



28/11/2017

Government of Punjab

Department of NRI Affairs

To

All the Divisional Commissioners
and Deputy Commissioners

E.D.
NRI Sabha

COMMISSIONER
JALANDHAR DIVISION JALANDHAR

27/11/17

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Memo No.3/4/2017- NRI(2)/ 872

Dated, Chandigarh 22, November, 2017



Subject: CONNECT WITH YOUR ROOTS' SCHEME FOR YOUNG NRIs (CYR).

1.0 The Department of NRI Affairs launch a "Connect with Your Roots (CYR) Scheme for Young Boys and Girls of Punjabi origin whose parents, grand parents or great grand parents are settled abroad.

1.1 This Scheme would provide an opportunity to the youngsters settled in different parts of the world, to visit the places from where their families hailed or where their ancestors were born, or where they themselves spent their early years.

1.2 This scheme of the Department of NRI Affairs is a part of basic scheme of Friends of Punjab Mukh Mantri Garima Gram Yojana scheme. Under this scheme, a matching grant is provided to those Non-Resident Indians of Punjab who want to develop infrastructure in their ancestral villages and cities.

2.0 Under this scheme the government has made a provision of the visits of groups having 15 boys and girls each of the Non-Resident Indians of Punjab origin and also to give opportunity to them to come to their villages and cities to know about their background / heritage.

2.1 Under this scheme young boys and girls of Punjab origin can come to Punjab for 10 day's tour in the groups of 15-15 each Every year about six to eight groups will visit the Punjab.

2.2 The special feature of this proposed Connect with Your Roots (CYR) scheme are as under:

- * Under this scheme, the young boys and girls of 16 to 22 years of age who were born in Punjab or whose non –resident Punjabi parents were born in Punjab and never came to India or Punjab, can come to Punjab to know about their heritage. Apart from this, the Non Resident youngsters of whose ancestors were born in Punjab, can benefit from this scheme.
- * At first, these youths will be drawn from the countries like U.K. USA, EU, Canada and Australia. The youths from the other countries will also be included later on in this scheme as per requirement.
- * The visiting group of Non-Resident youths will consist of 15 boys and girls and their number can be increased as per situation.
- * Under this scheme, the Department will prepare the tour programme of all the groups and batches which will come from the different countries as per their requirements.
- * Each group of Non-Resident young boys and girls will pay themselves the to and fro travel expenses to reach India and back.
- * The expensive of boarding and lodging, sight seeing or local travel will be borne by the Government of Punjab.
- * Publicity material will be made available through the Embassies/High Commissions of India.
- * This scheme will be made available to the young boys and girls through social media like face book etc.
- * The details of the this scheme will be available on the NRIs portal of the Government of Punjab.
- * Under this scheme, the tour of young boys and girls, to know their heritage, will be of about 10 days but the Department of NRIs Affairs can make changes as per requirement.

- * Under this scheme, the boys and girls who wants to visit Punjab to know about their heritage, would apply to the Government forty five days in advance.
- * The Department of NRI Affairs would finalise the list of visitors, at least a month prior to their visit so that they can plan their travel and complete the formalities like getting the visa etc.

The beneficiaries, under this scheme can visit the following places:

- o Visit to ancestral places etc.
- o Visit to old monuments, historical and cultural places such as:
 - i) Sri Harmandar Sahib
 - ii) Jallianwala Bagh
 - iii) Wagah Border
 - iv) Bhagat Singh Memorial at Banga.
 - v) Khalsa Heritage Memorial(Anandhpur Sahib)
 - vi) War Memorial Amritsar
 - vii) Jang-e-Azaadi War Memorial
 - viii) Visit to Schools, Colleges and Universities.
 - ix) Visit to Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Punjab Civil Secretariat and Punjab & Haryana High Court.
 - x) Visit to centres of Excellence in the field of Punjabi Language, Agriculture, Industry, Dams/ Irrigarion etc.
 - xi) Home-Stay programme in a village for three days. Government would be requesting families based in Punjab to volunteer for the home-stay programm.
 - xii) Visits to old and famous food joints in Amritsar, Patiala, Ludhiana etc. to savour traditional delicacies and street foods, such as tikkas, Amritsari kulchas, Amritsari machhi, lassi and Giani di Chah of Amritsar, kachorries of Patiala and haveli Food in Jalandhar etc. Almost every city has something unique to offer.

Apart from this, the beneficiaries has the liberty to choose the places where they can go for a visit so that they have the knowledge of Punjab's culture and heritage.

Harmander Singh
Under Secretary

A Copy is forwarded to the Principal Secretary, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs Punjab for information.

Hamminder Singh
Under Secretary

To

Principal Secretary
Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
Punjab.

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