

## **GUIDELINES OF SCHEME FOR ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AGENCIES FOR TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**1. Preamble:** Development of tourism infrastructure at tourism destinations could create a critical mass for achieving its targeted objectives and other socio-economic benefits to the society. The wholistic development of tourism infrastructure at all important tourist destinations through Central Financial Assistance to the States/UTs may not be possible since, many of the potential destinations are under the jurisdictions/control of Central Agencies like ASI, Port Trusts in India, ITDC etc. and the overall development of places of tourist interest under their control may not be possible through their own resources and may require convergence of resources, expertise and experience for maintenance and management after development. In order to remove these shortcomings and to bring in the active participation of the Central Agencies, who own the assets of tourist interest and have potential, could be development, it is proposed to promote places of tourist interest under the control of the Central Agencies. The developmental work under this Scheme taken up by the Central Agencies should follow prescribed norms and the monuments/structure should be restored to its original form/condition. The restoration work should be done by the expert/specialized agencies duly approved by Central Agencies like ASI, Port Trust, ITDC etc. under their supervision.

**2. Scope of the Scheme:** The work for development of places of tourist interest, illumination and preservation of monuments and development of cruise terminals, etc. which are under the control of the Central Agencies like, Archaeological Survey of India, Port Trust of India, ITDC etc. would qualify under the scheme. However, this is only an illustrative list. The focus under the scheme will be on the improvement of existing product and developing new tourism products to the world standard. It will also focus on Integrated Infrastructure Development of the tourist sites. These tourist sites/destinations would be carefully selected based on its tourism potential. The aim would be to provide all infrastructure facilities required by the tourists. Master Planning of these destinations and circuits will be undertaken so as to develop them in an integrated holistic manner. The aim will be convergence of resources and expertise through coordinated action with concerned agencies.

**3. Funding Pattern of the Project:** The Ministry of Tourism would bear 100% of the project cost based on the project plan and estimates submitted, excluding the items which are the exclusive responsibility of the Central Agencies, as mentioned at para 4 below. While there may be no ceiling on the project cost, the amount of financial assistance by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India will not exceed Rs.25 crore.

An MOU with Central Agency and other stakeholders should be formalized indicating the works to be undertaken by them and the responsibilities of management and maintenance of the assets created out of financial assistance.

**4. Responsibilities of the Central Agencies:** The Central Agencies will be fully responsible for the following components of the project:

- i) Making the land available for development.
- ii) Implementation of rehabilitation package, where shifting of dwellings or commercial units is required. However, the Government of India would provide assistance for construction of Tourist Reception Centres including shopping complexes to house the displaced shops.
- iii) The Central Agency/the Implementing Agency will ensure that restoration work, if any, should be done by experts/specialized agencies only.
- iv) Operation, maintenance and management of the assets created.

**5.** The following activities/items may be taken up under the Scheme:

- i. Improvement of the surroundings of the destination. This would include activities like landscaping, development of parks, fencing, compound wall etc.
- ii. Illumination of the Tourist destination and the area around and SEL Shows etc.
- iii. Construction of public buildings which are required to be demolished because of implementation of the Master Plan.
- v. Illumination/Restoration/Refurbishment of the Monuments.
- vi. Signages and display boards showing Tourist Area Maps and documentation on places of interest at the locations.
- vii. Tourist Arrival Centres, Reception Centres, Interpretation Centres
- viii. Civic amenities at and around destination.
- ix. Development of cruise terminals

**6. Release of Funds:** The financial assistance sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism under this scheme would be released to the Central Agency or the implementing agency in three installments as per following details:

First installment –	50% of the assistance amount at the time of sanction
Second installment-	30% of the sanctioned amount after utilization of the first installment
Third installment-	20% of the sanctioned amount after utilization of the first and second installment

**7. Codal Formalities:** The Implementing agency shall follow all codal formalities while awarding contracts and procurement of equipment and ensure complete transparency in its transactions. The execution of projects would primarily be the responsibility of Central Agency.

**8. Management of Assets:** The infrastructure and assets created will be maintained and managed by the Central Agency or any other designated entity with no financial commitment to Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. (The sustainable maintenance and management plan for the assets to be created through Central Financial Assistance must be built into the project proposal for this purpose).

**9. Exclusion:** The project selected for assistance under the Scheme would not be eligible for subsidy/financial assistance from other scheme(s) of Central Government or State Government. Similarly the projects which have already availed subsidy/financial assistance from any other scheme of the Central Govt. or State Government for the same activity would not be eligible for Government of India assistance under this Scheme.

**10. Monitoring Committee:** This Committee would consist of one nominee each of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Central Agency and the implementing agency if any. The Central Agency will submit physical and financial progress report to the Ministry on regular basis. The Agency will be responsible for completion of projects within the stipulated period. The Ministry of Tourism will review the implementation of the project periodically.

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