

Update on IATO Activities (Monday, 31st May to Sunday, 6th June 2021)

Dear Members,

Greetings !

Please find appended relevant activities of our association for the period (Monday, 31st May to Sunday, 6th June 2021)

Segments covered are

- 1. Webinars/ Panel Discussions/Circulars/Meetings**
- 2. Media Coverage**
- 3. Chapter News**

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

1. Webinars/ Panel Discussions/Circulars/Meetings

Segment 1 update sequence by date:31May, 2 ,5 June

Monday, 31st May

- **All Members were detailed about Extension of validity of Ministry of Tourism recognition/approval in r/o all categories of Service Providers (Tour Operators, Travel Agents and Tourist Transport Operators) in the wake of Covid-19 Pandemic up to 31.12.2021.**

Wednesday, 2nd June

- **Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI), organized a webinar on “Strategising Planet Friendly Tourism Initiatives” on 02 June, 2021 between 11 AM to 12 PM on Zoom. It was supported by United Nation Environment Programme, WildlifeSOS, IUCN among others.**
- **Video coverage of IATO Webinar on Upskilling of Members held on Domestic Tourism on Friday, 28th May 2021 on Zoom was uploaded for All Members**

The webinar which was attended by over 150 members gathered a lot of attention from the members who actively participated in the webinar. There was a special idea generation on Wedding Tourism which became of a special interest. The Video coverage of the Webinar was later circulated to the members for the benefit of the members who could not join and has been placed on YouTube and link of the same is available on the IATO website.

Friday, the 4th June 2021

➤ IATO Writes to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to help the tourism Industry

President IATO wrote to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to help the Inbound Tourism Industry by urgently releasing SEIS Scrips to the tour operators for 2019/2. Copy of the letter was sent to Minister of Finance, Minister of Commerce, Minister of State for Finance, Minister of State for Commerce, Minister of Tourism and all senior officials in the Ministry of Finance, Commerce, Tourism, DGFT expressing problems the industry is facing, impact of covid-19 on employment in the tourism industry and economic loss to the industry and emphasising the urgent need of funds by releasing SEIS Scrips for 2019-20.

Saturday, 5th June

➤ Adventure Talk on How business leaders need to be resilient in times of change was organised on 5th June 2021 by ATOAI.

➤ IATO Joins WTTC Safe Travel Stamp

All members were informed that WTTC was granting Safe Travel Stamp to the associations and travel and tourism organizations who were following safe travel global protocols. IATO was granted the WTTC Safe Travels Stamp along with other international associations. Accordingly, IATO would grant Safe Travel Stamp to its member on fulfilling the Global Safe Travel Protocol. The Procedure for IATO Members to get WTTC Safe Travel Stamp and the terms and conditions were detailed in the circular. This was earlier circulated to the members on 24th December 2020 but resent to the members to remind them of them same.

2. Media Coverage

Segment 2 by date:31 May 1,2,4,5 June

Monday, 31st May

➤ IATO President speaks about Regional Chapter Chairmen and Chapter Chairmen.

<https://wetransfer.com/downloads/d8d23f43ac7fbf35d8bd141b1de3890d20210608045713/15a2b283b01f6efc8f5c1836fbc5fdc320210608045713/22a09e>

Tuesday, 1st June

➤ **Hospitality sector seeks more govt help**

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/hospitality-tourism-industries-seek-sops-from-government-11622468094480.html>

➤ **Travel industry disappointed with GST Council failure to rationalise taxes for the sector**

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/2021/business/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to-rationalise-taxes-for-the-sector.html>

<https://www.bhaskarlive.in/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to-rationalise-taxes-for-the-sector/>

<https://www.sify.com/finance/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to-rationalise-taxes-for-the-sector-news-topnews-vf5kzlgaeihhj.html>

<https://morungexpress.com/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to-rationalise-taxes-for-the-sector>

<https://www.andhram.com/health/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to-rationalise-taxes-for-the-sector/>

