

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6600
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
DEVELOPMENT OF PLACES ASSOCIATED WITH BUDDHISM JAINISM
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Vaishali and Kesaria in the State of Bihar are the places associated with Lord Buddha and Lord Mahavira and they are vital parts of the Buddha and Jaina circuit;
- (b) if so, the details of the works undertaken/likely to be undertaken for the development of both of these places; and
- (c) the assistance provided by the Union Government for celebrating Mahotsava/ Festival there?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH

- (a) As per the available sources Kesaria is supposedly associated with Lord Buddha whereas Vaishali with Lord Buddha and Lord Mahavira both. Both the places occupy important places in the tourist circuit.
- (b) The expenditure incurred by Archaeological Survey of India for excavation, conservation and maintenance works towards the development of sites at Vaishali, including Kolhua, and Kesaria during the last three years is as under:

	Rupees in lakhs
2010-11	21.53
2011-12	19.80
2012-13	08.20

- (c) No assistance for Mahotsava/Festival has been provided from the Union Government.