

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3001
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST PLACES
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to develop important Buddhist places in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Identification of places of tourist interest/spots is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized for grant of central financial assistance every year after detailed consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. The following projects have been sanctioned during 2005-06 for development of Buddhist places in the country:

Sr. No.	Name of the project (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount sanctioned
1.	Development of Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda in Bihar	768.12
2.	Integrated development of Lower Krishna Valley Buddhist circuit in Andhra Pradesh	800.00

Apart from the above, loan assistance of Rs.395.63 crore from JBIC for Phase II of the Tourism Infrastructure Development at Buddhist locations in the Buddhist Circuit of Uttar Pradesh at Sarnath, Kushinagar, Kapilvastu, Sravasti and Sankisa has been approved.