

President calls tourism an engine for economic growth & employment generation



Congratulating all winners of National Tourism Awards 2013-14, President Pranab Mukherjee said that tourism is an agent of development and an engine for economic growth and employment generation in India. He said that trained human resource is an important component of any sector and lauded the efforts of the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) for paying attention in training human resources to meet requirements of the tourism sector and hospitality industry. He also lauded the efforts of national institutes of Hotel Management, Tourism, and others in producing skilled professionals. The President noted that the e-Tourist Visa scheme of the Ministry of Tourism has attracted large number of tourists from countries like the US, Germany, UK, among others. Mukherjee said MOT has made efforts to provide tourists vital information and guide them during emergency, besides making efforts to ensure the security and safety of

tourists. He added that its unfortunate that low sanitation standards hamper the architectural and historic heritage of the country and encouraged those present to lend a hand in the Ministry's efforts towards 'Swachh Bharat' to ensure cleanliness.