

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3258
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

RAMAYANA CIRCUIT

3258. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any tourism initiative named as the Ramayana Circuit;**
- (b) if so, the details of the cities being included thereof;**
- (c) the details of States and UTs that are included in the said initiative;**
- (d) whether the State of Bihar has also been the core component of the said initiative, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to include the Thawe Peeth of District Gopalganj of Bihar in the Ramayana Circuit, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism through its ongoing central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments (SGs)/UT Administrations (UTs) for development of tourism facilities/amenities. This assistance is provided to the SGs/UTs in line with the scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. Ministry of Tourism as part of Swadesh Darshan scheme sanctioned 76 projects in the country under identified thematic circuits including 2 projects in Ramayana Circuit theme, as per the details given below:-

(Amount in ₹ crore)

Sl. No.	State	Theme/Year of Sanction	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Ramayana Circuit 2016-17	Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur	69.45
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Ramayana Circuit 2017-18	Development of Ayodhya	127.21

Ministry of Tourism under SD sanctioned 5 projects in Bihar, as per the details given below:-

(Amount in ₹ crore)

Sl. No.	Theme/ Year of Sanction	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Tirthankar Circuit/ 2016-17	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri	33.96
2.	Spiritual Circuit/ 2016-17	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76
3.	Buddhist Circuit/ 2016-17	Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18
4.	Rural Circuit 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandraha- Turkaulia	44.27
5.	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	44.55

Under PRASHAD scheme, Ministry has sanctioned 02 Projects in the State of Bihar as per the details given below:-

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Sl. No.	Year of Sanction	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned
1.	2015-16	Development at Patna Sahib	29.62
2.	2014-15	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple	3.63

The Ministry has recently revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations and has identified 57 destinations in the country for development under SD 2.0 including 'Gaya' & 'Nalanda'

in Bihar. Further under ‘Challenge Based Destination Development’ (CBDD), a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0, the Ministry has identified 42 destinations in the country for development including ‘Bhagalpur’ and ‘Saran District (Sonepur Fair)’ in culture & heritage category in Bihar.

As of now, there is no proposal in prescribed format to include Thawe Peeth of District Gopalganj of Bihar for inclusion in Ramayana Circuit.

In addition to the above initiatives, Government of India on receipt of the project proposals from the State Governments under ‘Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2024-25 (SASCI)’, has recently sanctioned 40 tourism related projects in the country including 2 projects in Bihar as per details given below:

S. No.	Project Name	Cost (Amount in ₹ Crore)	Sanction Year
1.	Development of Matsyagandha Lake, Saharsa	97.61	2024-25
2.	Karamchat Eco-Tourism and Adventure Hub	49.51	2024-25
