

Sl. No.	Name of Country	Sl. No.	Name of Country
118.	Solomon Islands	135.	Ukraine
119.	South Africa	136.	United Kingdom
120.	Spain	137.	Uruguay
121.	Sri Lanka	138.	USA
122.	Suriname	139.	Vanuatu
123.	Swaziland	140.	Vatican City-Holy See
124.	Sweden	141.	Venezuela
125.	Switzerland	142.	Vietnam.
126.	Taiwan	143.	New Zealand
127.	Tajikistan	144.	Nicaragua
128.	Tanzania	145.	Niue Island
129.	Thailand	146.	Norway
130.	Tonga	147.	Oman
131.	Trinidad and Tobago	148.	Zambia
132.	Turks and Caicos Island	149.	Zimbabwe
133.	Tuvalu	150.	Argentina
134.	UAE	151.	Honduras

Development of Ramayana, Buddhist and Sufi circuits

1263. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made progress on the development of Ramayana, Buddhist and Sufi circuits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of places from Karnataka to be included in these circuits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme-Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits, in 2014-15. Under the Scheme, thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development, 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 and Heritage Circuit.

Under Buddhist Circuit theme, Ministry has sanctioned the project “Construction of Cultural Centre at Bodhgaya, Bihar” for ₹ 33.17 crore in 2014-15.

New proposals for promotion of tourism from Uttarakhand

1264. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttarakhand has sent any new scheme for the promotion of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of those schemes;

(c) whether Government has new proposals for Centrally assisted tourism promotion schemes in Uttarakhand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The development and promotion of tourism infrastructure projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism (MOT) provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for various tourism projects on receipt of proposals from them subject to availability of funds, *inter-se* priority, liquidation of pending utilization certificates against the funds released earlier and adherence to the relevant scheme guidelines.

The Ministry of Tourism also promotes India as a holistic destination in the international markets. As part of its promotional activities, the Ministry releases campaigns in the international markets under the Incredible India brand-line to showcase various tourism destinations and products including its cultural heritage.

The Ministry of Tourism has launched the following two new plan schemes during 2014-15:

(1) Swadesh Darshan for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits around Specific Themes including the State of Uttarakhand.

Thirteen theme based circuits *i.e.* North East Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit have been identified for development under “Swadesh Darshan”.