# EXPLORING MAHARASHTRA TOURISM, GOVT. INCENTIVES & ROLE OF CAS



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#### INTRODUCTION

- Maharashtra is one of the few regions in the world which offers diverse experiences at multiple destinations for its tourists.
- Maharashtra is classified as one of the emerging states satisfying 19 of 36 parameters.
- Inputs from various stakeholders as well as analysis from the Ministry of Tourism (MoT), identified 23 key fiscal and 13 non-Fiscal parameters across Tourism Policies.

A	Fiscal	Incentives

1. Capital Investment Incentive	2. Interest Subvention
3. Viability Gap Funding	4. Seed Fund
5. Green Incentives	6. Certification/ Quality Up-gradation / R&D
6. Turnover linked incentives	8. Special Thrust Sector Incentive
9. Employment Generation	10. Development Capital Support

11. Special Incentive Package for SC/ST/ Differently abled/ Women Entrepreneur

#### B Non-Fiscal Incentives

12. Industry Status	13. Entrepreneurship Awards	
14. National Single Window System Integration	15. Linking of projects to Gati Shakti National Master Plan	
16. Additional FSI/ FAR	17. Land Conversion Permissibility	

#### 1.0 VISION, MISSION, AND AIM:

#### · VISION:

o Develop Maharashtra as a popular and sustainable tourist destination wherein the state will offer vast experiences on global, regional, and local best practices and standards.

#### • MISSION:

- o Promote the state as preferred tourist destination.
- o Development of tourism infrastructure.
- o Facilitate investments in the tourism sector.

#### · AIM:

o To create an encouraging and conducive environment for private Investment in tourism sector of the State.

#### 2.0 OBJECTIVES:

- Fresh private investments into the tourism sector to the tune of approx. INR 1,00,000 Crore over 10 years period.+
- Create around 18 lakhs jobs (direct and indirect) by bringing-in technical know-how, managerial and organizational skills through private sector.
- Over 10 years increase tourist inflow 2X times by developing destinations, infrastructure and encouraging tour operators, MICE operators and Destination Wedding Operators.
- Attracting international tourists by providing world-class infrastructure and quality services through private sector participation, developing a more residential tourism sector and creating a complementary environment for the state's revenue.
- Enhancing innovation, productivity and the sector's competitiveness through the use of digital technologies and new tourism products and services.

#### 3.0 VALIDITY & OPERATIVE PERIOD:

- The policy will come into effect from the date of publication i.e., 18th July, 2024
- The policy will remain valid for a **period of 10 years** from the date of publication or until amended by a new policy.
- The benefits provided under the previous tourism policy will continue to be applicable for the period granted on a case-by-case basis.
- In cases where provisional registration under the previous tourism policy has not been received and the final certificate has not been received, the benefits/incentives will be admissible as per the provisions of the policy in force at the time of issuing the final certificate

#### 4.0 STRATEGIES:

The strategy envisages achieving the following goals and objectives:

- Developing Special Thrust Sector
- Promote cruise tourism
- Creation of Tourism MICE Bureau
- Branding and Promotion
- Ease of doing business

- Impact assessment of Policy and tourism data analytics
- Tourism Mitra to ensure safe and responsible tourism
- MAHA Special Destination Development Programme
- Maharashtra Rural Tourism Promotion
- Granting performance based financial and non-financial incentives
- Institutional structure for policy implementation

#### \* DEVELOPING SPECIAL THRUST SECTOR:

• Developing special thrust sectors in tourism represents a strategic aspect of leveraging the industry's potential for socio-economic growth.

• This could be eco-tourism, rural tourism, agro tourism, etc.

• In line with this Department of Tourism has identified thrust sectors in the State.

#### FOCUS ON NICHE TOURISM

- To provide alternative livelihood options for the local community, the policy emphasizes the development of following niche tourism by offering fiscal and non-fiscal incentives:
  - Rural Tourism
  - Agro Tourism
  - Tourism Villages
  - Experiential Tourism
  - Caravan Tourism
  - Eco-Tourism

#### \* PROMOTING CRUISE TOURISM

- Maharashtra, with its extensive coastline stretching over 720 kilometers along the Arabian Sea, holds significant potential for cruise tourism.
- The state has 2 major, 48 minor ports and major rivers.
- Maharashtra's coastal climate is tropical, with the main tourist season running from October to March, which coincides with the peak cruising season in the region.

- The state's capital, Mumbai's geographical position makes it an ideal starting point for cruises heading towards various destinations in India.
- Mumbai's excellent air connectivity with major cities across the world, along with its well-developed road and rail networks, makes it convenient for international and domestic tourists to begin or end their cruise journeys in Maharashtra.
- To boost tourism potential along the coast of Maharashtra following initiatives are being taken by the State:

- Tourism Jetty at Veldur in Ratnagiri District
- Tourism Jetty at Kashid in Raigad District
- Construction of jetty at Arnala fort Tal Vasai Dist.
   Thane
- Passenger Jetty at Janjira Fort, Raigad District
- Tourism Jetty at Padmadurg in Raigad District
- Tourism Jetty at Suvarnadurg in Ratnagiri District
- Tourism Jetty at Underi in Raigad District

# • TO BOOST RIVER TOURISM POTENTIAL IN MAHARASHTRA FOLLOWING INITIATIVES:

- Inclusion of Sardar Sarovar Portion of Maharashtra from Nandurbar (Toranmal base) to Statue of Unity in the ongoing Luxury River Cruise Tourism project between Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh Tourism.
- Inclusion of Vashisti River in Konkan for Budget River Cruise and Local Ferry Cruise.
- River Cruise Tourism on perennial rivers like Godavari and Narmada
- Inland Water Bodies i.e. Major and Medium dams of Konkan, Nashik, Pune and Nagpur divisions can be developed as major tourist attractions

# \*TOURISM MICE (MEETINGS, INCENTIVES, CONFERENCES AND EXHIBITIONS BUREAU)

• Government of Maharashtra would set up Tourism MICE Bureau whose aim would be to encourage events industry in the state and get more and more marquee, large events in the state.

