

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:270

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011

BUDDHIST TOURISM

Adityanath Shri Yogi;Nishad Capt.(Retd.) Jainarayan Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy for the development of Buddhist tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds sanctioned for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Bihar; and
- (c) the steps taken so far by the Government to implement the policy of promoting Buddhist tourism in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.+270 ANSWERED ON 19.08.2011 REGARDING BUDDHIST TOURISM.

(a) & (b): National Tourism Policy, 2002 formulated by Ministry of Tourism also attempts to create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilization, heritage, and culture including Buddhist Tourism in partnership with states, private sector and other agencies.

Development, promotion and monitoring of tourist sites are primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects including projects for Buddhist sites, on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. The State-wise details of projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism at various tourist sites including Buddhist sites, during the last three years are at Annexure. Sanctioned projects also include Mega Tourism Circuits Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda in Bihar at a cost of Rs.19.22 crore and Varanasi-Sarnath-Ramnagar in Uttar Pradesh at a cost of Rs.22.02 crore.

(c): The Ministry of Tourism also undertakes promotional activities in domestic and international markets for promotion of the varied tourism attractions of the country including Buddhist pilgrimage/heritage sites, destinations and circuits.