

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.167
ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015**

RELIGIOUS TOURIST CIRCUITS

**167. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:
SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established religion based tourism circuits in various parts of the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh; and**
- (c) the infrastructure/tourism facilities set up in those religion based tourism circuits and the budgetary allocations made therefor, circuit-wise and State/UT-wise including Maharashtra?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, including the places of religion based tourism circuits in various parts of the country, for tourism projects in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority, liquidation of pending utilization certificates and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has introduced two new schemes in 2014-15 i.e. PRASAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive and Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based

Tourist Circuits. Under PRASAD thirteen cities have been identified for development initially, namely: Amritsar, Ajmer, Dwaraka, Mathura, Varanasi, Gaya, Puri, Amaravati, Kanchipuram, Vellankanni, Kedarnath, Kamakhya and Patna. Under Swadesh Darshan scheme also, twelve thematic circuits have been identified initially, namely: North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit & Ramayana Circuit.

(c): The details of the budgetary allocations made to various States/Union Territories including Maharashtra till date for religion based tourism circuits/places are annexed.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.167 ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015 REGARDING RELIGIOUS TOURIST CIRCUITS.**

Details of the projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan scheme.

(Rs. in Crore)

Sr. No	State	Name of Theme	Name of Project	Sanctioned Amount
Year- 2014-15				
1.	Bihar	Buddhist Circuit	Cultural Centre, Bodhgaya	33.17
Year – 2015-16				
Nil				

Details of the projects sanctioned under the PRASAD scheme.

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	State	Name of the project	Sanctioned Amount
Year- 2014-15			
1.	Bihar	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar	4.29
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)	14.93
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan, Distt. Mathura	9.35
4.	Odisha	Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree Jagannath Dham- Ramachandi-Prachi River front at Deuli under Mega Circuit	50.00
Year – 2015-16			
1.	Punjab	Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	6.45
2.	Rajasthan	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer	40.44