#### • The objectives of Bureau would be as follows:

- Promote Maharashtra as a major destination for organizing world class events.
- Connect and coordinate with national and international event organizers to ideate, conceptualize and organize events.

- Create guidelines for easing organizing events in the state.
- Identify major roadblocks and work towards making
   Maharashtra a preferred destination for domestic as well as international events.
- Coordinate with various stakeholders and ensure speedy and transparent process for event organizers in the state.
- Promote event management as a part of skill development and encourage training programmes, certificate courses etc. in state colleges and universities.

#### \* ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MICE BUREAU:

- The MICE Bureau will play a vital role in promoting a city or region as a destination for meetings, conventions, conferences, and events.
- Some key responsibilities of the Bureau include:
  - Marketing and Promotion
  - Sales and Business Development
  - Event Planning and Support
  - Advocacy and Partnership Building
  - Research and Data Analysis
  - Destination Management

#### \*BRANDING, MARKETING, AND PROMOTION

- State intends to create distinct identity of Maharashtra Tourism by adopting a 360-degree approach towards Marketing & Promotion through a dedicated campaign which would Include:
  - Digital / Online Marketing
  - Print / Offline Marketing
  - People Marketing
  - Events
  - Destination Marketing Companies (DMCs)
  - Partnerships

#### \* INVESTOR FACILITATION CELL:

- The Directorate of Tourism will setup investor facilitation cell integrated with Maharashtra Industry, Trade and Investment Facilitation cell (MAITRI) of Department of Industries.
- The major functions of this Cell will include tourism investment promotion and investor facilitation in the state.
- The summary of major features will include:
  - Conduct project monitoring and review of the existing projects within the state.
  - Attract fresh investments in the tourism sector and develop the brand equity of Maharashtra as a top global tourist destination.
  - O Act as a one stop connect for providing relevant information to the investors regarding information on the business approvals required for starting a business in the state.
  - o For premium investors a dedicated professional acting as Relationship Manager shall be assigned by the Department who would be one-point contact & coordinator between the State and the Investor.

#### \* MAHA SPECIAL DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

• With the objective of developing tourism at regional level, Government of Maharashtra decided to take up MAHA Destination Development Program as part of the Tourism Policy 2024.

#### · VISION:

To develop 50 sustainable special tourism destinations across the state and help generate jobs for local population.

#### • OBJECTIVES:

He strategic objectives of the program are:

 To spread and enhance footfalls, stay duration and per capita spend at the destinations by providing world class experience.

- To generate jobs including business opportunities in the sector for local communities.
- To educate and enhance the skills of local youth in tourism and hospitality.
- To encourage private sector participation and attract investments.
- To preserve and augment the local cultural & natural resources and reduce the carbon footprint.

# · KEY STRATEGIES: SILS

To achieve the defined vision and objectives of the Program, following key strategy pillars must be followed under the Program:

- Develop benchmarks and standards for major tourism themes.
- Sustainable and responsible tourism
- Destination and tourist-centric approach

- Integrated and holistic development of tourism destination
- Focus on Domestic Tourism
- Policy and Institutional Reforms
- Operation and maintenance on sustainable basis
- Synergy with other central and state schemes

#### · MAJOR TOURISM THEMES:

- Culture and Heritage
- Spiritual Tourism
- Adventure Tourism
- Eco-Tourism
- Wellness Tourism
- MICE Tourism
- Niche Tourism

#### \* MAHARASHTRA RURAL TOURISM PROMOTION

#### • INTRODUCTION:

- To promote Rural Tourism, competition has been initiated by the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra.
- It focusses on 'Honoring the Soul of Maharashtra" while advancing its objectives to foster social and infrastructural development.
- The competition seeks to further deepen the sense of competitiveness and pride among Maharashtra's villages.
- It aims to identify villages with an unwavering commitment towards uplifting the rural economy and the preservation of cultural and natural heritage through tourism.

#### · OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the Competition are:

- Development of rural tourism destinations.
- Progress in empowering the rural population.
- Boost connection, infrastructure, financial access, and investment.
- Advancement and digitalization.
- Develop new products and integrate value chains.
- Promote the connection between resilient, equitably distributed, and sustainable food systems and tourism.
- Encourage sustainable methods to make better use of resources, reduce emissions, and reduce waste.
- Improve knowledge and abilities.

#### · AREAS OF EVALUATION:

The broad areas for evaluation on the basis of the United Nations 2020-30 agenda for sustainable developmental goals will be as follows:

- Cultural and Natural Resources
- Economic Sustainability
- Environmental Sustainability
- Governance and Prioritization of Tourism
- Health, Safety and Security
- Promotion and Conservation of Cultural Resources
- Social Sustainability
- Tourism Development and Value Chain Integration
- Infrastructure and Connectivity

#### · CATEGORIES FOR RECOGNITIONS:

There will be the following categories under which villages can fill the nominations:

- Best Tourism Villages Heritage
- Best Tourism Villages Agri Tourism
- Best Tourism Villages Craft
- Best Tourism Villages Responsible Tou
- Best Tourism Villages Vibrant Villages
- Best Tourism Villages Adventure Tourism
- Best Tourism Villages Community-Based Tourism
- Best Tourism Villages Wellness

#### OUTPUT AND OUTCOME OF THE COMPETITION:

- The winners/awardees of the competition will be facilitated by the Department of Tourism and shall further get the funds from the State Government to implement and develop the tourism infrastructure which they envisage.
- Hence, it shall boost the rural tourism in the state and shall help in further development of tourism infrastructure in rural destinations.

