

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4288
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST CIRCUIT IN UTTAR PRADESH
Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has signed a loan agreement with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in 2005 for developing a buddhist circuit in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total cost of the project and funds sanctioned thereunder;and
- (c) the present status of the project and the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) & (b) A Loan Agreement was signed by the Government of India with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on 31.3.2005 for implementation of Phase II of Baudh Paripath Project or UP Buddhist Circuit Development Project at a total cost of Yen 9495 million (approx. Rs.396 crore).

(c) After inspection of some of the project sites in July 2012, JICA had conveyed that the ground realities have changed since the signing of the Loan Agreement in 2005 and that continuation of the project would not be possible since implementation of the proposal would have enhanced adverse impact on environment and society and the project would require compliance under a different category.

In view of the above observations of JICA, it has been decided to discontinue and drop the Uttar Pradesh Buddhist Development Project.