

**High Commission of India**

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**Trinidad & Tobago**

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The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in collaboration with other Central Ministries, State Governments and Stakeholders, is organizing a **“Paryatan Parv” (Tourism Festival)**across the country from **October 5 to 25, 2017**. The Programme is being organized with the objective of drawing focus on showcasing the cultural diversity of India and reinforcing the principle of "Tourism for All".

2 Paryatan Parv will have three main components :

* ***Dekho Apna Desh*** : To encourage Indians to visit their own country.

This will include Video, Photograph and Blog Competitions of sites visited during the Event, Stories of India through Travelers’ Eyes, on Social Media, Tourism related Quiz, Essay, Debate and Painting Competitions for Students, Television Campaigns to promote travel to J&K and N.E. States.

* ***Tourism for All*** : Tourism Events at thirty sites across States in the country.

The activities at these sites will include illumination in and around the Sites, Cultural Programmes of Dance, Music, Theatre, Story Telling, Sensitisation Programmes for Stakeholders around the Sites, Tourism Exhibitions, Showcasing Culture, Cuisine and Handicrafts / Handlooms, Guided Heritage Walks, etc. These will be “People’s Events” with large scale public participation.

* ***Tourism & Governance***: Interactive Sessions & Workshops with Stakeholders on following themes :
* Skill Development in Tourism Sector
* Innovation in Tourism
* For inducting Ex-servicemen as service providers for Taxi Operation
* Developing Rural Tourism in locations near established Destinations
* Community Sensitisation Workshops on Home stay and B&B Opportunities

3 The Parv will be inaugurated at the Humayun’s Tomb on 5th October 2017by Hon. Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture and Hon. Shri K.J Alphons, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism. Heritage Walks are being organized at the monument from 8 AM to 4 PM along with a Painting Competition for students. The formal inauguration of the event will be held at 5:30 PM at the venue which will include a cultural programme with Meera Bhajans by Vidya Shah and Dastan-e-Amir Khusrau presented by Dr. Syeda Hameed, Zakia Zaheer & Rene Singh.

4 The Paryatan Parv will culminate in a 3 day event in New Delhi from the 23rd to 25th October 2017 which will showcase the cultural diversity of  the country, with cultural performances, crafts bazaar, food court showcasing folk and classical dance & music, handicrafts & handlooms and cuisine from all regions and States of the country. Throughout 20 days, the ‘Paryatan Parv’ will give an opportunity for the citizens of the country to explore the cultural heritage and enjoy the diverse cuisine, cultural programmes, music, theatre, etc.

5 All citizens of Trinidad and Tobago and other countries in the Caribbean region desirous to visit India for tourism are cordially invited to avail of this opportunity and advised to plan their visit to India during the period accordingly.

6. List of events and logo is attached.

With best wishes,

(S.C. Mishra)

Second Secretary (CPC)

October 5, 2017