# विदर्भ की बात

नागपुर, 20 जुलाई 2024

## नयी महाराष्ट्र पर्यटन नीति में कैश सब्सिडी गेम चेंजर साबित होगी - जुल्फेश शाह

नागपुर। महाराष्ट्र में अधिक से अधिक पर्यटन इकाइयों को आकर्षित करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए, सरकार ने 18 जुलाई 2024 को अपनी नई महाराष्ट्र पर्यटन नीति 2024 की घोषणा की। कोसिया विदर्भ के अध्यक्ष और प्रमुख पर्यटन प्रोत्साहन सलाहकार सीए जुल्फेश शाह ने कहा कि 20% नकद सब्सिडी (अधिकतम सीमा 20 करोड़) जो की यूनिट के कुल पात्र परियोजना लागत पर कैलकुलेट होगी। जिसमे होटल, मोटल, रिसोर्टस जैसी पर्यटन इकाइयों को पूरे महाराष्ट्र मे देने की घोषणा एक मास्टर स्ट्रोक है एवं इससे महाराष्ट्र में पर्यटन क्षेत्र में निवेश को काफी बढावा मिलेगा। पिछली नीति में जो वर्ष 2016 से शुरू हुई और इस नई नीति के आने तक लागु थी उसमे



कैश सब्सिडी नहीं थी। इसी तरह सर्विस अपार्टमेंट, पर्यटक के लिए विलास, क्रूज़ बोर्ड, पर्यटन स्थल पर फूड कियोस्क या फूड कोर्ट, थीम पार्क, वॉटर पार्क, एडवेंचर पार्क, गोल्फ कोर्स आदि पर नकद सब्सिडी 15 करोड़ रुपये की अधिकतम सीमा के अधीन पात्र पूंजी निवेश के 15% की दर से दी जाएगी। सीए शाह ने आगे कहा कि क्षेत्र के स्थान और निवेश मानदंडों के अनुसार पर्यटन

इकाइयों को अन्य वित्तीय प्रोत्साहनों का लाभ उठाने के लिए वर्गीकृत किया जाएगा। विदर्भ में पर्यटन इकाइयों द्वारा अधिकतम वित्तीय लाभ उठाया जा सकता है, जैसे कि भुगतान किए गए 100% एसजीएसटी का रिफंड, टर्म लोन पर ब्याज का रिफंड 50 लाख तक. बिजली शुल्क छट, बिजली टैरिफ रिफंड, स्थिरता पहल प्रोत्साहन आदि यह नीति गेम चेंजर साबित होगी और भारत के सभी राज्यों में सबसे लोकप्रिय नीति के रूप में विकसित होगी। क्योंकि इसमें हितधारकों के सभी पहलुओं का ध्यान रखा गया है। सीए जुल्फेश शाह ने कहा, यह बडी मात्रा में प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार पैदा करेगा और महाराष्ट्र में महत्वपूर्ण मात्रा में निवेश लाएगा।

#### Cash subsidy in Maharashtra Tourism Policy-2024 will prove to be a game changer, says CA Julfesh Shah

#### **■** Business Reporter

FOCUSING on attracting more tourism units in Maharashtra, the Government announced its new Maharashtra Tourism Policy 2024 on July 18, 2024.

Chairman of COSIA Vidarbha and leading tourism incentives consultant CA Julfesh Shah said that announcing 20% cash subsidy (maximum limit Rs 20 crore) on the the total eligible project cost of the tourism units like hotels, motels resorts etc., across whole of Maharashtra is a master stroke which will boost the investments significantly in tourism sector in Maharashtra.

In the previous policy which commenced from the year 2016 till this new policy came, cash incentives were missing.

Similarly for service apartments, tourist vilas, cruise board, food kiosks or food courts at tourist destination, theme parks, water parks, adventure parks, golf course etc., cash subsidy will be granted @15% of the eligible capital investment subject to a maximum limit of Rs 15 crore.

InVidarbha maximum fiscal benefits can be availed by the tourism units viz refund of 100% SGST paid, interest subvention on term loan upto Rs 50 lakh, electricity duty exemption, electricity tariff refund, sustainability initiatives incentives etc. "The policy will prove to be a game changer and will evolve as a popular policy amongst all the states of India," he added.

#### पर्यटन नीति-2024 : गेम चेंजर साबित होगी कैश सब्सिडी

व्यापर प्रतिनिधः । व वपः

महाग्रद में अधिक में अधिक पर्यटन इकाइयाँ को आकर्षित करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए सरकार ने 18 जानाई 2024 को अपनी नई महाग्रष्ट पर्वटन नीति की धोषणा की है। कोमिया विदर्भ के अध्यक्ष और प्रमुख पर्यटन प्रोत्साहन सलाहकार सीए जन्मेज जात ने कता कि, 20% नकद सब्सडी (अधिकतम सीमा 20 करोड), जो वनिट के कल यत्र परियोजना लागत पर कैल्फलेट होगी, जिसमें होटल, मोटल, रिखेटर्स जैसी पर्यटन इकाइयों को परे महाराष्ट्र में देने की घोषणा एक मास्टर स्टोक है। एवं इससे महाराष्ट्र में पर्यटन क्षेत्र में निवेश को काफी बहावा मिलेगा

महाराष्ट्र में देने की घोषणा एक मास्टर स्टोक है: सीए जल्फेश शाह

#### प्रत्यक्ष-अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार पैदा होगा

े दिखने मेरि से केन स्थितकी नहीं की इसी तरह सर्दित



audite, udea à feu विकास, क्षारा बोर्ड, पर्यट्रण स्थान वर कुड किवोरक व कुड कोर्ट. रीम पार्क: रॉल्ट पार्क: एक्टीक पार्क, जोजपा कोर्स अहि पर मध्य लिखी है करेड रूप्प की अधिकाराम लीमा के अधीन पाप पानी विद्येश के हाथ, की दार ने दी आपनी। विदर्भ से पर्यटन इकाइयाँ प्रात अधिकाराम विशोध लाम उठाव ज तकत है। तह ने वह, 'वह

