

**Guests who are keen to cruise the vast backwaters off Marine Drive and further into the sea would be able to do so in a week from the comfort of Sooryamshu, a double-decked solar tourist boat from the stable of the Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC). “This is possibly the first solar-powered tourist vessel in Kerala and the biggest of its kind in the State. The solar panels kept on the roof of the upper deck can be washed using automatic sprinklers installed alongside,” K.T. Chacko, chairman of KSINC, told the media on board the vessel on the agency’s tourist vessel operations, managing director R. Girija said its sister tourist vessels Sagara Rani I and Sagara Rani II were high in demand, most often operating four daily trips into the sea from Marine Drive. The ₹3.95-crore vessel that can carry up to 100 passengers was built at a yard in Sri Lanka and is among the few in Kochi whose safety and allied features are certified by the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS). It has a diesel generator to provide backup in case need arises. There is an air-conditioned conference hall-cum-DJ floor in the lower deck and a cafeteria-cum-dining area in the upper deck. There is**

also a lift to help differently abled and aged people to reach the upper deck and back, sources said. On the forthcoming vessels, Ms. Girija said a 150-passenger tourist vessel would be built. There are also plans to build a 500-tonne barge and to launch a 1,400-tonne barge which would be able to operate on the country's coastal shipping route.

**Q 1. In Which state First Solar Ship is launched**

- A. Maharashtra**
- B. Kerala**
- C. Karnataka**
- D. Gujarat**

**Q 2. 'Sooryamshu' Is a**

- A. Vssel**
- B. Indian Navy Vessel**
- C. Tourist Vessel**
- D. It's a Project**

**Q 3. How much capacity of this Vessel**

**A. 100**

**B. 150**

**C. 130**

**D. 200**

**Q 4. 'Cruise' Mean**

**A. Innovation**

**B. Discover**

**C. Travel**

**D. Technology**

**Q 5. What is the weight of This Barage**

**A. 500 Tonne**

**B. 500 Kg**

**C. 1400 Tonne**

**D. 1400 kg**