

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†1336  
ANSWERED ON 02.05.2016**

**SUPPORT FOR PILGRIM TOURISM**

**†1336. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:**

**SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:**

**SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:**

**SHRI AJAY NISHAD:**

**SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:**

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to develop and promote 'Pilgrim Tourism' at holy places in the country and has formulated any scheme for the development of the places of religious and historical importance;**
- (b) if so, the locations identified for religious tourism and the number of worship sites developed as tourist places during the last three years along with the number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited such places during the last three years, State-wise;**
- (c) the details of the funds allocated and expenditure incurred thereon, State-wise;**
- (d) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to make religious sites more accessible and safe to tourists after some incidents of stampede and mishaps;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure safe journey to tourists visiting these places; and**
- (f) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to any foreign country for pilgrim tourism and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

**(a) to (c): Ministry of Tourism launched a Plan Scheme "National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive" (PRASAD) in 2014-15 with an objective of beautifying, developing and**

**improving amenities of important pilgrimage destinations of the country. Under the PRASAD scheme 13 sites in the country have been identified for promoting and developing places of religious and historical importance.**

**The sites identified under the scheme are, Amritsar, Ajmer, Kedarnath, Dwarka, Mathura, Varanasi, Gaya, Kamakhya, Puri, Amravati, Kanchipuram, Velankanni and Patna.**

**Ministry of Tourism has launched another Plan Scheme “Swadesh Darshan” in 2014-15 for integrated development of theme based circuits. Under Swadesh Darshan thirteen thematic circuits have been identified, including four religious/spiritual thematic circuits i.e. Buddhist Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Spiritual Circuit and Ramayana Circuit.**

**Details of funds sanctioned for “PRASAD” and “Swadesh Darshan” scheme and tourist visit in the country is at Annexure I, II & III.**

**(d) & (e): The guidelines of PRASAD provide for informatory/directional signage, first aid centres, Wi-Fi etc. Components such as queue shelter/complex, CCTV, etc. are also admissible under the scheme.**

**The Ministry has launched the 24x7 Toll Free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline in 12 International languages including Hindi & English on 08.02.2016. This service is available on the toll free number 1800111363 or on a short code 1363. The Help Line provides support service in terms of providing information relating to Travel & Tourism in the country and assist the callers with advice on action to be taken during times of distress while travelling in India and if need be, alert the concerned authorities.**

**As advised by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha have deployed Tourist Police, in one form or the other.**

**In addition, the Union Ministry of Tourism along with stakeholders has adopted the ‘Code of conduct for Safe and Honourable Tourism’ which is a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect for basic rights like dignity,**

**safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourist and local residence, in particular, women and children. These guidelines are voluntarily accepted and implemented by hotelier, tour operators, travel agents and other service providers. The State Government/Union Territory Administrations can widely promote this Code of Conduct and also ensure its implementation.**

**(f): No, Madam. However, since 1996 certain numbers of gratis Visas have been issued to Myanmar pilgrims annually for visit to sacred Buddhist places.**

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**ANNEXURE-I****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+1336 ANSWERED ON 02.05.2016 REGARDING SUPPORT FOR PILGRIM TOURISM.**

**Details of the projects sanctioned under the “PRASAD” scheme during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan in the year 2014-2015 and 2015-16 (as on 31.03.2016):-**

<b>(Rs. in crore)</b>			
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the project</b>	<b>Amount sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount released</b>
	<b>2014-15</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b>Basic Facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya</b>	<b>4.29</b>	<b>0.85</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Development of Mathura Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Phase-II).</b>	<b>14.93</b>	<b>2.99</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan</b>	<b>9.36</b>	<b>1.76</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree Jagannath Dham-Ramachandi-Prachi River Front at Deuli under Mega Circuit</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>78.58</b>	<b>15.60</b>
	<b>2015-16</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b>Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar</b>	<b>6.45</b>	<b>1.29</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Integrated Development of Pushkar/ Ajmer</b>	<b>40.44</b>	<b>8.09</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Development of Amravati Town, Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh as a Tourist Destination</b>	<b>28.36</b>	<b>5.67</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati</b>	<b>33.98</b>	<b>6.79</b>
<b>5,</b>	<b>Development at Patna Sahib</b>	<b>41.54</b>	<b>8.31</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.29</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Development of Varanasi</b>	<b>20.40</b>	<b>4.08</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Development of Kedamath</b>	<b>34.78</b>	<b>4.47</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>205.95</b>	<b>40.00</b>

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**ANNEXURE-II****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+1336 ANSWERED ON 02.05.2016 REGARDING SUPPORT FOR PILGRIM TOURISM.**