बड़ी लाप में जराबर और उपराप्त रोजनाय पैदा करेगा और महाराष्ट्र में महराध्या नाम में निर्देश खाता।

एआईडी ने राज्य की नई पर्यटन नीति को सराहा : लोकन के

इंडीस्ट्राल डेक्फ्फ्रेंट (२)(ईडी) ने ताक सरकार तब प्रदेश मंत्री विशेष महरता को वई प्रदेश मेरि -२०३४ के अमस्या के निय अमस्या किया है। ए.जर्रा है से काल- प्रशंक लंबी से ए.जर्रा के उन्हरेंप पर विश्वर किया और माराप्ट में आयेतित एडव्हेंच विवर्त-१०१४ के कैंतन विवर्त और संपत्तार के उद्योग विकारकों ने वी अधिकतन विकारियों को शरिक विशा का मेरि महाराष्ट्र को २०२८ टक । दिश्या और की अर्थकारूव बाजे के समाजकांबी सबक के सक संग रक्षते हैं। पश्चईती के आरक्ष अशिष काते ने कला, 'नई पर्यटन मीति २०२४ महरूपुर की अधिक उत्तरांक्षाओं को सक्यर करने की दिशा में एक महत्त्वपूर्ण कदम है।

## नयी महाराष्ट्र पर्यटन नीति-२०२४ में कैश सब्सिडी गेम चेंजर साबित होगी

#### सीए जुल्फेश शाह का प्रतिपादन

नागपर। महाराष्ट्र में अधिक से अधिक पर्यटन

पार्क, गोल्फ कोर्म आदि पर नकद सब्सिडी १५ करोड स्पर्ये की अधिकतम सीमा के अधीन पात्र पंजी निवेश के

इकाइयों को आकर्षित करने पर स्थान केंद्रित करते हुए, सरकार ने १८ जुलाई २०२४ को अपनी नई महाराष्ट्र पर्यटन नीति २०२४ की घोषणा की। क्रोमिया विदर्भ के अध्यक्ष और प्रमुख पर्यटन प्रोत्साहन सलाहकार सीए जुल्फेश शाह ने बहा कि २०% नकद सब्सिडी (अधिकतम सीमा २० करोड) जो की युनिट के कुल पात्र परियोजना लागत पर कैलकुलेट होगी विसमें होटल मोटल रिसोटर्स वैसी पर्यटन इकाइयाँ

को परे महाराष्ट्र में देने की घोषणा एक मास्टर स्टोक है एवम इससे महाराष्ट्र में पर्यटन क्षेत्र में निवेश को काफी बढावा मिलेगा. पिडस्ती नीति में जो वर्ष २०१६ से शुरू हुई और इस नई नीति के आने तक लागू थी उसमें कैश मिन्नाडो नहीं थी। इसी तरह सर्विस अपार्टमेंट, पर्यटक के लिए विलास, क्रज़ बोर्ड, पर्यटन स्थल पर फड कियोस्क या फूड कोर्ट, थीम पार्क, वॉटर पार्क, एडवेंचर



बिवली शुरुक चूट, बिवली टैरिफ रिफंड, स्थिता पहल प्रोत्साहन आदि, यह नीति गेम चेंबर साबित होगी और भारत के सभी राज्यों में सबसे लोकप्रिय नीति के रूप में विकस्तित होगी क्योंकि इसमें हितचारकों के सभी पहलुओं का ध्यान रखा गया है। सीए जल्फेश शाह ने कहा, यह बड़ी मात्रा में प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार पैदा करेगा और महाराष्ट्र में महत्वपूर्ण माजा में निवेश लाएगा।

# नवभारत

#### पर्यटन क्षेत्र में निवेश को मिलेगा बढावा

एसोसिएशन फॉर इंडरिट्यल डेवलपमेंट ने नई पर्यटन नीते को सरहा



collinger wir guffgren dierente (RIGHT) THE YEAR, BOTH WE IS tales with Pribe septem as saven resid it. David custod its vestor or coractor Florid 2004 for Store conरिकारणे प्रा. दि. या अधिकार रिकारियों की श्रीतिकार सहस्रोतिक पूर्व श्रीता भीति ३०३४ वट शतकात्र विद्याः यह स्थापन सीते सामाना में तह पर्यक्त प्रीक्षित्र है की व्यक्तियाँ कर से बहुत्य 25 to this best it, we wanter it. 1000 MEST Effect of animons and it were and now it now for

#### तेजी से बढ़ेगी अर्थव्यवस्था

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#### गेन चेंजर साबित होगी कैश सब्सिडी

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nervey of 100 off cheer can retroit rights it, spirit moving of colors after it finds all mel sage Relia, fixed 4th 4 the vided of it, pil on other wayle: unique de frigolites as gaza stall, unique son que devalore na que estil, elle mele. det sale cultur sale, stess mist sett av once sellest in mile pool aft attenne eller is antie en gill felte it sus effer e ti resell.

#### पहले घोषित किए गए लाभ भी लाग करें

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#### CLASSIFICATION OF TOURISM UNITS/ZONES IN MAHARASHTRA:

#### 1. MEGA PROJECT

 A tourism unit will be awarded a mega/ultra- mega project status as per the Fixed Capital Investment (FCI) AND the direct employment generated.

