

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:285

ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009

DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST TOURISM

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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing projects/plans for developing Buddhist tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up/planning to set up Buddhist Circuits in the country, State-wise including Angul and Dhenkna of Orissa, Siddharth Nagar, Shrawasti and Kushinagar of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, along with the funds allocated and utilised for the development of Buddhist tourism in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (d): Development of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure including circuits on the basis of project proposals received from the State Governments/UT Administrations and the Central Agencies subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. The following projects have been sanctioned for development of infrastructure at Buddhist heritage sites in Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh during the first two years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan:

Bihar:

1. Rs.408.93 lakh for construction of Huen Tsang Gram, Nav Nalanda in Bihar during 2007-08.
2. Rs.388.97 lakh for development of Vaishali in Bihar during 2008-09.
3. Rs.134.87 lakh for development of Lauriya Nandan Garh, etc. in Bihar during 2008-09.
4. Rs.158.40 lakh for development of Sujata Kutir, Bodhgaya in Bihar during 2008-09.
5. Rs.268.27 lakh for development of Niranjana River front and Parikarma Path in Bihar during 2008- 09.
6. Rs.156.50 lakh for development of Prag Bodhi Dungeshwari hill, Bodhgaya in Bihar during 2008-09.

Orissa: Nil

Uttar Pradesh:

1. Rs. 1416.31 lakh for development of Varanasi-Sarnath-Ramnagar Phase-II in Uttar Pradesh during 2008-09.