

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1133
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015
DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM AT GAYA
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated number of domestic and inter- national tourists visiting Gaya City of Bihar for pilgrimage every year;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to develop the historical city of Gaya from the tourism point of view;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote all the civic amenities of international standard at Gaya City?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): The numbers of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) and Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) to Gaya, including those for pilgrimage, during 2014 were 50.98 lakh and 2.1 lakh, respectively.

Ministry of Tourism does not compile the data of tourist visits for the purpose of pilgrimage, separately.

(b) and (c): A national mission on Pilgrimage Reju- venation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) has been announced in the Union Budget 2014-15 with a view to beautify and improve the amenities and infrastructure at Pilgrimage centres. Gaya is one of the 12 cities which have been identified under PRASAD.

(d): Development of Tourism and creation of facili- ties, including civic amenities, for tourists is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/ Union Territory (UT) Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to States/ UTs for prioritized tourism projects, including projects for amenities, in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority, adherence to the scheme guidelines and liquidation of pending utilization certificates against the funds released earlier.

The details of projects sanctioned for Gaya during 2013-14 are as follows:

Name of Project	Amount sanctioned (in Rs. Lakh)	Amount released (in Rs. lakh)
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Joint deve- lopment of Tourist Amenities at Gaya Railway Station in association with Ministry of Railway Development of Tourism infrastructure Pattherkatti, Gaya in Bihar.	518.00	200.00
	500.00	100.00