#### MEGA PROJECT CLASSIFICATION AND THRESHOLD LIMITS

Type Of Units	Area	Zone Classification	Fixed Capital Investment in INR	Direct employment generation
Mega Project Unit	Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai Municipal Area	A	Crore 300	400
	Nasik, Pune, Aurangabad, Nagpur Municipal Corporation	В	150	200
	Rest of the Maharashtra	С	100	50
	Specially Declared Tourism Zones	STZ/STD	50	50
Ultra Mega project unit	Entire State		500	800

#### 2. LARGE TOURISM UNITS

• Large scale tourism units with investment more than Medium Services Enterprises as defined under the MSMED Act 2006 but less than Mega projects, will be classified as large scale tourism units.

# 3. MSME (MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISE) TOURISM UNITS

- In accordance with the provision of MSMED Act 2006, amended time to time, the MSME tourism units will be classified under service enterprises.
- MSME classification and threshold limits:

Type of Project	Minimum Investment	Minimum Direct Employment generation	
Micro	Up to Rs.1 Cr	10	
Small	Up to Rs.10 Cr	15	
Medium	Up to Rs.50 Cr	25	

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#### \* ELIGIBLE TOURISM UNITS & FISCAL INCENTIVES:

#### 1. CAPITAL INVESTMENT INCENTIVE

Category	Type of Unit	Incentives	
Accommodations (A)	Hotels / Motels / Youth Hostels/Youth Clubs Resorts / Log Huts / Cottages	20% of the eligible capital investment or INR 20 crore whatever is less	
Accommodations (B)	Serviced Apartments, Tourist Villas Time-Sharing Resorts/Rental Homes	15% of the eligible capital investment or INR 15 crore whatever is less	
Food & Beverages	Restaurants/Tourist destinations	15% of the eligible capital investment or INR 15 crore whatever is less	
Travel & Tourism	Convention Centres/Wellness Centres/Tourist facilitation centres etc	15% of the eligible capital investment or INR 15 crore whatever is less	

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Category	Type of Unit	Incentives
Entertainment & Recreation	Ropeways / Cable Cars Amusement Parks / Theme Parks/Adventure tourism units or parks Golf Course, Caravan & Caravan Park, Heli Tourism projects, Unity Malls, AR-VR Zones, 7 D and above Experience, Global Tourism Village, Art and Cultural Center etc. Cultural Centre / Amphitheatres / Theatres / Art Galleries/Viewing Gallery Retail Zones such as shopping malls / Multiplex / Video Game Zones (only if its part of any other Eligible Tourism Unit)	15% of the eligible capital investment or INR 15 crore whatever is less
Other Tourism Units	Handloom/Handicraft shops/E-Vehicles for tourist/Historical/Heritage	15% of the eligible capital investment or INR 10 Lakhs whatever is less
	Ultra Mega Project Unit	10% of the eligible capital investment or INR 25 cr. whatever is less.

# 2. OTHER FISCAL INCENTIVES TO LARGE, MEGA AND ULTRA MEGA TOURISM PROJECTS

	A	В	С	STZ/STD	Ultra Mega project unit
Eligibility Period (in years)	5	7	10	10	15
SGST reimbursement	50% of SGST on net paid	75% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on Gross payable
Electricity duty Exemption	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%
Electricity Tariff refund	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%

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	A	В	С	STZ/STD	Ultra Mega project unit
Eligibility Period (in years)	5	7	10	10	15
Interest subventions	Interest subventions on Loan of upto INR 5 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be maximum INR 20 Lakhs within the given eligible period	Up to 5% Interest sub ventions on Loan of upto INR 10 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 25 Lakhs of total interest paid within the eligible period	Interest subventions on Loan of upto INR 15 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be 30 Lakhs of total interest paid within the eligible period	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of upto INR 20 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 50 Lakhs within the given eligible period	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of upto INR 25 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 75 Lakhs within the given eligible period
Quality certification,	Certification.	_		ertification and Rs.10.00 lak certification as below :	th for International

Quality certification, Travel for Life Registration & Certification etc., incentives

- b) Cost of certification (registration, application fees and other payments to certifying authority)
- c) Cost of association consulting, limited to 50% of cost of certification
- d) Only quality certifications recognized by the Department MoT shall be eligible.
- e) Reimbursement shall be disbursed upon submission of proof of obtaining certification & its cross verification.

	Terms			Incenti	ive
Sustainability	in capital co	ercentage of irost of implementation	nting the	Up to 25%	
Initiatives Incentive	Ceiling on reimbursement per project			Up to INR 25 Lal GST paid cost wh	
	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%
Stamp duty and Registration charges exemption	Sale / Lease deeds executed in respect of purchase / lease of land, built-up area for a tourism project, provided that the sale deed, least deed is entered into during the period of the Policy. Mortgage and hypothecation for undertaking a tourism project during the Period				le deed, lease ortgage and

the Policy.

## SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES INCENTIVE:

- Rainwater harvesting.
- Restoring water bodies.
- Mechanized eco-systems for sewage cleaning and zero liquid discharge.
- Renewable energy units (solar, wind, hybrid).
- Electric vehicles for transport within the facility.
- Wastewater treatment and recycling systems.
- Onsite organic waste converters.
- Pollution control devices (PCD).

#### 3. OTHER FISCAL INCENTIVES TO MSME UNITS

	A	В	С	STZ/STD
Eligibility Period (in years)	05	05	07	07
SGST reimbursement	50% of SGST on net paid	75% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid
Electricity duty Exemption	50%	75%	100%	100%
Electricity Tariff refund	50%	75%	100%	100%

	A	В	С	STZ/STD
Eligibility Period (in years)	05	05	07	07
Interest subventions	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 5 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 20 Lakhs within the given eligibility period	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 10 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 25 Lakhs within the given eligibility period	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 15 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 50 Lakhs within the given eligibility period	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 20 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 50 Lakhs within the given eligibility period

Quality
Certification
Incentives, Travel
For Life
Registration &
Certification Etc.

