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Government of India
Ministry of Tourism

(Infrastructure Development Division)

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**REVISED GUIDELINES OF SCHEME FOR ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL
AGENCIES FOR TOURISM INFRASTRUCURE 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 holistic development of tourism infrastructure at all important tourist destinations through Central Financial Assistance(CFA) 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, the tourist interest assets owned by Central/State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies which have potential, could be developed, it is proposed to promote places of such tourist interest through Central Agencies. The developmental work under this Scheme taken up by the Central Agencies following prescribed norms and the monuments/structures should be restored to its original form/condition. The restoration work should be done by expert/specialized agencies duly approved by Central Agencies like ASI, Port Trust, and ITDC, etc. under their supervision. For the purpose of financial assistance under the Scheme, Central Ministries such as Railways will be treated as Central Agencies. In case, the Central Agency is working as an implementation agency, the product developed shall be transferred to the concerned authority on completion of work.

2. Scope of the Scheme:

2.1 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 Central Agencies like, Archaeological Survey of India, Port Trust of India, and ITDC etc. would qualify under the scheme. However, this is only an illustrative list. 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 the convergence of

resources and expertise through coordinated action with concerned agencies. The focus under the scheme will be on the improvement / upgradation of existing products and developing new tourism products to the World Standard.

3. Detailed Project Reports:

The Central agencies shall prepare and submit the Detailed Project Reports in consultation/ association with State Tourism Deptt's. / Authorities/ ASI/ Other Govt. of India Departments and submit to the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India for Central Financial Assistance under the scheme. A fee not exceeding Rs.10 Lakh + Taxes shall be payable for preparation of such reports by Ministry of Tourism under this scheme.

4. Funding Pattern of the Project:

4.1 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 / State Govt, as mentioned at para 5 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.50 crore.

4.2 "On providing proper justification and subject to clearance by a high level constituted committee of Ministry of Tourism, Central Agencies would be provided with Operation & Maintenance Cost, which will be mandatory for each project, up to a maximum of 20% of the project cost or actual expenditure whichever is less for an initial period of 3 years from the date of start of operation. However, the overall ceiling of the CFA would be Rs.50.00 crore".

4.3 In case central agencies are PSUs like ITDC, a centage of 10% on the direct expenses shall be permitted.

5. Responsibilities of the Central Agencies:

5.1 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) An undertaking shall be submitted by the Central agency / other concerned authority / main stake holder for providing the necessary assistance to make the land available & other allied facilities related to execution of the project. Other authorities / main stake holder shall also submit a letter of authorisation to the Central agency to implement the show on their behalf.
- (v) The Central Agency will follow Challenge Method Guidelines to envisage an innovative project and submit the project report for consideration. This is to encourage induction of new technology, promotion of unique solutions, provide for financially sustainable solutions, and to bring in finance and expertise in project execution. This method is to provide transparency and induction of Capital for infrastructure where innovative proposals are received. This is to ensure certainty of success under this Methodology.
- (vi) It would be mandatory for the Central Agency who is recipient of the funds released from this scheme to put up a signage of the Ministry of Tourism with the logo 'Incredible India' stating that the project has been funded by the Ministry of Tourism.

5.2 The following activities/items may be taken up under the Scheme:

- a. Improvement of the surroundings of the destination. This would include activities like landscaping, development of parks, fencing, compound wall etc.
- b. Illumination of the Tourist destination and the area around and SEL/multimedia/ multidimensional Shows etc. including setting up of civic amenities such as toilets/ rest rooms, ticket counter, food courts, facilities for differently abled people/ children / senior citizens/ at site of project, battery operated carts etc including publicity material as may be required.
- c. Re-conceptualization /up-gradation of existing SEL / multimedia shows commensurate with the requirement of Technological Innovative show can also be considered under this scheme after a five year of initial launch of project.
- d. Construction of public buildings which are required to be demolished because of implementation of the Master Plan.
- e. Illumination/Restoration/Refurbishment of the Monuments.
- f. Signage and display boards showing Tourist Area Maps and documentation on places of interest at the locations.
- g. Tourist Arrival Centers, Reception Centers, Interpretation Centers
- h. Development of Cruise Terminals.

Construction of Convention Centres

6. Release of Funds:

6.1 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 instalments as per following details:

- **First instalment** – 50% of the Central Financial Assistance amount at the time of sanction
- **Second instalment**- 30% of the sanctioned amount on submission of Utilization Certificate of the first instalment
- **Third instalment**- 20% of the sanctioned amount on submission of final Utilization Certificate by the implementing agency after the entire work is completed along with an affidavit for Management of Assets created and an undertaking for maintenance of the same as per applicable GFR.

7. Codal Formalities:

7.1 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 the Central Agency. Funds will be provided to the Central Agencies as an implementing agency to construct Convention Centres on land owned by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations/Central Agencies only.

8. Management of Assets:

8.1 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 except in the case of project proposals sanctioned where provision for operation and maintenance is made in the Central Financial Assistance being extended to the project for first three years of operation. Additionally, the Central Agency/ State Government will be required to explore option of Corporate Social Responsibility/ other modes for operation and maintenance of the project. 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. Inclusions:

The projects taken up earlier under any scheme of Ministry of Tourism that remained incomplete due to technical/ administrative reasons including additional requirement of technological up-gradation during the progress of work, missing components, change of use of product etc shall also be taken up as project with components admissible at clause 5.2 of the guidelines.

10. Monitoring Committee:

- (i) Ministry of Tourism will set up a Monitoring Committee for the Scheme for regular review and monitoring of the progress of the project on a quarterly basis headed by a Joint Secretary/ or the Director/ or DS level officer dealing with the project. This Committee will also review the 'Operation & Maintenance' Standards with the help of the implementing agency of the project. The above monitoring will be done preferably on a digital platform such as web portal, mobile app, etc.
- (ii) A Monitoring Committee will also be constituted by the Central Agency who is recipient to the funds under this scheme. This Committee would consist of one nominee each of the Ministry of Tourism, the Central Agency, and, the implementing agency, if any. The Central Agency will submit physical and final 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. .
- (iii) Regional Director (RD) of the concerned Indiatourism office under whose jurisdiction the project would fall will also be included in the above two Monitoring Committees to report on the Project Identification and Justification of the Project.
- (iv) A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will be submitted by the Implementing agency for submission to the Ministry of Tourism for monitoring of the project along with the timelines for completion of various components and various institutes, as per the Challenge Method Guidelines.
- (v) The Ministry of Tourism will consider refund of funds released, from the recipients of the funds if the progress of the project is found to be unsatisfactory by the Monitoring Committee of the Ministry.
