

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†4282
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023**

PROMOTION OF FERRY, SEA, CRUISE AND CARAVAN TOURISM

†4282. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether measures have been taken/being taken by the Government to develop and promote ferry tourism, sea-plane tourism, cruise tourism and caravan tourism across the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Tourism has made the following efforts to develop and promote ferry tourism, sea-plane tourism, cruise tourism and caravan tourism across the country:-

- (i) Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Government Agencies for development of Tourism including Cruise Tourism and Cruising along rivers.**
- (ii) A Task Force has been constituted with Secretary (Tourism) as the Chairman and Secretary (Shipping) as the Co-chairman for coordinated efforts to create an enabling eco-system for cruise tourism in India. The Task Force consists of representatives from the ports, Ministries of Health, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Customs, CISF, Coastal States, etc.**

- (iii) Ministry of tourism partnered with Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for the first Incredible India International Cruise Conference held on 14 to 15th May, 2022 in Mumbai.**
- (iv) Ministry of Tourism has drafted a new National Tourism Policy which inter-alia provides for development of specific tourism products including Caravan Parks.**

Further, recently Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has flagged off the World's Longest River Cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh.

As conveyed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), the infrastructure developed for transportation on National Waterways by IWAI including fairway, terminals, jetties, navigation aids etc. are used by river tourism operators also.

It has also been conveyed by Ministry of Civil Aviation that it introduced a new mode of transport i.e. seaplane operations from water aerodromes under UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme. During various rounds of bidding under UDAN, 56 seaplane routes connecting 25 water aerodromes were identified in the States/UTs of Gujarat, Assam, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Lakshadweep.
