

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3667
ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE IN BIHAR

†3667. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR YADAV:

Will the **MINISTER OF CULTURE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to the State of Bihar under various schemes and projects for the development of culture and tourism sector during the last years;
- (b) if so the amount allotted to the various districts of Bihar from the year 2019-20 to 2023-24, district and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether the said amount has been fully utilized on the concerned projects and if not, the districts in which the works is incomplete or expenditure has been less; and
- (d) the present status of development of major cultural sites, heritage sites, Buddhist circuit, Ramayana circuit and other pilgrimage sites or tourist centers sponsored by the Government in Bihar?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

(a)&(b) It has been continuous endeavor of Ministry of Culture to achieve its mandate i.e preservation and conservation of cultural heritage and promotion of tangible and intangible art and culture through its attached, subordinate and autonomous organizations. Its activities and programmes are accomplished under several broad cultural heads viz. Preservation and conservation of Archaeological sites, Museums and its artefacts, Public Libraries, Promotion and dissemination of Performing Arts, Buddhist and Tibetan studies, International Cultural Relation and construction of cultural complexes etc. across the country including the State of Bihar. However, as all the Schemes administered by Ministry of Culture are Central Sector Scheme, no funds are allocated state-wise /district wise. The details of funds released to beneficiaries under various schemes in the state of Bihar from the year 2019-20 to 2023-24, is given at **Annexure-I**.

Further, Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes such as 'Swadesh Darshan(SD)', Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0), 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)' – a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies (ACA) for Tourism Infrastructure Development' is complementing the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies. In addition,

Government of India under its initiative for 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)' has provided financial assistance to the States for development of tourism projects across the country including the State of Bihar. However, development and promotion of tourist destinations and tourism products is primarily undertaken by the respective State Government/ Union Territory (UT) Administration//Central Agencies.

- (c) As stated above, no state-wise/ district-wise allocation of funds is done under Central Sector Schemes (CSS) administered by Ministry of Culture. However, the funds released under these schemes are monitored on the basis of submission of Utilization Certificates as per General Financial Rule (GFR) Rule -2017, audited statement of accounts duly certified by a Chartered Accountant, Bill vouchers and other evidentiary proofs such as photos/videos, completion certificates, etc. This apart, there is also provisions of on-site physical inspections by the officials of the Ministry to monitor the progress and proper utilization of funds.
- (d) Details of the projects sanctioned, amount released /authorised for utilisation and utilised under SD, SD2.0, CBDD, PRASHAD, ACA and SASCI schemes in Bihar including cultural & heritage sites, Buddhist circuit, Spiritual circuit and other pilgrimage sites etc. is given at **Annexure-II**.

Further, 71 centrally protected monuments and sites under the jurisdiction of the Archaeological Survey of India, Patna Circle, are maintained in a commendable state of preservation, befitting their heritage significance. The efforts to further enhance their conservation, maintenance, and beautification is done in accordance with the approved Annual Conservation Programme (ACP) and the allocation of funds.

Annexure – I

Annexure referred to in reply of part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3667 answered on 11.08.2025

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Financial Year									
		2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024	
		No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Financial Assistance for Promotion of Guru Shishya Parampara (Repertory Grant)	23	151.74	33	181.60	30	190.80	64	363.82	158	697.37
2.	Cultural Function and Production Grant	43	52.18	51	42.94	67	95.26	123	203.20	126	161.00
3.	Financial Assistance for the Development of Buddhist/ Tibetan Culture & Art	1	4.50	1	3.00	2	7.50	2	8.50	2	8.50
4.	Financial Assistance for Building Grants including Studio Theatres	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.60	1	6.00
5.	Scheme For The Award Of Fellowship To Outstanding Persons in The Field Of Culture	39	31.20	29	27.60	23	32.40	31	48.00	47	44.40
6.	Scheme for Scholarships to Young Artistes in Different Cultural Fields	36	10.80	45	13.50	43	12.90	16	4.80	63	18.90
7.	Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	15.47

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply of part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3667 answered on 11.08.2025

Details of Projects sanctioned in the state of Bihar under SD, SD2.0, CBDD, PRASHAD, ACA and SASCI schemes in Bihar including cultural & heritage sites, Buddhist circuit, Spiritual circuit and other pilgrimage sites:-

Swadesh Darshan(SD)

S. No.	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (₹ in Crore)	Amount Released /Authorised (₹ in Crore)	Amount Utilised (₹ in Crore)
1.	Tirthankar Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri	33.96	30.04	29.36
2.	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76	42.52	42.17
3.	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18	95.18	95.18
4.	Rural Circuit 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27	40.31	40.31
5.	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	44.55	42.32	42.32
6.	Wayside Amenities 2018-19	Development of Wayside Amenities in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at Varanasi-Gaya; Kushinagar-Gaya- Kushinagar in collaboration with MoRTH	17.50	16.63	15.83

Swadesh Darshan (SD)2.0

S No.	Year of Sanction	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Authorised (in ₹ Crore)
1	2024-25	Bodh Gaya	Development of the Buddhist Meditation & Experience Centre, Bodh Gaya	165.44	16.54

Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)

S. No.	Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (₹ Crore)	Amount Authorized for utilisation (₹ Crore)
1	2024-25	Development of Tourist Facilities at Sonepur Mela Ground, Saran	24.29	2.43

Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)

S. No.	Project Name	Sanction Year	Sanction Amount (in ₹ Crores)	Amount Released (in ₹ Crores)	Amount Utilized (in ₹ Crores)
1	Development at Patna Sahib	2015-16	29.62	29.62	29.62
2	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar	2014-15	3.63	3.63	3.63
3	Development of Ambika Bhawani Temple, Saran	2024-25	13.29	0	0

Assistance to Central Agencies (ACA)

S. No.	Name of Project	Agency	Sanction Date	Amount sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Released (in ₹ Crore)
1	3D Mapping with Aqua Screen Projection and Sound Show at Buxar, Bihar and Dynamic Lighting & Motif at Ram Rekha Ghat, Bihar	BECIL	10-06-2024	599.96	59.99

Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)

S. No.	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)	Fund release Status (in ₹ Crore)
1	Karamchat	Karamchat Eco-Tourism and Adventure Hub	49.51	97.10
2	Saharsa	Development of Matsyagandha Lake	97.61	