Reimbursement offered up 100% or Maximum Rs.2.00 lakh for National Certification and Rs.10.00 lakh for international Certification.

- a) Applicants shall be eligible for costs associated with quality certification as below:
- b) Cost of certification (registration, application fees and other payments to certifying authority)

		Terms	Incent	ive
Sustainability Initiatives Incentive	in capital co	Maximum percentage of investment in capital cost of implementing the sustainability initiatives		25%
(refer note no. 11 below)	Ceiling on reimbursement per project		Up to INR 25 Lakhs or actual GST paid cost whatever is less	
	50%	75%	100%	100%
Stamp duty and Registration charges	Sale / Lease deeds executed in respect of purchase / lease of land/built-up area for a tourism project, provided that the sale deed, lease deed is entered into during the period of the Policy.			

exemption

Mortgage and hypothecation for under taking a tourism project

during the Period of the Policy.

# 4. FISCAL INCENTIVES FOR OTHER TOURISM UNITS ADVENTURE TOURISM UNITS/AGRO TOURISM/ RURAL TOURISM/ECO TOURISM ETC.

	A	В	С	STZ/STD
Eligibility Period (in years)	03	03	05	05
SGST reimbursement	50% of SGST on net paid	75% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid	100% of SGST on net paid
Electricity duty Exemption	50%	75%	100%	100%
Electricity Tariff refund	50%	75%	100%	100%

	A	В	С	STZ/STD	
Eligibility Period (in years)	03	03	05	05	
Interest subventions	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 2 Crores. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 05 Lakhs	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 2 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 05 Lakhs	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 2 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 10 Lakhs	Up to 5% Interest subventions on Loan of up to INR 2 Crore. Ceiling on total interest subventions shall be INR 10 Lakhs	
	50%	75%	100%	100%	
Stamp duty & Registration charges exemption	Sale / Lease deeds executed in respect of purchase / lease of land/ built- up area for a tourism project, provided that the sale deed, lease deed is entered into during the period of the Policy. Mortgage and hypothecation for undertaking a tourism project during the Period of the Policy.				

- Capital Incentive Payment: Paid in 5 equal annual installments from Commercial Operation Date (COD). Eligible for investments made in the previous three years on COD.
- Capital assets acquired within 3 years prior to COD will be eligible for Capital Incentive
- Eligibility Criteria: Units must have made the first investment or obtained a term loan or construction permission after policy notification.
- **Investment and Operation:** New/Expansion units must commence operations and acquire fixed assets within 4 years prior to COD.
- Annual disbursement equals eligible capital investment divided by eligibility period, payable up to this period or investment amount.
- Interest Subventions: Applicable only on term loans (Max Cap Rs.50 lakhs)

- Applicability for Capital Incentive-The eligible tourism units who obtained or applied for provisional Registration certificate under Tourism Policy 2024 will be eligible for capital incentives.
- The Directorate of Tourism will approve basket of incentives to all projects within the policy norms and guidelines.
- High Power Committee (HPC), under the Chief Secretary will approve the higher incentives/ concessions and relaxing of conditions, on a case-to-case basis for Mega & Utra Mega projects.

- Registration / Certification Under Mission Travel For Life Is Mandatory.
- Registration With Directorate Of Tourism, Use Of Portals, Booking Platform, Online Applications Will Also Be Mandatory Once System Is Developed.
- New Tourism Units Owned And Managed By Women Entrepreneurs/ SC/ST/ Differently Abled (With Minimum Equity Participation Of 51% In The Entity) Will Be Entitled To An Additional 5% Capital Incentive.
- Present Eligibility Period For MSME Units Is Only 7 Years

- Net SGST should be changed to Gross SGST for MSME Units.
- Interest subventions on term loans is only Rs. 50 lakhs, it should be increased reasonably.
- Only Specified Restaurants will be eligible for incentives under the policy.
- Retail Zones such as shopping malls / Multiplex / Video Game Zones (only if its part of any other Eligible Tourism Unit)
- The period of eligibility of incentives for eligible tourism units as per tourism policy 2016 shall be automatically get extended as per the eligible duration, as approved to those projects. This shall also be applicable to the projects who have initiated under tourism policy 2016, but have not commenced commercial operations or have not received occupancy certificate, shall be henceforth treated under the Tourism

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Policy 2024

# • ADDITIONAL FSI AND SPACE UTILIZATION OF TOURISM UNITS/HOSPITABILITY PARK:

• FSI may be provided on basis of the following table to all Tourism units/Hospitability Parks in the Greater Mumbai region and rest of Maharashtra

Sr. No.	Minimum Road Width	Maximum Permissible FSI Greater Mumbai Region	Maximum Permissible FSI Rest of Maharashtra
1	12 m	Up to 3	Up to 3
2	18 m	Up to 4	Up to 3.5
3	27 m	Up to 5	Up to 4

 Additional FSI limit shall be applicable as above or as per the local DCR norms, whichever is higher

## ADDITIONAL FSI AND SPACE UTILIZATION OF TOURISM UNITS/HOSPITABILITY PARK:

Additional FSI Limit shall be applicable as above or as per the Local DCR norms, whichever is higher, excluding in Agriculture Zone, NDZ, or any other special zone, declared by Urban Development Department, where the maximum Additional Floor Space Index limit shall remain applicable as per prevailing Development Control Regulation.

# · VLABILITY GAP FUNDING (YGF)

#### 1. PURPOSE:

• Provided for essential tourism projects that are not financially viable alone.

#### 2. FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

- Capital or operational grant during construction or first 4 years after COD.
- Maximum of 40% of total project cost, based on lowest bid.
- ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS/SC/ST/DIFFERENTLY ABLED:
  - New tourism units with 51%+ ownership by women, SC/ST, or differently-abled entrepreneurs get an additional 5% capital incentive.

