

| 1     | 2                                   | 3   | 4      |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---|--------|
| 6.    | Goa 2016-17                         | Development of Sinquerim-Baga, Anjuna-Vagator, Morjim-Keri, Aguada Fort and Aguada Jail in Goa                                      | 99.99  |
| 7.    | Odisha 2016-17                      | Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara in Odisha   | 76.49  |
| 8.    | Andaman and Nicobar Islands 2016-17 | Development of Long Island-Ross Smith Island-Neil Island- Havelock Island-Baratang Island-Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 42.19  |
| 9.    | Tamil Nadu 2016-17                  | Development of Chennai-Mamamallapuram - Rameshwaram Manpadu - Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu   | 99.92  |
| 10.   | Goa 2017-18                         | Development of Rua De Orum Creek - Don Paula -Colva - Benaulim in Goa   | 99.35  |
| TOTAL |                                     |   | 798.32 |

#### **Framing of New Tourism Policy**

†270. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any step has been taken to frame New Tourism Policy;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to attract tourists of those countries where Buddhism has spread; and
- (c) the steps taken to attract more tourists to tourist places like Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, Kushinagar and to provide more facilities to the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) The Ministry of Tourism has formulated a draft New Tourism Policy, which is currently being reviewed.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Tourism with a view to showcase India's Buddhist Heritage and boost tourism to the Buddhist sites in the country organises the International Buddhist Conclave, wherein Scholars, senior leaders of various Buddhist sects, opinion makers, journalists, international tour operators selling packages tours

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to Buddhist sites are invited from various countries including those where Buddhism has spread. A short promotional film 'India - The Land of Buddha' has been produced and aired in overseas markets to promote Buddhist Sites of the country. These sites are also promoted through the Incredible India Website, social media handles of the Ministry of Tourism and through other promotional activities including roadshows, participation in travel fairs and exhibition and India seminars, etc.

The Ministry of Tourism under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development has sanctioned projects for development of infrastructure and providing facilities at Buddhist Sites in the country. Details of the same are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Projects sanctioned by the Ministry for development of infrastructure and providing facilities at Buddhist sites in the country*

**1. Swadesh Darshan Scheme**

The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects for development of Buddhist sites in the country under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme:—

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | State          | Name of Circuit and Year   | Project Name  | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1       | 2              | 3                          | 4   | 5                 | 6               |
| 1.      | Madhya Pradesh | Buddhist Circuit (2016-17) | Development of Buddhist Circuit in Sanchi-Satna-Rewa-Mandsaur-Dhar in Madhya Pradesh            | 74.94             | 37.47           |
| 2.      | Uttar Pradesh  | Buddhist Circuit (2016-17) | Development of Buddhist Circuit - Srawasti, Kushinagar, and Kapilvastu in Uttar Pradesh         | 99.97             | 45.03           |
| 3.      | Bihar          | Buddhist Circuit (2016-17) | Construction of Cultural Centre adjacent to Maya Sarovar on the western side at Bodhgaya, Bihar | 98.73             | 19.75           |

| 1     | 2              | 3                                | 4  | 5      | 6      |
|-------|----------------|----------------------------------|--|--------|--------|
| 4.    | Gujarat        | Buddhist Circuit<br>(2017-18)    | Development of Buddhist circuit: Junagadh- Gir- Somnath-Bharuch- Kutch- Bhavnagar-Rajkot- Mehsana in Gujarat under Swadesh Darshan scheme  | 35.99  | 7.20   |
| 5.    | Andhra Pradesh | Buddhist Circuit<br>(2017-18)    | Development of Buddhist Circuit: Shalihundam-Thotlakonda-Bavikonda- Bojjanakonda-Amravati- Anupu in Andhra Pradesh under the theme of Buddhist Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme | 52.34  | 10.47  |
| 6.    |                | Development of wayside amenities | Varanasi - Gaya - NH 2; Gorakhpur- Kushinagar - NH 28; Kushinagar- Gaya Road-NH 28 and Gaya - Kushinagar Road-NH 28  | 13.09  | 0.0    |
| TOTAL |                |                                  |  | 375.06 | 119.92 |

Pursuant to Budget Announcements of 2018-19, Ministry of Tourism has identified 17 sites in 12 clusters in the country for development under Iconic Tourist Sites projects. Buddhist sites of Ajanta and Ellora (Maharashtra) and Mahabodhi Temple (Bihar) are among the sites identified for development.

## 2. **PRASHAD Scheme**

Buddhism works have been undertaken in the following two projects under PRASHAD Scheme:—

- I. Integrated Development of Varanasi - Phase under PRASHAD Scheme: This project *inter alia* include following two components for development of Buddhism structures:—
  - (i) Sound and Light Show, Dhamek Stupa at a cost of ₹ 734 lakh.
  - (ii) Buddha Theme Park, Sarnath at an approved cost of ₹ 220 lakh.

II. Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a tourist destination *inter alia* include following components relating to Buddhism:—

- (i) Mahachaitya Stupa and ASI Museum at an approved cost of ₹ 78.31 lakh.
- (ii) Dhyana Buddha Site Development at an approved cost of ₹ 99.37 lakh.

3. **Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development**

The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following project under the scheme:—

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Year of sanction | Name of Projects   | Central Agency                        | Amount Sanctioned | Amount Released |
|---------|------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1.      | 2014-15          | Illumination of monuments in Varanasi/Sarnath (Dhamekh Stupa in Sarnath, Chaukhandi Stupa in Sarnath, Tomb of Lalkan in Sarnath and Man Mahal in Varanasi) | India Tourism Development Corporation | 5.12              | 3.81            |

**Development of spiritual/religious tourism in Jharkhand**

271. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to develop 'Spiritual/Religious Tourism' at holy places in the country including Jharkhand under 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive'; and

(b) whether Government has sanctioned funds for the promotion of religious tourism during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Based on the proposals received from the concerned State Governments, the list of projects approved by Ministry of Tourism for development of 'Spiritual/Religious Tourism' at holy places in the country including Jharkhand under the scheme "National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive" (PRASHAD) is given in the Statement (*See* below).