<https://en.doonhorizon.in/spotlight/travel-industry-disappointed-with-gst-council-failure-to/cid3092650.htm>

➤ **IATO's plea on GST rationalization finds no mention at GST council meet; expresses disappointment**

<https://www.hotelierindia.com/business/15112-iatos-plea-on-gst-rationalization-finds-no-mention-at-gst-council-meet-expresses-disappointment>

➤ **Travel industry disappointed as govt. didn't come up with economic relief**

<https://www.techgenyz.com/2021/05/31/travel-industry-disappointed/>

Wednesday, 2nd June

Tourism Breaking News
Wednesday June 2, 2021

IATO disappointed on GST Council not considering its tax rationalising request
In a statement, IATO said that it is hugely disappointed that its request for rationalising GST and cascading impact it caused on the tourism industry was not even discussed in the GST Council meeting. The apex inbound tourism association hoped that the government and GST council would sympathise and do its bit in providing relief to the tourism sector.

Uttarakhand planning to build int'l airport between Dehradun and Haridwar
Uttarakhand Tourism Minister, Satpal Mohani has formulated a committee to find land for the construction of an international airport between Dehradun and Haridwar. The state Tourism Secretary has also been asked to examine procedures required for the construction of an international airport. Besides, District Magistrates of Dehradun & Haridwar have been asked to help.

ATOAI to expand its reach, identifies five states for new Chapter formation
Vishwas Mahila, President, ATOAI has said that his association is finding ways forward to create new Chapters at the state-level. "We have identified five states where we will go forward with our detailed Chapter formation and have ATOAI-representative on ground in every state. There will be 2 leaders each from local associations, state government and tourism authorities," he said.

West Coast canal in Kerala to be made tourism water-highway
Kerala's West Coast Canal (WCCC) project traversing through 13 districts is all set to be a tourism water-highway. Around 60 tourism spots will be created along the banks of the WCC corridor from Kovalam in the south to Kallaripad in the north with the involvement of local bodies. The government aims to connect the existing canal network with the rest of the state.

Government extends ECLGS to aviation sector
Government has further enlarged the scope of Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) by including the aviation sector. The government also announced loan guarantee ceiling of Rs 500 crore on sectors like hospitality, travel and tourism & civil aviation, which were earlier eligible with higher outstanding loans can also avail the ECLGS scheme.

Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme

Madhya Pradesh reopens national parks and tiger reserves
Madhya Pradesh Forest Minister Vijay Shah has said that the state government has reopened national parks and tiger reserves in MP from June 1 till June 30. The parks and reserves were shut amidst COVID-19 restrictions from last 2 months. He said that travellers will have to follow COVID-19 guidelines to during their trip. MP is home to several tiger reserves such as Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Panna, Satpura and Penna.

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www.tourismbreakingnews.com

For more news & updates please log on to

Friday, 4th June

- **RBI creates liquidity window of Rs 15,000 crore to help Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry**

Message from President IATO

<http://travelworldonline.in/Travel-Agents-news-detail.aspx?news=RBI-creates-liquidity-window-of-Rs-15,000-crore-to-help-hotels,-tourism>

Saturday, 5th June

- **Hospitality industry hails RBI's liquidity window, says step will revive sector**

<https://www.livemint.com/economy/hospitality-sector-hails-rbi-s-liquidity-window-says-step-will-revive-industry-11622870705812.html>

- **Banks to lend ₹15,000 crore to hotels, restaurants, travel agents, SPA owners**

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/banks-to-lend-15000-crore-to-hotels-restaurants-travel-agents-spa-owners/article34724228.ece>

- **Hospitality and tourism sector welcomes RBI announcement of liquidity measures**

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/business/hospitality-and-tourism-sector-welcomes-rbi-announcement-of-liquidity-measures>

<https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/hospitality-and-tourism-sector-welcomes-rbi-announcement-of-liquidity-measures/2096064>

- **Industry stakeholders hail RBI's INR 15,000 crore liquidity window to help hotels, tourism**

