

Know India Programme

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has announced their next series of Know India Programme. The following is the schedule proposed for the two Know India Programmes (KIPs) to be organized by this Ministry during 2009-2010:

| | Tentative Period | Partner States | Last date for receipt of nominations |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 13 th KIP | December 09 - January 2010 | Kerala, Haryana | 30 th September 2009 |
| 14 th KIP | March 2010 | Rajasthan, Goa | 31 st December 2009 |

2. Duration of each of these KIPs would be 3 weeks - exact dates would be conveyed on finalization of the respective programme, at least a month before its commencement. These programmes are organized in partnership with concerned State Governments while logistical support is provided by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

3. The participants are provided local hospitality e.g. boarding/lodging in State guest houses or budget hotels and internal travel. They are also given per diem allowance of Rs. 100/- for out-of-pocket expenses. They may be granted gratis visa by our Missions/Posts.

4. Until the 11th KIP, 50% of the international airfare by the cheapest economy class travel was reimbursable to the participants after they had successfully taken part in them. With a view to enable the less affluent Diaspora youth to take advantage of KIPs, **it has been decided to reimburse 90% of the international airfare by the cheapest economy class travel to participants selected for the 12th and subsequent KIPs** subject to their successfully taking part in the respective programmes.

5. The content of the programme may include the following:

- (a) Presentations on the country, political process, developments in various sectors,
- (b) Interaction with faculty and students at a prestigious University/College/Institute,
- (c) Presentation on the industrial development and visits to some Industries,
- (d) Visit to a village to better understand the typical village life,
- (e) Exposure to Indian media,
- (f) Interaction with NGOs and organizations dealing with women affairs,
- (g) Visit to places of historical importance/Monuments,

- (h) Taking part in Cultural programmes,
- (i) Exposure to yoga,
- (j) Call on high dignitaries, which may include President of India, Chief Election Commissioner of India, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and Ministers in-charge of Overseas Indian Affairs, Youth Affairs and Sports.

6. Broad guidelines to be followed while making nominations for KIPs are as under:

- The Programme is open to youth of Indian Origin (excluding NRIs) in the age group of 18-26 years as on the first day of the month in which the programme is expected to start. It is open to PIOs from all over the world. A fair mix of males and females is expected.
- The total number of participants in any of the Programme may not exceed 40.
- The candidates should either be studying in the under-graduate level or should have completed under-graduation or equivalent.
- They should be able to converse in English. [They should have studied English as a subject at the High School level or should have English as a medium of instruction for under-graduate course]
- They should have distinguished themselves in a particular field and should have abiding interest in India.
- They should not have participated in any previous Know India Programme or Internship Programme for Diaspora Youth.

9. The last date for receipt of nominations is indicated above against the three KIPs. It is 30th September 2009 for the 13th Know India Programme.

10. Participants would be adequately briefed about the programme. They would not be permitted to leave the programme mid-way. They would be expected to follow the entire programme as a group and stay at places designated/selected for this purpose.

11. Details of the Programme are also available on website <http://moia.gov.in> as well as on the website <http://knowindiaprogram.com/>.

12. A copy of the application form is attached.