

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1562
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024**

BUDDHIST CIRCUIT TRAINS TO TRAVEL BUDDHIST HERITAGE POINTS

1562. DR. RABINDRA NARAYAN BEHERA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding Buddhist Circuit Trains proposed to start this year from Bodhagaya, Rajgiri, Nalanda, Sarnath, Lumbini etc.;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that much before the Covid pandemic the train was planned to come to Ratnagiri, Udaigiri, Lalitgiri and other places, if so, the current status thereof;**
- (c) whether the new itinerary of these places are not included in the proposal, if so the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for covering these world famous heritage points in Buddhist Circuit Trains in view of immense tourism potential?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) to (d) Theme based tourist circuit trains are operated under the framework of Bharat Gaurav Trains Policy issued by Indian Railways on 14.11.2021. The tourist circuit trains are planned accordingly, covering different themes and itineraries across the country based on passenger demand.

The Buddhist Circuit Tour, being operated by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), covers Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Varanasi (Sarnath), Kushinagar(Lumbini - Nepal) and Sravasti.

Such circuits are run as per the traffic demand for various locations. Circuits are added as and when demand is available.
