



**'Discover USA - Knowledge series'**  
 Part 1- U.S. Gateway Cities & Self-drive holidays

Join us on

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**3 PM IST**

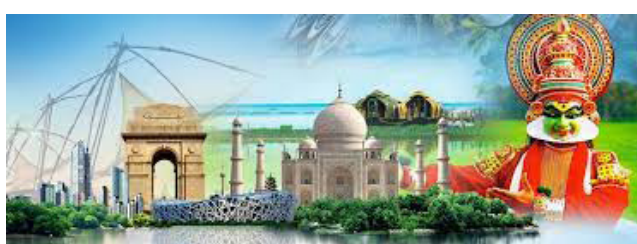




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## Parliamentary panel recommends devising mechanisms for building tourism infrastructure

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture has suggested that the Central government should devise mechanisms to build infrastructure with the assistance of states for the holistic development of all tourist destinations on par with world standards. In its 320th report on 'Development of Tourism Infrastructure in the country', the Committee noted that "the holistic development of tourism infrastructure at all tourist destinations through Central Financial Assistance to the states and

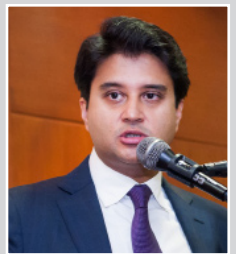


Union Territories (UTs) may require convergence of resources, expertise and experience for maintenance and management after development since many of them are under the jurisdictions of Central Agencies like Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Port Trusts in India, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) etc. and the overall development of places of tourist interest under their control may not be possible through their own resources".


Union Territories (UTs) may require convergence of resources, expertise and experience for maintenance and management after

## India to add 100-120 aircraft every year to meet growing demand: Scindia

India intends to add 100-120 aircraft every year to meet the growing demand, Civil Aviation Minister




Jyotiraditya Scindia has said. Scindia added that India is looking at tremendous expansion in areas of airlines, airports and every facet of the civil aviation eco-system. He said that fleet augmentation is also important for the sector. The country, which had 400 aircraft in 2013-14, has grown its fleet to 710 aircraft in the last seven years. "We added 310 aircraft. We intend to add 100-120 aircraft every year as we go forward" he said.



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## Azerbaijan unveils e-Visa portal

Azerbaijan has unveiled a new e-visa portal. The portal was developed as a part of a cooperation agreement signed between VFS Global and the E-GOV Development Center (EGDC) in the State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Currently travellers from 70 nationalities are eligible to travel to Azerbaijan with travel restriction likely to open for other markets.



Fariz Jafarov, Director, EGDC, said, "We are delighted to partner with VFS Global in our endeavour to encourage seamless travel to Azerbaijan. We are confident that travellers across the globe would realise the advantages of e-visa service and leverage its benefits."

## Genting Hong Kong's fleet to be auctioned soon

The fleet of insolvent Genting Hong Kong, ships that sailed for Crystal Cruises, Dream Cruises and Star Cruises — will likely go to auction soon.

Auctions are required as part of the legal liquidation process to clear any maritime liens (necessities like fuel, crew wages, supplies, etc.) with priority that rank before mortgages. Upon sale at auction, the ships would be purchased free and clear of any liens.

If there are no adequate bids, the mortgage holder could take a ship in exchange for their lien and try to sell it on their own for more money than the auction would have produced, a maritime attorney said. A number of parties reportedly have expressed interest in the Crystal Cruises ships and some in the company as a whole.



## Finnair to connect Mumbai-Helsinki with direct flights from July

Finland's flag carrier, Finnair will start regular services between Mumbai and Helsinki in July 2022. With the new launch, Mumbai becomes the airline's second destination in India.

Finnair will operate these flights three times a week, i.e., on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. The airline will be operating the Airbus A330 wide-body aircraft for this route. Desmond Chacko – General Manager, Finnair, said, "As the world opens up to travel, it is an opportune time to expand operations and enable better connectivity for our customers. After Delhi, Mumbai is a major airline hub in India and is home to leading global businesses. Our new services will enable both business & leisure travel from the region as global economies gradually recover from the impact of the COVID-19."



## Ajman Tourism forays in India with Intrepid Marketing as Representative

Ajman Department of Tourism Development has forayed into the Indian market having appointed Intrepid Marketing and Communications as their Representative. Intrepid will be implementing all sales, marketing and communications initiatives in key target markets.

Khadija Turki, Director of Tourism Development and Marketing, Ajman Department of Tourism Development, said, "We are ecstatic to set foot in the India market as we are aware of the country's unique travel appetite and look forward to welcoming our guests seeking an exquisite getaway. India is an exciting yet a complex market for several factors and we are thrilled to work with Intrepid Marketing and Communications team and collectively derive the best methods to establish and expand our presence. The team will be endorsing our products and itineraries across key segments and markets and provide their core insights to make Ajman one of the fastest emerging destinations amongst outbound Indian travellers."

