

- Permission for the use of Incredible India logo for the Wellness and Medical Tourism promotion events, films, literature etc.
- Financial support for training courses focused on skill providing, skill up-gradation and skill certification for the persons engaged in Wellness and Medical Tourism sector as per the Capacity Building for Service Providers (CBSP) Scheme guidelines of the Ministry of Tourism.
- Provision of space to Wellness and/or Medical Tourism Associations at major international fairs for promoting Wellness and Medical Tourism at cost.

In addition to above, the Ministry of Tourism has taken various steps to boost medical tourism which *inter-alia* include:

- Launch of campaigns in the international markets including for medical tourism under the Incredible India brand-line; conducting Road Shows, Know India Seminars etc.
- Ministry produces brochures, CDs, films and other publicity materials for promotion of Medical and Health Tourism. Medical tourism is being promoted on social media across various platforms.
- Department of Commerce and Services Export Promotion Council have launched a Healthcare Portal www.indiahealthcaretourism.com, as a single source platform providing comprehensive information of medical travelers on the top healthcare institutions in the country in various languages.
- Government of India launched e-Tourist Visa in September, 2014 for easing of the visa regime has been expanded to include medical visits as well. Medical and Medical Attendant Visa have been introduced to ease the travel process of medical tourists.

In order to provide dedicated institutional framework to take forward medical tourism, a 'National Medical and Wellness Tourism Board' has been constituted which works as an umbrella organization that promotes this segment of tourism in an organized manner.

Development of coastal tourism under PRASAD Scheme

450. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Development of Coastal Tourism Circuit in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh was approved in 2015-16 under PRASAD Scheme;

- (b) if so, the details of the circuit;
- (c) the date on which State Government had submitted the project proposal;
- (d) the details of action taken by the Ministry on the above proposal;
- (e) whether Ministry had sought any further clarification on the final DPR;
- (f) if so, the details of queries and response of the State Government thereon; and
- (g) by when the project is going to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (g) The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the project 'Development of Coastal Circuit in Sri Potti Sriramalu Nellore' in Andhra Pradesh under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in 2015-16 for ₹ 59.70 crore. The sites covered for development under the above project are Nellore, Pulikat Lake, Ubbilamadugu Water Falls, Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, Kothakoduru Beach, Mypadu Beach, Ramateertham and Iskapalli.

The projects under the scheme are sanctioned on approval of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee of Ministry, submission of suitable Detailed Project Reports and approval by Internal Finance. After completing the process, the project was sanctioned on December 4th, 2015.

The work on the project is in progress and is 75% complete.

Development of new tourist spots

†451. DR. SATYANARAYAN JYATIYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the details of new tourism centres brought under the ambit of tourism development in the last three years and the State-wise details of the twenty busiest tourism centres of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): Identification and development of tourist sites/destinations/centres is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. However, Ministry of Tourism under the Schemes of Swadesh Darshan and the PRASHAD (National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive) provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.