**Details of the projects sanctioned under the “Swadesh Darshan” scheme during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan in the year 2014-2015 and 2015-16 (as on 31.03.2016):-**

**2014-15****(Rs. in Crore)**

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Amount Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount released</b>
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<b>Bhaulpong –Bomdila-Tawang</b>	<b>50.00.</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Buddhist Circuit</b>	<b>Bihar</b>	<b>Cultural Centre Bodhgaya</b>	<b>33.17</b>	<b>6.63</b>
<b>Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>Kakinada –Hope Island-Konaseema Coastal &amp; Eco Tourism Circuit</b>	<b>69.83</b>	<b>3.37</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>153.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>

**2015-16****(Rs. in Crore)**

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Amount Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount released</b>
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Sikkim</b>	<b>Development of Tourist Circuit linking Rangpo(entry)–Rorathang-Aritar-Phadamchen - Nathang-Sherathang-Tsongmo- Gangtok-Phodong-Mangan-Lachung-Yumthang-Lachen- Thangu-Gurudongmer-Mangan-Gangtok-TuminLingee-Singtam (exit) in Sikkim</b>	<b>98.05</b>	<b>19.61</b>
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Manipur</b>	<b>Development of Tourist Circuit in Manipur: Imphal-Moirang-Khongjom-Moreh.</b>	<b>89.66</b>	<b>17.93</b>

<b>Desert Circuit</b>	<b>Rajasthan</b>	<b>Development of Sambhar Lake Town and other destinations</b>	<b>63.96</b>	<b>12.79</b>
<b>Eco Circuit</b>	<b>Uttarakhand</b>	<b>Integrated Development of Eco-Tourism, Adventure Sports, Associated Tourism related Infrastructure for Development of Tehri Lake &amp; Surroundings as New Destination-District Tehri, Uttarakhand</b>	<b>80.37</b>	<b>16.07</b>
<b>Tribal Circuit</b>	<b>Nagaland</b>	<b>Development of Tribal Circuit Peren- Kohima- Wokha, Nagaland</b>	<b>97.36</b>	<b>19.47</b>
<b>Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>Development of Coastal Tourism Circuit in Sri PottiSriramalu Nellore in Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>60.38</b>	<b>12.08</b>
<b>Wildlife Circuit</b>	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur-Sanjay-Dubri- Bandhavgarh-Kanha- Mukki-Pench in Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>92.22</b>	<b>18.44</b>
<b>Eco Circuit</b>	<b>Telangana</b>	<b>Integrated Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahaboobnagar district, Telangana</b>	<b>91.62</b>	<b>18.32</b>
<b>Eco Circuit</b>	<b>Kerala</b>	<b>Development of Pathanamthitta – Gavi – Vagamon – Thekkady as Eco Tourism Circuit in Idduki and Pathanamthitta Districts in Kerala</b>	<b>99.22</b>	<b>19.84</b>
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Mizoram</b>	<b>Integrated Development of New Eco Tourism under Swadesh Darshan – North East Circuit at Thenzawl &amp; South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek,</b>	<b>94.91</b>	<b>18.98</b>

		<b>Mizoram</b>		
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<b>Integrated Development of Adventure Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<b>97.14</b>	<b>19.43</b>
<b>Wildlife Circuit</b>	<b>Assam</b>	<b>Wildlife Circuit of Assam</b>	<b>95.67</b>	<b>19.13</b>
<b>Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>Puducherry</b>	<b>Development of Union Territory of Puducherry as Tourist Circuit under “Swadesh Darshan” Scheme</b>	<b>85.28</b>	<b>17.06</b>
<b>North East India Circuit</b>	<b>Tripura</b>	<b>Development of North East Circuit: Agartala - Sipahijala - Melaghar - Udaipur - Amarpur - Tirthamukh - Mandirghat – Dumboor- NarikelKunja - Gandachara – Ambassa</b>	<b>99.59</b>	<b>19.92</b>
<b>Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>West Bengal</b>	<b>Development of Beach Circuit – Udaipur - Digha – Shankarpur – Tajpur – Mandarmani – Fraserganj – Bakkhlai -Henry Island</b>	<b>85.39</b>	<b>17.08</b>
<b>Tribal Circuit</b>	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	<b>Development of Tribal Tourism Circuit Jashpur-Kunkuri-Mainpat-Ambikapur-Maheshpur-ratanpur-Kurdar-Sarodadadar-Gangrel-Kondagaon-Nathyanawagaon-Jagdulpur-Chitrakoot-Tirthgarh in Chattisgarh</b>	<b>99.94</b>	<b>19.99</b>
<b>Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>Maharashtra</b>	<b>Sindhudurg Coastal Circuit</b>	<b>82.76</b>	<b>12.79</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1513.52</b>	<b>298.93</b>

