

Union Culture and Tourism Min Dr Mahesh Sharma gives stress on coastal, culture, pilgrim tourism

The NDA government headed by Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi has now given more stress on developing, deepening and strengthening relations with the Indian Ocean Rim(IOR) countries, which have civilizational links with India. Prime Minister Sri Modi's recent visit to Seychelles, Mauritius, Sri Lanka is the example of New government's initiative in this direction. Prime Minister has given more importance to promote ties with our IOR neighbours which will not only strengthen the security of our vast sea lanes in Indian Ocean but also secure our age-old cultural relations with them,

Chairing on the Plenary session of the International Conference on "India and the Indian Ocean, renewing the civilizational linkages" in Bhubaneswar today (21/3/2015) the Union Culture and Tourism Minister Dr Mahesh Sharma said this. He said that center would be giving more focus on coastal circuit tourism. India has a long coastline of 7500 Km which possesses rich culture and heritage. If this can be harnessed along with beach tourism, culture and pilgrim tourism, all states particularly coastal states like Odisha will be benefited. Dr Sharma said the country has a great potential of promoting pilgrim and culture tourism under PRASAD scheme. India's new initiative to deepen ties with IOR nations would definitely help to promote intra-regional trade and tourism among countries of Indian Ocean Rim.

The three day international conference is attended by the representatives of 20 countries situated in Indian Ocean Region. (PIB)