

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.314 #**  
ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

**DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE TOURISM IN THE COUNTRY**

314 # SHRI MAHENDRA BHATT:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that cruise tourism in the country is still an unexplored area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to create a robust system for the development of cruise tourism in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.314# ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE TOURISM IN THE COUNTRY RAISED BY SHRI MAHENDRA BHATT**

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products, including Cruise tourism, is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. However, as part of its on-going activities, the Ministry of Tourism regularly promotes India as a holistic tourism destination including Cruise tourism through various mediums including social media and websites.

The Ministry complements the efforts of States/UTs through various schemes and initiatives. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the Central Government Agencies for development of tourism including Cruise Tourism, on receipt of complete proposals under the Scheme of 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development'. The list of projects sanctioned under Assistance to Central Agencies, is given in Annexure.

A Task Force on Cruise Tourism has been formed jointly by the Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Shipping with representatives of all major ports and stakeholders for coordinated efforts to create an enabling ecosystem for the development of Cruise Tourism in India.

The Task Force has formulated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to be followed by the various agencies for handling of cruise ships. To standardize these procedures, the Ministry of Tourism issued SOP-3 in June 2025, developed in consultation with all stakeholders to provide a unified framework for cruise operations in India. It clearly defines roles and processes to ensure security, efficiency and passenger satisfaction, supporting India's vision of emerging as a global cruise tourism hub.

As conveyed by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW), the details of development in Cruise Shipping is as under:

- (i) Cruise ports are located at Mumbai (Maharashtra), Murmugao (Goa), Kochi (Kerala), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), New Mangalore (Karnataka), and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), with cruise calls also at Puducherry (Union Territory), Lakshadweep (Union Territory), and Sri Vijayapuram (Andaman and Nicobar Islands).
- (ii) Cordelia Cruises has started operations from Puducherry on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025 as cruise destination.

- (iii) During FY 2024 - 25, 29 National Waterways (NWs) were operational across 11 states, including 3 NWs exclusively designated for cruise movement.
- (iv) The comparative data of past decade shows increase in Cruise ship traffic as below:
- In FY 2013-14, 102 cruise vessels with carried 84,705 passengers.
  - In FY 2024-25, 272 cruise vessels carried 4,92,362 passengers.

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## ANNEXURE

### STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.314# ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE TOURISM IN THE COUNTRY RAISED BY SHRI MAHENDRA BHATT

List of Projects sanctioned for infrastructure development at Ports and Waterways under the scheme of Assistance to Central Agencies

S. No.	Name of Project	State	Agency	Sanction Date	Amount Sanctioned (In Lakhs)	Current Status	Project Components
1.	Cruise Passenger Facilities Centre in the existing Passenger Terminal at Chennai Port.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Port Trust	24-09-2012	1724.66	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of staircase unit and other modification works</li> <li>• Electrification works</li> <li>• Air conditioner</li> <li>• Passenger Lift</li> <li>• Escalators</li> <li>• Aerobridge from the vessel to the terminal</li> <li>• CCTV, Public Address System, Baggage Scanners, DFMD, HHMD &amp; EPABX</li> <li>• Acoustic proof Generator set</li> <li>• Furniture, Screening systems, Trolleys, Check-in/ Immigration counters, Bins, Wheelchairs, First Aid accessories etc.</li> <li>• Provision for Passport Reading machines 4 nos.</li> <li>• Providing Security arrangements</li> <li>• Provision for Fire Fighting system</li> </ul>
2.	Cruise Terminal Building at Mormugao Port Trust	Goa	Mormugao Port trust	24-06-2014	879.04	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terminal facilities</li> <li>• Utility/ recreation facilities</li> <li>• Toilet facilities</li> <li>• Sanitation and water supply</li> </ul>

							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>works</li> <li>• Electrification</li> <li>• Package STP</li> <li>• Underground sump of 20 m3 capacity with pump</li> <li>• Air-conditioning</li> <li>• Data Communication</li> <li>• CCTV</li> <li>• Firefighting system</li> <li>• Baggage Scanners</li> <li>• Passport reading machines</li> <li>• Door frame metal detector</li> <li>• Handheld metal detector</li> <li>• Furniture, Interiors, Passenger elevator, Paving, Landscaping, Security arrangements, Viewing deck slab, Signages</li> <li>• Miscellaneous, Murals, Statues &amp; Electrical cars</li> </ul>
3.	Improvement of immigration facility and deepening of existing cruise berth at Mormugao Port Trust	Goa	Mormugao Port trust	24-08-2018	1316.4	Foreclosed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of immigration facility</li> <li>• Deepening of existing cruise berth (<i>not undertaken due to CRZ clearance</i>)</li> </ul>
4.	Development of International and Domestic Cruise Terminal	Goa	Mormugao Port Trust	10-09-2021	5000	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Works – Terminal Building</li> <li>• Internal Building (civil works, Elevation finishes, dismantling) - Commercial Building</li> </ul>

