

Update on IATO Activities

(Monday, 14th June to Sunday, 20th June 2021)

Dear Members,

Greetings !

Please find appended relevant activities of our association for the period (Monday, 14th June to Sunday, 20th June 2021).

Segments covered are

- 1. Communication / Letters that addressed key issues**
- 2. Webinars/ Panel Discussions/Circulars/Meetings/Chapter news**
- 3. Chapter News**

Request your feedback to further the content of our weekly report.

1. Communication / Letters that addressed key issues

Segment 1 update sequence by date:14,15 June

Monday, 14th June

- **Restoration of Special Darshan ticket for Tirupati Temple for IATO Members**

IATO requested Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh on the subject recalling that during the IATO Annual Convention held in Bhubaneswar in September 2017, Mr. Himanshu Shukla, CEO, Andhra Pradesh Tourism Authority had announced on the stage that there would be a provision of special darshan of Tirupati for IATO members who are promoting Andhra Pradesh in a package. Following the same, on IATO's recommendation, 3 members were authorised by Andhra Pradesh Tourism handling of Special Darshan Tickets for Tirupati Temple covered under a package tour for the IATO members. This had helped IATO members to book Andhra Pradesh Tourism Packages including Tirupati Darshan through the above-mentioned 3 members for a large number of Domestic and International tourists/travelers.

However, IATO was informed in the month of October 2020 that the facility of handling Tirupati Darshan package had been withdrawn from the 3 IATO members.

In view of the above and also anticipating that tourism activities would start considering the reduction in Covid cases, Hon'ble Chief Minister was requested on the subject so that IATO members can continue to promote Andhra Pradesh in foreign markets.

*A copy of the letter was marked to **A. Minister for Tourism, Culture & Youth Advancement, B. Special Chief Secretary to Government (Tourism, Culture, Archaeology & Museum), C Chief Executive Officer and D. Director – Administration, Andhra Pradesh Tourism Authority,***

Tuesday, 15th June

- **IATO President sought an appointment with the Hon'ble Finance Minister to discuss issues tourism industry is facing and request the release SEIS for the tour operators**

IATO appealed to Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister for Finance to release the SEIS Scrips for the year 2019-20 which had been kept on hold for over a year. This was a legitimate demand as per provision in the foreign trade policy 2015-20. SEIS is the only hope which could give some oxygen to this dying industry, which was struggling for survival.

2. Webinars/ Panel

Discussions/Circulars/Meetings

Segment 2 update sequence by date:15,17,18,19 June

Tuesday, 15th June

All Members were detailed on the email from ESIC regarding ESIC Covid -19 Relief Scheme to provide help to the families of the Insured Persons (IPs) who died due to COVID-19.

Two policy documents from the office of Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) were attached in the circular.

Thursday, 17th June

- **Inspiring Stories of Sustainable Tourism & Hospitality was organised by the Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI) on 17th June 2021 at 4 pm on Zoom.**

Friday, 18th June

- **IATO Webinar on “Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace” was held on Friday, the 18th June 2021 at 4 pm on Zoom**

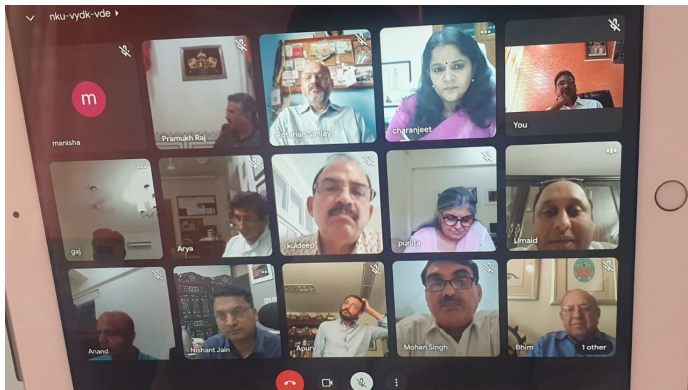
Saturday, 19th June

- **Dekho Apna Desh Webinar on “Yoga for Immunity and Respiratory Health” was organised on 19th June 2021 at 11 AM by the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India**

3. Chapter News

Segment 3 update sequence by date: 15 June

Tuesday, 15th June



IAT Mahendra Singh, Co -Chairman - IATO Rajasthan Chapter informed that IATO Rajasthan Chapter had a Virtual Meeting with Principal Secretary Tourism Ms. Gayatri Rathore (IAS), Mr. Nitin Jain (IAS) Director Tourism, Senior officials of Deptt of Tourism, Sh. Bhim Singh (Rajasthan Chapter Chairman IATO) & Association heads from our Rajasthan Tourism Industry like RATO, FHTR, HRAR, IHHA, ADTOI.

ISSUES DISCUSSED

- 1. Give the status of "Industry" to Tourism so that we can be benefited with the industry benefits offered by government.**
- 2. State Archaeological monuments should be made free for tourists for at least 02 weeks.**
- 3. Tax rebate should be given on Tourist Transports.**
- 4. Tourist Guides & Drivers support scheme should be introduced.**
- 5. Other people like Kalbeliyas, mahaouts, Camel men, Local artists should also get support from govt, as their main earning comes from the tourists but after COVID they are also very much affected.**
- 6. Compulsory RTPCR report on arrival of tourist should be removed.**
- 7. Tourist destinations should be made 100% vaccinated.**