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**Annexure-III**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (C) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+1336 ANSWERED ON 02.05.2016  
REGARDING SUPPORT FOR PILGRIM TOURISM.**

**The number of Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits (in lakhs) to different States/UTs during 2012, 2013 and 2014.**

Sl. No.	State/ UT	2012		2013		2014	
		Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2.39	0.18	2.44	0.15	2.85	0.17
2	Andhra Pradesh	2072.18	2.93	980.18	0.70	933.07	0.66
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1.32	0.05	1.25	0.11	1.81	0.05
4	Assam	45.11	0.18	46.85	0.18	48.27	0.22
5	Bihar	214.47	10.97	215.88	7.66	225.44	8.30
6	Chandigarh	9.25	0.34	9.37	0.40	10.61	0.28
7	Chhattisgarh	150.37	0.04	228.01	0.04	244.88	0.08
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4.69	0.01	4.82	0.02	5.80	0.02
9	Daman & Diu	8.04	0.05	8.20	0.05	7.95	0.05
10	Delhi	184.95	23.46	202.15	23.01	226.27	23.19
11	Goa	23.37	4.51	26.29	4.92	35.45	5.14
12	Gujarat	243.79	1.74	274.13	1.99	309.12	2.36
13	Haryana	67.99	2.33	71.28	2.28	134.43	5.47
14	Himachal Pradesh	156.46	5.00	147.16	4.14	159.25	3.90
15	Jammu & Kashmir	124.27	0.79	136.42	0.61	94.39	0.86
16	Jharkhand	204.21	0.32	205.11	0.46	334.27	1.55
17	Karnataka	940.53	5.95	980.10	6.36	1182.83	5.62
18	Kerala	100.77	7.94	108.58	8.58	116.95	9.23
19	Lakshadweep	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.004	0.07	0.01
20	Madhya Pradesh	531.97	2.76	631.11	2.80	636.15	3.16
21	Maharashtra	748.16	26.52	827.01	41.56	941.27	43.89
22	Manipur	1.35	0.01	1.41	0.02	1.15	0.03
23	Meghalaya	6.80	0.05	6.91	0.07	7.16	0.09
24	Mizoram	0.64	0.01	0.63	0.01	0.68	0.01
25	Nagaland	0.36	0.02	0.36	0.03	0.58	0.04
26	Odisha	90.53	0.65	98.00	0.67	107.91	0.71
27	Puducherry	9.82	0.53	10.00	0.43	11.88	0.83
28	Punjab	190.56	1.44	213.41	2.04	242.71	2.55
29	Rajasthan	286.12	14.51	302.98	14.37	330.76	15.26
30	Sikkim	5.59	0.26	5.77	0.32	5.62	0.49
31	Tamil Nadu	1841.37	35.62	2442.32	39.90	3275.55	46.58
32	Telangana	-	-	540.84	1.54	3.61	0.27



<b>33</b>	<b>Tripura</b>	<b>3.62</b>	<b>0.08</b>	<b>3.60</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>723.99</b>	<b>0.75</b>
<b>34</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	<b>1683.81</b>	<b>19.94</b>	<b>2265.31</b>	<b>20.54</b>	<b>1828.20</b>	<b>29.10</b>
<b>35</b>	<b>Uttarakhand</b>	<b>268.27</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>199.41</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>219.91</b>	<b>1.02</b>
<b>36</b>	<b>West Bengal</b>	<b>227.30</b>	<b>12.20</b>	<b>255.47</b>	<b>12.45</b>	<b>490.30</b>	<b>13.76</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10450.48</b>	<b>182.63</b>	<b>11452.80</b>	<b>199.51</b>	<b>12901.17</b>	<b>225.68</b>

**As per the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tourism Satellite Account of India (TSA)- 2009-10 and subsequent estimation for the next three years namely 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, the contribution of tourism to total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 were 6.77% (3.68% direct and 3.09% indirect), 6.76% (3.67% direct and 3.09% indirect), 6.76% (3.67% direct and 3.09% indirect) and 6.88% (3.74% direct and 3.14% indirect), respectively. The contribution of tourism to total Employment of the Country during 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 were 10.17% (4.37% direct and 5.80% indirect), 10.78% (4.63% direct and 6.15% indirect), 11.49% (4.94% direct and 6.55% indirect) and 12.36% (5.31% direct and 7.05% indirect), respectively.**

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