

# The Telegraph

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## Cabinet push for Maluti facelift, state tourism

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Ranchi, June 9:** The Raghubar Das cabinet today resolved to engage a leading Delhi-based agency for revamp and conservation of historical terracotta temples in Maluti, Dumka, while approving the state tourism policy to provide the much-needed impetus to the sector.

Tourism secretary Avinash Kumar maintained that the state would ink a pact with Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development on the nomination basis to give a facelift to Maluti, which houses over 100 terracotta temples of Hindu gods and goddesses built between 1680 and 1760.

Chief minister Das recently spent a night in Maluti, which shot to limelight this Republic Day, when a tableau modelled on its temples rolled

out on Rajpath, New Delhi, earning the state government second spot.

To boost the sector as a whole, the cabinet cleared the tourism policy, which promises capital incentives, tax exemption and other benefits for investors.

The policy also provides for formation of a tourist security force for the safety of visitors and special training for hoteliers, guides, tour operators, taxi drivers and others engaged in the industry.

Moreover, the cabinet has decided to revamp the Jharkhand State Tourism Development Council and constitute a Jharkhand State Tourism Development Board to facilitate better amenities.

"The government will play the facilitator's role. It is considering a new law to boost tourism. Further, there are

plans to create new tourism circuits in coordination with neighbouring states," Kumar added.

Other important decisions included making Aadhar-based biometric attendance compulsory for all government employees, reserving the posts of constables in Special India Reserve Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Battalion for people belonging to the primitive categories, allowing private companies to run industrial training institutes under their corporate social responsibility programme.

Also, the state cabinet amended the motor vehicle inspectors' job promotion regulation and Jharkhand sportspersons' direct recruitment regulation. The Indian Council of Agriculture Research was given 1,000 acres in Barhi block, Hazaribagh.