	and allied facilities at Mormugao Port Trust, Goa						/Ancillary building
5.	Up-gradation/modernization to International Cruise terminal at Indira Dock, Mumbai.	Maharashtra	Mumbai Port Trust	29-12-2017	1250	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Works (Demolition, Foundation, Superstructure, Water supply system, sewerage &amp; vestibule works)</li> <li>• Fire Protection System</li> <li>• Air Conditioning Work</li> <li>• Electrical Works</li> <li>• Electronic System</li> <li>• Facade</li> <li>• Lift &amp; Escalator</li> <li>• Baggage Scanner, Metal Detector, DFMD Etc.</li> </ul>
6.	Upgradation/Modernization to International Cruise Terminal at Indira Dock, Mumbai Port Trust	Maharashtra	Mumbai Port Trust	20-12-2021	3750	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High end luxury toilets at ground and first floor</li> <li>• Lift &amp; Escalators</li> <li>• 22 KV Electric Substation for Terminal Building</li> <li>• Miscellaneous Infrastructure</li> <li>• Ramps at entry and exit</li> <li>• Kiosks for guiding tourists</li> <li>• Civil infrastructure facilities for passenger carts, concrete road and landscaping</li> <li>• Civil infrastructure for tourist guides and taxi drivers</li> <li>• Facade</li> <li>• Lift &amp; Escalator</li> <li>• Baggage Scanner, Metal Detector, DFMD Etc.</li> </ul>
7.	Central Financial Assistance for	Kerala	Cochin Port Trust	31-03-2017	2141	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Development which includes Civil Work, Electrical Works, Fire Fighting</li> </ul>

	upgrading of Births & Backup area of Ernakulam Wharf						Works, Air-Conditioning Works, Security System including Data Networking, Cameras, Signage, Berth Development and backup area development and Wharf Gate Renovation
8.	Developing infrastructure at Cochin Port Cruise Terminal.	Kerala	Cochin Port Trust	12-12-2018	120.79	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of portable hand baggage machine</li> <li>• Door frame metal detectors</li> <li>• Bar code readers</li> <li>• Standalone computers</li> <li>• Canopy</li> <li>• Baggage Trolleys with brakers in the cruise passenger</li> <li>• Facilitation center</li> <li>• Illumination of Tourist destination and the area around and SEL multimedia/ multi-dimensional shows etc. Including setting up of civic amenities such as toilets/rest rooms, ticket counter, food courts, facilities for differently abled people / children/ senior citizen at site of project battery operated carts etc. including publicity material, Improvement of surroundings of destination including landscaping, development of parks, fencing, compound wall etc.</li> </ul>
9.	Creation of additional tourism facilities at	Kerala	Cochin Port Trust	12-12-2018	466.47	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of surroundings of the destination – Activities like</li> </ul>

	the Cochin Port Trust Walkway						landscaping, development of parks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up of civic amenities such as toilets / restrooms facilities for differently abled people/children / senior citizen and providing signages for tourists</li> </ul>
10.	Development of Additional infrastructure in the new Cochin Port Trust Terminal	Kerala	Cochin Port Trust	13-12-2019	1029.7	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of Parking area for the New Cruise Terminal, Installation of physical security products, providing furniture in the new cruise terminal and Development of Kochi Haat – stalls for tourists adjacent to the New Cruise Terminal.</li> </ul>
11.	Construction of Cruise-Cum-Costal Cargo Terminal at Channel berth area in Outer Harbour of Visakhapatnam Port	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam Port Trust	14-12-2018	3850	Physically Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main Berth and Mooring Dolphins</li> <li>• Dredging,</li> <li>• Strengthening of existing Channel berth</li> <li>• Terminal Building &amp; backup area</li> </ul>
12.	Development of Jetties at 9 main points of embarkation/disembarkation of River Cruise on National Water ways No. 1 & 2	Assam	IWAI	28-04-2020	2803.05	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design, construction, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of steel pontoon and gangway for providing floating terminal facilities for tourist passenger berthing jetty for tourist passenger vessels including fenders, landing platform, stairs, bollards, accommodation etc.</li> <li>• Provision for</li> </ul>



							mobilization of the berthing pontoon to the site, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision for air-conditioned passenger waiting shed, food court with seating arrangement of 50 passengers approx. and 07 nos. of umbrella shed with 05 nos. of seating capacity under each umbrella.</li> <li>• Solar lighting with back up</li> <li>• security cabins,</li> <li>• shore development works such as internal pathways, parking, pavement waste disposal.</li> <li>• embarkation, disembarkation, and driveway for tourist movement along the jetty,</li> <li>• Bio-toilets along with wash basin and water supply arrangements</li> <li>• mooring pins</li> <li>• safe keeping and maintenance of floating pontoon,</li> <li>• Lifesaving appliances,</li> <li>• Fire extinguisher,</li> <li>• Tactile tiles,</li> <li>• Electrical connection,</li> <li>• construction and maintenance of approach to the terminal</li> </ul>
13.	Development of Kanoji Angre Lighthouse as a tourist Destination	Maharashtra	Mumbai Port trust	09-08-2016	1500	Completed	--
14.	Development of a	Kerala	Cochin Port Trust	28-10-2016	901	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Development</li> <li>• Providing walkway</li> </ul>

	Walkway/Promenade on Willingdon Island, Cochin, Kerala						3.00m wide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing drainage facilities</li> <li>• Providing vehicle parking facility at 3 locations Providing steps/ramp connection to walkway</li> <li>• Providing seating arrangements</li> <li>• Providing Kiosk</li> <li>• Providing toilet facilities</li> <li>• Providing architectural exterior works and landscaping</li> <li>• Providing Pedestrian bridge</li> <li>• Providing security cabin</li> <li>• Providing Floating Jetty</li> <li>• Providing Gazeboes</li> <li>• Providing OH water tank, UG tank, Septic tank Providing Electrification arrangements</li> </ul>
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