt of suitable proposals from the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in line with the scheme guidelines and subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports and utilization of funds released earlier.

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