

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1760 #
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2021

PARASNATH PILGRIMAGE SITE

1760#. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a famous pilgrimage site for Jain community called Parasnath, located in Giridih district of Jharkhand, where most of the Tirthankaras had attained salvation;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that for long many organizations of Jain community have been demanding to declare Parasnath as a holy city and to make necessary provisions and facilities for promotion of religious tourism, making the place free from trade of meat and liquor; and
- (c) if so, whether Government would take initiative to declare Parasnath a holy city, if so, by when?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (c): To declare any place of worship or pilgrimage as a holy city is not included in the work allocation of the Ministry of Tourism. However, the Ministry under its PRASHAD Scheme provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations for development of pilgrimage infrastructure at the religious / pilgrimage destinations on receipt suitable proposals and Detailed Project Reports from the respective State Governments/Union Territories in adherence with the scheme guidelines and subject to availability of funds, utilisation of funds released earlier, completion of the projects sanctioned by the Ministry earlier to the State/UT. On the basis of the request received from the State Government of Jharkhand, Parasnath ji Jain Shrine, Giridih has been included among the destinations identified for development under PRASHAD Scheme.
