

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2549
ANSWERED ON 10.12.2019

**ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CRUISE TOURISM TO THE
MAJOR PORTS**

2549. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:

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

- (a) the steps taken to promote cruise tourism at the major ports of India;
- (b) whether Government has studied the economic impact of promoting cruise tourism at the major ports;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has also studied the environmental impacts of cruise tourism to the major ports of India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a): The Ministry of Tourism has recognized Cruise Tourism, as a “Niche” tourism product in order to promote India as a 365 days destination and attract tourists with specific interest. The steps taken to promote Cruise Tourism include developing appropriate infrastructure at ports for handling cruise vessels and facilitating ease of movement of passengers as given under:

- (i) Cabotage waived till 5th Feb, 2029 for foreign flag passenger/cruise ships to call at more than one Indian Port.
- (ii) Simplified standard operating procedures have been put in place for handling cruise ships across the country.
- (iii) New initiatives like e-visa and e-landing card have been introduced by immigration department for quick immigration clearance.
- (iv) Modernization of cruise terminals and construction of new cruise terminals.
- (v) Guaranteed berths to cruise ships, along with attractive concessions in port related charges.
- (vi) Biometrics of passengers exempted in case of e-visa for 3 years for ease of travel

Central Financial Assistance granted by the Ministry of Tourism for Development of Cruise Tourism Infrastructure in the Country under the Scheme for ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development’.

The Ministry of Tourism has also launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme for Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits in the country in 2014-15 for development of tourism infrastructure in the country including Coastal Circuits.

Details of projects sanctioned under 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development Ministry of Tourism is placed at **Annexure**.

(b) to (e): A national roadmap for development of cruise tourism has been made through an internationally renowned consultant M/s Bermello Ajamil & Partners jointly appointed by Ministry of Tourism & Ministry of Shipping which would also study the economic impact of promoting cruise tourism at the major ports.

In addition to above, as informed by the Ministry of Shipping, since the cruise ships are required to comply with the MARPOL Regulations, disposal/discharge of garbage or any other pollutants to the sea is restricted. The ports also provide shore reception facility for collecting and disposing of garbage, sewage and oily sludge from these ships.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2549 ANSWERED ON 10.12.2019 REGARDING ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CRUISE TOURISM TO THE MAJOR PORTS

DETAILS OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER VARIOUS SCHEMES OF MINISTRY OF TOURISM

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Sanction year	Name of Projects / State	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development Scheme				
1	2016-17	Central Financial Assistance for upgrading of Berths & Backup area of Ernakulam Wharf / Kerala	21.41	17.12
2	2016-17	Central Financial Assistance to Mumbai Port Trust for Development of Kanoji Angre Lighthouse as a tourist Destination/ Maharashtra	15.00	15.00
3	2017-18	Up-gradation/modernization to International Cruise terminal at Indira Dock, Mumbai/ Maharashtra	12.50	12.50
4	2018-19	Improvement of immigration facility and deepening of existing cruise berth at Mormugao/ Goa	13.16	6.58
5	2018-19	Construction of Cruise-cum-Coastal Cargo Terminal at Channel berth area in Outer Harbour of Visakhapatnam Port/ Andhra Pradesh	38.50	19.25
Swadesh Darshan Scheme				
1	2016-17	Development of Tezpur – Majuli – Sibsagar / Assam	98.35	45.29
2	2016-17	Integrated Development of Tourism Infrastructure projects in the State of Jammu & Kashmir under Himalayan Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme / Jammu & Kashmir	82.97	60.47
3	2016-17	Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara / Odisha	70.82	37.61
4	2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- Bheda Ghat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River / Madhya Pradesh	99.62	79.70
5	2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project / Kerala	80.37	0.0
