| Written Answers to |                 | [04 February, 2020] | Unstarred Questions 409 |          |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| *                  | 1 2             | 3                   | 4                       | 5        |
| 57.                | Finland         | 20384               | 21239                   | 18944    |
| 58.                | Egypt           | 20528               | 20486                   | 21566    |
| 59.                | Mexico          | 18114               | 19909                   | 20773    |
| 60.                | Argentina       | 14875               | 16345                   | 12840    |
| 61.                | Other countries | 339934              | 350363                  | 409800   |
| -                  | Total           | 10035803            | 10557976                | 10895305 |

## Development of Ramayan circuit and Buddhist circuit in Bihar

†313. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will provide any specific financial assistance to Bihar for developing Ramayan and Buddhist Circuit with an aim to promote tourism in Bihar;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any specific action plan for the development of religious places associated with Lord Rama to encourage religious tourism; and

### (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism under its scheme of Swadesh Darshan provides Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of thematic tourist circuits in the country. Ramayana and Buddhist circuits are among the 15 thematic circuits identified for development under the scheme. Ministry has initially identified 15 sites in the country for development under the Ramayana circuit. Sitamarhi, Buxar and Darbhanga are the sites identified for development under Ramayana circuit in Bihar. The details of projects sanctioned in Bihar under the scheme is given in the Statement (See below). No project has been sanctioned in the state under the Ramayana Circuit.

#### Statement

# The Details of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Bihar

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. Circuit/Sanction Year Project Name Amt. Sar |                               |  |       |  |
|---|-------------------------------|--|-------|--|
| 1.  | Tirthankar Circuit<br>2016-17 | Development of Vaishali - Arrah -<br>Masad -Patna - Rajgir -Pawapuri -<br>Champapuri | 52.39 |  |
| 2.  | Spiritual Circuit<br>2016-17  | Development of Kanwaria route: Sultanganj to Deoghar                                 | 52.35 |  |
| 3.  | Buddhist circuit 2016-17      | Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya, Bihar                                 | 98.73 |  |
| 4.  | Rural circuit 2017-18         | Development of Bhitiharwa -<br>Chandrahia -Turkaulia                                 | 44.65 |  |
| 5.  | Spiritual Circuit<br>2017-18  | Development of Mandar Hill and<br>Ang Pradesh  | 53.49 |  |

#### Loss to tourism sector in Kashmir

- 314. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) the total loss to the tourism sector in Kashmir due to the persistent shutdown since August, 2019;
- (b) the details of total revenue generated due to tourism in Kashmir over the last ten years including 2019; and
- (c) whether Government has any viable plan to revitalise such a crucial sector in Kashmir, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) No assessment has been done by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India on whether there was loss to tourism sector in Kashmir since August, 2019.