<https://www.hotelierindia.com/business/15199-industry-stakeholders-hail-rbis-inr-15000-crore-liquidity-window-to-help-hotels-tourism>

3. Chapter News

Segment 3 update sequence by date:31 May 3,4,5,6 June

Monday, 31st May

- **IATO Gujarat Chapter organised their Zoom meeting with Gujarat Members and Shri Nirav Munshi from Gujarat Tourism also joined the meeting on 31st May.**

Mr Munshi replied to the questions raised by members. He also briefed members how Gujarat Tourism is planning to go further to boost Tourism. He asked members to send their suggestion & help required from the Government which will be done soon.



- Points Discussed
 - Problems faced by members due to Pandemic & what appropriate suggestion can be given to State Tourism which they can do to help the members in this crisis.
 - How to go forward with tourism after Post Covid
 - Membership Drive & advised members to help in increasing the Gujarat membership. They were told about wavier of 50% joining fee & Diu (UT) 100% wavier in joining fee for new members.
- - Members were briefed regarding Annual Fee that if members pay their Annual Fee for the year 2020-2021 than they shall get wavier for the year 2021-2022.

➤ IATO Northern Region Meeting



Sunil Gupta thanked everyone for the meaningful deliberations at the Northern Region - Chairman's and Co Chairman's meet. A number of new member applications, great ideas for the leadership and information about local areas were shared.

Thursday, 3rd June

- **IATO Eastern Region Chapter meeting organised on 3rd June, at 4 pm.**
- **Tourism stakeholders seek industry status in Bengal, Didi sounds receptive**
<https://travel.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/destination/states/tourism-stakeholders-look-for-industry-status-in-bengal-didi-sounds-receptive/83205379>

Friday, 4th June

- **IATO (Western Region) organised an online interactive session with Regional Director, Indiatourism Mumbai on 4th June, 2021 at 11 a.m.**

During this session, the Regional Director conducted a workshop on the process of seeking recognition as approved tourism service providers and the benefits thereof under Market Development Assistance Scheme of the Ministry. This Webinar was open to all the members of IATO Western Region.

- **Our Co-Chairman U.P. Chapter Mr. Vikram Singh was felicitated by Mr. Amit Kumar, Astd. Director, India Tourism in a special get together at Varanasi in the presence of important travel trade professionals.**

आईएटीओ का किया स्वागत



वाराणसी (एसएनबी)। आईएटीओ उत्तर प्रदेश के भुवनेन्द्र विक्रम सिंह का स्वागत भारत पर्यटन के कार्यालय में पुष्प गुच्छ दे कर किया गया।

इस अवसर पर उपस्थित सभी सदस्य कोविड 19 का पालन करते हुए कार्यक्रम किया गया। सहायक निदेशक अमित कुमार गुप्ता ने कहा कि पर्यटन के सर्वांगीण विकास की उम्मीद और ज्यादा बढ़ गयी है। साथ में

उपस्थित वरिष्ठ टूर ऑपरेटर श्री आरबी. नाडर ने बताया कि विगत दो-तीन वर्षों से को चैप्टर चेयरमैन वाराणसी का हो यह प्रयास सफल हुआ। इस अवसर पर जीवीटीजी के पूर्व अध्यक्ष राशिद खान, अवनीश कान्त पाठक, सतीश सिंह, नौनिहाल सिंह, प्रमोद सिंह, वी टी जी के कोषाध्यक्ष अंकित श्रीवास्तव, नीरज गुप्ता व अजय गुप्ता मौजूद थे।

Saturday, 5th June

- IATO Southern regional chapter organised a session on awareness on benefits of registering with India Tourism The session was conducted by Mr Venkatesh, RD, western and Southern region at 11 Am. All tour operators and travel agents in the region were invited to join. 184 participants attended the event.



Sunday, 6th June

IATO Odisha Chapter had a Zoom meeting on the Topic *Wisdom Hills: Exploring Buddhist Circuit of Odisha* Jun 6, 2021 11:30 AM
