

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1252
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

THEME BASED CIRCUITS IN BIHAR

1252 SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

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

- (a) the details of the theme based circuits in Bihar and funds sanctioned thereof under the Swadesh Darshan scheme;
- (b) whether Government would consider including more circuits under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the country especially under the Buddhist themes, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a large number of young artists are getting benefits from Government across the country since the last five years under the scheme 'Scholarships to Young Artists'; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (b): While development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UT), the Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations including the State of Bihar in synergy with the scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 5 projects under its 'Swadesh Darshan' and 2 projects under its 'PRASHAD' schemes in the State of Bihar.

Ministry of Tourism has further revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations and has identified 'Gaya' and 'Nalanda' as destinations in the State of Bihar for development.

Government of India has also sanctioned 2 tourism projects in Bihar under the 'Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2024-25' (SASCI).

The list of Sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and SASCI is annexed.

(c) & (d): Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), Ministry of Culture being an autonomous organization under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, Government of India, implementing scholarship and fellowship schemes for preservation and promotion of

diverse, varied and rich Indian cultural heritage which is being manifested through various performing, literary and visual art forms.

The Scheme for “Award of Scholarships to Young Artistes (SYA) in Different Cultural Fields” has also been transferred to CCRT partially in the year 2014 under which 400 scholarships are provided in the age group of 18 to 25 years in the field of Indian Classical Music, Classical Dances, Light Classical Music, Theatre, Visual Arts and Folk/ Traditional and Indigenous Arts for advance training. Each scholar is paid Rs.5000/- (₹. Five thousand only) per month for a period of two years to cover his/her living expenses on travelling, books, art material or other equipment and tuition or training charges etc. The details are as under:

S. No	Years	Number of Scholarships awarded
1	2019-20	400
2	2020-21	400
3	2021-22	400
4	2022-23	4,533 applications have been received.
5	2023-24	Not yet advertised

ANNEXURE

STAEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1252 ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024 REGARDING THEME BASED CIRCUITS IN BIHAR RAISED BY SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA.

The list of Sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and SASCI in the State of Bihar

S. No	Schemes	Theme & Year of sanction	Name of the project	Sanctioned Amount (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Swadesh Darshan	Tirthankar Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri	33.96
2.		Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76
3.		Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18
4.		Rural Circuit 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27
5.		Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	44.55
6.	PRASHAD	2015-16	Development at Patna Sahib	29.62
7.		2014-15	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple	3.63
8.	'Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2024-25'	2024-25	“Development of Matsyagandha Lake, Saharsa”	97.61
9.			“Karamchat Eco-Tourism and Adventure Hub”	49.51
