

TOURISM SECTOR PROPOSED TO GET RS 2,500 CRORE IN UNION BUDGET 2020-21

Relevant for: Indian Economy | Topic: Issues relating to Growth & Development - Public Finance, Taxation & Black Money incl. Government Budgeting

Ministry of Finance

Tourism sector proposed to get Rs 2,500 Crore in union budget 2020-21

Rs 3,150 Crore proposed for Ministry of Culture

Indian Institute of Heritage and Conservation to be established

8 New Museums proposed, 5 Museums set for major overhaul

5 Iconic sites to see Infrastructure development

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To make India an attractive destination for both international and domestic tourists, the Finance Minister proposed to allocate **Rs 2,500 crores in 2020-21 for the tourism sector**. Besides tourism, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman also proposed to allocate **Rs 3,150 crore for Ministry of Culture** while presenting the Union Budget 2020-21 in Parliament today.

In order to have well-trained resources in the disciplines of museology and archeology, the Finance Minister **proposed to establish** first **Indian Institute of Heritage and Conservation** with the status of a deemed university to operate under the Ministry of Culture. She said, "Acquisition of knowledge in disciplines such as museology and archeology are essential for collecting and analysing scientific evidence of such findings and for dissemination through high quality museums."

Highlighting improved tourism revenues due to better rank, the Finance Minister said, "India had moved up from rank 65 in 2014 to 34 in 2019 in the Travel & Tourism Competitive Index (World Economic Forum)." Due to this, she continued, "Foreign Exchange earnings grew 7.4% to Rs 1.88 lakh crores for the period January 2019 from Rs 1.75 lakh crores."

In a major bid to revitalise tourism, Smt. Sitharaman proposed **8 new museums**, which includes building infrastructure around **5 Iconic Sites**, besides proposing **renovation of 5 major museums** across the length and breadth of India.

The Union Finance Minister proposed the following:

- 5 Archeological sites to be **set-up/developed as Iconic Sites** with **on-site Museums** at the following locations:
 - Rakhigarhi (Haryana)
 - Hastinapur (Uttar Pradesh)
 - Shivsagar (Assam)
 - Dholavira (Gujarat)
 - Adichanallur (Tamil Nadu) **Maritime Museum to highlight Harappan Age at Lothal, Ahmedabad**, by Ministry of Shipping **KOLKATA: Indian Museum: Re-curation of the oldest museum in India** as announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January 2020. **Numismatics and Trade Museum** to be located in the historic Old Mint Building
- Support for **setting up Tribal Museum in Ranchi (Jharkhand)** **Renovation and re-curation of 4 more museums** across India



Recognising the role of States in the proposed scheme for growth and employment generation, Smt. Sitharaman said, “Growth of tourism directly relates to growth and employment. States have a critical role to play. I expect State Governments expected to develop a roadmap for certain identified destinations and formulate financial plans during 2021 against which specified grants will be made available to the States in 2020-21”.

RM/BB/SC/KMN

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