# INCENTIVES TO TOUR OPERATOR, AGENTS, DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANY (DMC), FOR INBOUND TOURIST:

			Tax Rebate on annual turnover for tour packages in Maharashtra State			
Type	Minimum Pax (Annual Per Operator)	Minimum Annual Turnover (Per Operator	Tour Packages with 100% foreign national tourist	Tour packages on destinations other than Metro	In Metro and Municipal Corporation area	
Travel Operators/Agents	500	INR 20,00,000				
MICE	1500	INR 10,00,00,00 0	15%	12%	12%	
Destination Weddings	1000	INR 75,00,000				
Medical Tourism Operators	500	INR 20,00,000	15%	NA	NA	

# INCENTIVES FOR PARTICIPATING IN TOURISM EXHIBITIONS, TRAVEL SHOWS / MARTS IN INDIA AND ABROAD:

Sr. No.	Participation in	Quantum of financial assistance
1.	Tourism Event with in Maharashtra	50% of cost of rental of stall/ space at the event or INR 2 Lakh, which ever is lower
2.	Tourism Event outside Maharashtra	50% of cost of rental of stall/ space at the event or INR 3 Lakh, which ever is lower
3.	International Tourism Event out side India	50% of cost of rental of stall/ space at the event or INR 5 Lakh, which ever is lower

#### INCENTIVES FOR ORGANIZING RURAL TOURISM FAIR/ANNUAL FAIR:

Sr. No.	Category of Fair	Quantum of financial assistance		
1.	Major Fair	INR 10 lakhs per year per organizer		
2.	Minor Fair	INR 5 lakhs per year per organizer		
3.	List of major fairs would be issued by Directorate of Tourism, Maharashtra. Incentive would be provided to max. 3 events per year per organizer.			

# TOURISM AWARDS:

Types of Tourism awards	District Level	Division Level	State Level	Awardee
Best Tourism Village		INR 5 Cr	INR10 Cr	Collector, Divisional Commissioner, Local Self Government
Best Homestay	INR.25,000/-	INR.50,000/-	INR1 Lakh	Homestay
Best Agro Tourism units	INR.25,000/-	INR.50,000/-	INR1 Lakh	Agro Tourism Unit

Note: Amount received as award for best tourism village shall utilized for development of concerned best tourism village by Directorate of Tourism with Local Self Government jointly

# INCENTIVES FOR HOSPITALITY RELATED TRAINING AND AFFILIATION OF HOME STAYS/VILLAS:

Sr. No.	Item	Incentive
1.	Hospitability unit which will send its employees, tour guides etc. for Hospitability training through reputed accredited Institute/College etc.	Reimbursement of 75% of the cost of fees paid for Short/Medium term course/training or INR 12,000, whichever is less
2.	Hospitability units which will establish affiliation with Home stays or its Cluster, Tourist villas, Agro Tourism units for its quality improvement, skilling of owner of such affiliated units, Hand holding, training etc.	The two parties will sign MoU and will receive <b>SGST</b> reimbursement for the turnover achieved through the MoU.

## INCENTIVES FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

#### Tourism Courses:

- For employees of registered hoteliers and tour operators.
- Up to 600 individuals annually.
- Covers 100% of the course fee or up to ₹12,500 for courses of 15 days+.

#### Tourism Courses:

- Monthly remuneration of ₹7,500 for three months.
- Requires specific certifications and registration.
- Up to 100 guides per division.

## PROMOTION OF RESEARCH IN TOURISM/HOSPITALITY

- Financial Support:
  - Up to ₹10 lakhs for 5 proposals annually.
  - Selected by Principal Secretary Tourism Committee.
  - Tourism Courses:
  - Monthly remuneration of ₹7,500 for three months.
  - Requires specific certifications and registration.
  - Up to 100 guides per division.

#### **ELIGIBLE CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

## • ELIGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (ECI):

- Infrastructure: fences, roads, signs, toilets.
- Buildings, machinery, equipment, handling tools.
- Mechanical, electrical, plumbing installations.
- Fixtures, furniture, fittings.
- Waste treatment facilities, transformers, generators.
- Captive power plants, renewable energy sources.
- Includes utility and installation charges.

# • INELIGIBLE COMPONENTS:

- Land costs (except for only SGST refunds).
- Investments made before the last 4 years from the project's commercial operation date.
- Intangible assets like IP rights and goodwill.
- Grants or financial assistance from government or other agencies.

#### • OWNERSHIP AND LEASE:

- Assets must be paid for and owned or leased.
- Building leases: minimum 15 years.
- Other fixed assets: at least half of estimated residual life time.
- Leased assets valued at Net Present Value using a 10% discount rate, if lease is within the investment period.

#### • ELIGIBLE INVESTMENT IN ECI SHOULD NOT INCLUDE:

Pre-construction expenses and cost of consultant

Capitalized interest.

Working capital

• In case of expansion projects, ECI shall be calculated for the expansion component only, as per the calculation described above. Expansion should be more than 50% of existing capacity (e.g. rooms/rides etc.).

#### > INCENTIVE FOR AGRO TOURISM

- Agri-tourism business will henceforth be recognized as agri-business such as goat rearing, dairying, sericulture, bee keeping etc.
- Agri-tourism license will be issued to the farmers for 10 years after verification by concerned competent authorities.
- The Directorate of Tourism shall **encourage skill development and training** for agritourism industries for the implementation of such policy.
- Farmers can sell agricultural produce or local products, handicrafts, etc. to the tourists/ visitors..
- Electricity will be charged at domestic rates for homestays in agri-tourism industries.
- Accommodations such as temporary tents and pods, mobile houses, tree houses, tribal huts, eco houses, scaffolding, Vedic houses etc. are permitted.
- A farmer will no longer require a non-agricultural license for agritourism. However, information about the activities of the concerned agri-tourism units should be provided to the revenue department of that area for information.

