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Hon'ble PM inaugurates new Circuit House in Somnath, Gujarat

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the new Circuit House in Somnath, Gujarat via video conferencing. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel, state ministers, Members of Parliament, Temple Trust members were among those present on the occasion.

He said that tourism plays a major role in the economy of many countries of the world. "We have infinite possibilities like this in every state and in every field", he said. The Hon'ble Prime Minister narrated a virtual Bharat Darshan of spiritual destinations and listed Somnath, Dwarka, Rann of Kutch and Statue of Unity in Gujarat; Places like Ayodhya, Mathura, Kashi, Prayag, Kushinagar and Vindhyachal in Uttar Pradesh; Devbhumi Uttarakhand has Badrinath Kedarnath; Himachal has Jwala Devi, Naina Devi; Entire North East is replete with the divine and natural glow; Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu; Puri in Odisha; Tirupati Balaji in Andhra Pradesh; Siddhi Vinayak in Maharashtra; Sabarimala in Kerala. "These places represent our national unity and the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Today, the country also sees them as a strong source of prosperity. Through their development we can catalyse development of a big area", he said.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister remarked that in the last 7 years, the country has worked relentlessly to realize the potential of tourism. The Hon'ble Prime Minister informed that a special train is being started from Delhi for the Divya Kashi Yatra tomorrow. Similarly the Buddha Circuit is making it easier to visit places related to Lord Buddha. Visa rules have been eased for foreign tourists and tourist destinations were given priority in the vaccination drive.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said the country is looking at tourism in a holistic way. The Hon'ble Prime Minister said after independence, the new development was for only a few families in Delhi. But today the country is leaving behind that narrow thinking and is building new places of pride and giving them grandeur. "It is our own government that built Babasaheb Memorial in Delhi, the APJ Abdul Kalam memorial in Rameshwaram. Similarly, the places associated with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Shyamji Krishna Varma have been given due stature. Adivasi museums are also being built across the country to bring forth the glorious history of our tribal society", the Hon'ble Prime Minister informed. Elaborating on the potential of the newly developed places, the Prime Minister said that despite the pandemic 75 lakh people have come to see the Statue of Unity. Such places will take our identity along with tourism to new heights, he said.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister advised against taking a narrow interpretation of his call for

'vocal for local' and said that the call includes local tourism. He reiterated his request for visiting at least 15-20 places of India before embarking on any tourism abroad.

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Warm Regards,

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