

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4707

ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014

SEA TOURISM

Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav;Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to promote and expand sea/cruise tourism in the country:
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard along with the funds allocated for the said Plan?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): 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. Sea/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.

(c): The development and promotion of various tourism destinations and products including sea/cruise tourism, is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (U.T.) Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects prioritized in consultation with them for each financial year, subject to receipt of Detailed Project Report (DPR), liquidation of Utilization Certificates against the funds released earlier, availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

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 (PIDDC), subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority.

A project 'Sea-World, India Infrastructure & Other amenities', under Large Revenue Generating (LRG) scheme has been prioritized for the grant of CFA during 2014-15 to the State of Maharashtra. In the year 2006-07, a project 'Destination Development of Brahmaputra River front and Cruise Vessel on Brahmaputra' has been sanctioned for Rs.365.52 lakh, out of which Rs.292.42 lakh have been released.