



## **Tirupathi Calling!**

**GTDC to launch exclusive pilgrimage tours to Tirupathi from 2<sup>nd</sup> July: Service to be launched by Hon'ble Tourism Minister Manohar Ajgaonkar**

**GTDC soon to launch special pilgrimage tours to Vailankani, Shirdi, Vaishno Devi**



Panjim, June 23: Local Goans and pilgrims yearning to partake in Tirupathi Darshans can now travel at ease and comfort from 2nd July as Goa Tourism through Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) will launch exclusive package tours with special facilities for its takers.



The Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Mr. Manohar Ajaonkar will launch the Tirupathi Balaji Darshan tour services on 2<sup>nd</sup> July along with Mr. Nilesh Cabral, Chairman, Goa Tourism Development Corporation and other officials.

The GTDC in association with SeaBird Travels will provide the daily bus tour exclusive package from Goa to Tirupathi and back over two days and three nights.

Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Mr. Manohar Ajaonkar said, "Goans are truly blessed to have this exclusive package tour to Tirupathi being started by Goa Tourism through the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) and am confident that this service will be a huge success."

Hon'ble Chairman of GTDC, Mr. Nilesh Cabral said, "There was a long pending request from local Goans wishing to visit Tirupathi for an exclusive package and GTDC has now worked out a very reasonably priced tour which provides comfortable travel, darshans, stay and other facilities. We are optimistic that the service will get an overwhelming response."

Once launched, the multi axle Volvo Ac semi sleeper coach service will begin from Mapusa and pick up passengers along the way (Panjim, Verna, Margao, Cuncolim, Canacona) and proceed to Tirupathi via Bangalore.

The itinerary includes a 12 hour halt at Bangalore where the pilgrims can opt for sightseeing or accommodation facility for the day at an extra charge. The package provides preferential service with special entry for the Lord Balaji Darshan at Tirumala, *prashad*, and also Darshan of Goddess Padmavathi at Alamelu Mangapura before proceeding to Tirumala.

The package priced at Rs 4,000 also includes a link coach by APSRTC from Tirupathi to Tirumala, a guide and darshan ticket. One complimentary breakfast and lunch at Tirupathi will also be provided.

#### **Details of the Tirupathi exclusive package tour:**

- Departure from Mapusa 6.30 p.m.
- Pick up passengers from Panjim, Verna, Margao, Cuncolim and Canacona
- Arrival in Bangalore next day 8.00 a.m. (Optional – tour/hotel accommodation at extra cost during 12 hour halt)
- Departure for Tirupathi at 8.30 p.m.
- Arrival at Tirupathi 3.30 a.m. next day. Freshen up and departure for Darshan of Goddess Padmavathi. Breakfast. Departure for Tirumala for Lord Balaji Darshan. Return to Tirupathi/lunch and return to hotel
- Departure from Tirupathi at 3.00 p.m.
- Arrival in Bangalore at 8.30 p.m.
- Short break and departure for Goa at 9.30 p.m.
- Arrival in Goa at 8.00 a.m. following day