

- Deferment of TCS upto October 2020.
- Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies upto 5 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.
- The Central government has also given relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and GST Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.

#### **Development of new religious tourist circuits in Bihar**

†315. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to build new religious tourist circuits in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ Union Territory Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism under 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme provides financial-assistance to the States/Union Territory Administrations/ Central Agencies etc. for integrated development of theme based tourist circuits. In addition, financial assistance is provided under 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' scheme with the objective of holistic development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destination. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects under the theme 'Spiritual', 'Buddhist' and 'Tirthankar' in the State of Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, which could be considered as religious tourist circuits.

The details of the projects sanctioned in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan scheme covering 'Spiritual', 'Buddhist' and 'Tirthankar' themes and PRASHAD scheme is as under:-

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Amount in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Scheme	Name of Circuit	Name of the Project	Sanctioned amount
1.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Tirthankar circuit	Development of Vaishali-Arrah-Masad- Patna- Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri.	52.39
2.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Spiritual circuit	Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj-Mojma- Banka.	52.35
3.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Buddhist Circuit	Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	98.73
4.	2017-18	Swadesh Darshan	Spiritual Circuit	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	47.52
5.	2014-15	PRASHAD	–	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad Temple, Gaya	4.27
6.	2015-16	PRASHAD	–	Development of Patna Sahib	41.54

**Inclusion of places from Marathwada region into religious tourism circuit**

316. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any action plan for developing the religious places in the country by connecting them in a tourism circuit;

(b) whether Government is planning to add places from Marathwada Region of Maharashtra into this circuit, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ Union Territory Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism under 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' schemes provides financial assistance to State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations/ Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure. The projects are identified for development in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission to suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.