

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3137
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013
PROMOTION OF CRUISE TOURISM
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government promotes cruise tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the schemes implemented for the purpose;
- (c) the details of projects focusing on cruise tourism sanctioned along with the funds sanctioned and released thereunder during each of the last three years and current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the places identified for the purpose State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost cruise tourism in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Cruise Tourism is one of the growing areas of travel in the country. The Ministry of Tourism has identified Cruise Tourism as one of the Niche Tourism products.
- (b) Under the Guidelines of Scheme for Assistance to Central agencies for Tourism Infrastructure development, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the ports for development of Cruise Tourism related infrastructure. Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for project proposals under the scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations & Circuits, subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority.
- (c) There were no projects focusing on Cruise Tourism sanctioned during the last three years. However, the projects sanctioned for Cruise Tourism during the current year are placed at Annexure.
- (d) The Steering Committee on Cruise Tourism has identified the ports of Chennai, Cochin, New Mangalore, Mormugao and Mumbai for development of Cruise Tourism.
- (e) The Government of India has approved the Cruise Shipping Policy in June 2008. Some salient features of this policy include conducive fiscal regime, development of facilities at Ports and connectivity through rail, road transport, air and metro, quick completion of immigration formalities, hassle free custom clearance and proper waste disposal system ensuring cleaner ocean. An Inter Ministerial Steering Committee with Secretary (Shipping) as Chairman was constituted in June, 2010 to address issues relating to development of cruise shipping. The Ministry of Tourism had developed a CD on Cruise Tourism and also participated in Cruise Shipping Conventions.