#### > INCENTIVE FOR WELLNESS TOURISM

• Such a unit would be eligible for incentives if the project owner enters into a long lease agreement with the farmer for at least 10 years.

#### > RENEWAL OF LICENSES AND CLEARANCES

• Tourism projects require various licenses and approvals such as residence permit, food permit, police permit, license under the Shops and Establishments Act and license under the Food and Drug Administration. These licenses have to be renewed every year. As per this policy, instead of the present annual renewal for these licences/permits, it should be done every 5 years by the concerned authority

#### > INCENTIVE FOR CARAVAN TOURISM

- Permission is being given to operate caravans/camper trucks/vans for tourism purposes in the state. The State Transport Commissioner will enforce registration of vehicles in this regard.
- Permits for parking of such vehicles shall be permitted by local authorities preferably in public parking areas for caravans
- The vehicles should be given the status of tourist vehicles by the concerned authority of the state where such vehicles are to be used as tourist vehicles
- Maharashtra Tourism will promote and disseminate tourism through social platforms and fam tours.
- All caravan holders will be required to register with Directorate of Tourism.

# > NON-AGRICULTURAL TAX & DEVELOPMENT CHARGES EXEMPTION

- Full exemption from non-agricultural tax and non-agricultural permit shall be admissible to all tourism projects.
- This will be applicable to all projects executed by MTDC / Directorate of Tourism or private investors / proponents.
- Agri tourism industry, caravan park, Heli tourism project, E. V. Charging stations, adventure sports will not require non-agricultural permission.
- Development charges will be exempted while sanctioning tourism/hospitality component.....?

#### > PACKAGE SCHEME OF INCENTIVES

• Incentivize tourism units in the State by linking it to the Package Scheme of Incentives, 2019 of Department of Industries, Energy and Labour or any modifications thereafter. The Incentives under this Policy are designed as per the needs of the Tourism Sector in the State.

## >BENEFITS OF INDUSTRY

All tourism projects covered under this policy will be considered as "Industry" for the purposes of other benefits accruing to projects defined as Industry

#### > INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

The State shall on top priority provide infrastructure support like road, water supply connection, electric connectivity like substation, transformer, service cable, transmission line, etc. There shall be fast/ speedily shifting of existing electric pole, electric cables, junction box etc. to enable construction and for safe /smooth movement for traffic of tourism unit.

## > OPEN ACCESS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The State shall allow all tourism units covered under this policy to get power through open access

#### > ENVIRONMENT AND FIRE CLEARANCE

The State will facilitate Environment and fire clearance within 01 month, for all tourism units covered under this Policy, wherever applicable as per environment Protection Act, 1986 and notifications issued under the same.

## > OPEN ACCESS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The State shall allow all tourism units covered under this policy to get power through open access

# ROLE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN TOURISM PROJECTS

CATULIE

#### **CA JULFESH SHAH**

Chairman COSIA Vidarbha

Advisor, Directorate of Tourism, Maharashtra

**Member of MSME Facilitation Council** 

Former Vice-Chairman, WIRC of ICAI

Former Chairman, ICAI - NAGPUR

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# STRATEGIC ADVISORY & SUBSIDY FACILITATION

- Assist in eligibility assessment,
- Classification (MSME / Large / Mega)
- Zoning implications (Zone A/B/C/STZ/STD)
- Help clients proactively plan and position their projects in regions proposed for Special Tourism District (STD) status ,enabling them to benefit from enhanced incentives such as higher capital subsidies,
- Guide clients in identifying and classifying capital assets as per Tourism Policy norms

# PROJECT PLANNING & STRUCTURING

- Business model planning, DPR preparation
- Advising on entity selection (proprietorship, LLP, company)
- Cost-benefit analysis of classification: MSME, Large, Mega Projects

# GUIDANCE FOR REGISTRATIONS & APPROVALS

- Support in Provisional Registration (PR) & Eligibility Certificate (EC) under Tourism Policy
- Advisory for registrations under "Mission Travel for Life"
- Application through MAITRI / Directorate of Tourism

# AVAILING FISCAL INCENTIVES

- Capital subsidy planning & claim under:
  - Capital Investment Incentives
  - Interest Subsidy (₹50 lakh limit)
  - SGST Refund (Gross basis for MSMEs)

 Tracking timelines & compliance for claiming installment-based incentives

# STAMP DUTY & TAX EXEMPTIONS

- Professional support in documentation for:
  - Stamp duty exemption
  - Exemption from Non-Agricultural Tax & Development Charges
  - Other statutory incentives under PSI/Industry benefits

# LEGAL & FINANCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

- Ensuring compliance with:
  - lease norms (15 years for building lease)
  - Fixed asset validation and valuation
  - Non-inclusion of ineligible components like goodwill, working capital

# SUSTAINABILITY & ESG ADVISORY

- Planning for:
  - Rainwater harvesting, solar power units
  - On-site waste treatment and pollution control
- Additional capital incentive for green infrastructure

# SUPPORT IN SPECIAL INCENTIVE APPLICATIONS

- Women/SC/ST/Differently-abled unit benefits (5% extra)
- Incentives for:
  - Adventure/Eco/Rural Tourism
  - Skill Development & Research Proposals

# MAHARASHTRA TOURISM POLICY: 2024

HIGHLIGHTS OF MAHARASHTRA

**FORTS** 

HILL STATIONS -







WILDLIFE -

**BEACHES** -





आप सब की दोस्ती सात सुरो का साज़ है, और आप जैसे दोस्तो पर हमे नाज़ है, चाहे कुछ भी हो जाये ज़िन्दगी में, दोस्ती कल भी वैसी रहेंगी जैसी आज है!!

# CA JULFESH SHAH

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