

भारत सरकार रेल मंत्रालय, (रेलवे बोर्ड) रेल भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD) RAIL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001

No. 2016/Heritage/APHTRO

New Delhi, Dated: 23.09.2016

Shri Pranab Sarkar, President Indian Association of Tour Operators 310, Padma Towers II, 22 Rajendra Place New Delhi- 110008

Subject: APHTRO India 2016 - International Conference on

Heritage Rail Tourism at National Rail Museum (NRM), Chanakyapuri, New Delhi between 19 - 21

October, 2016

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, Indian Railways are the proud owner of three out of five UNESCO accorded World Heritage Railways Worldwide. These three UNESCO inscribed Mountain Railways of India viz., Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR) and Kalka Shimla Railway (KSR) are not only brand icons of rail heritage tourism in India but also major regional tourist attractions. In addition, seasonal tourist trains hauled by iconic Steam locomotives like Fairy Queen (year built 1855), placed in Guinness Book of World Record as being oldest working steam locomotive in the World and Akbar, the steam locomotive seen in many Bollywood movies, also supplements as major attractions to both domestic and international tourists.

Heritage rail tourism in India, besides presenting immense potential for economic development and employment creation, significantly supplements to Incredible India campaign for promoting Indian Tourism. Hon'ble Railway Minister in his budget speech (2016) has accordingly emphasized promotion of tourism through World Heritage Railways and Rail Museums.

As a stepping stone to harness heritage rail tourism potential in India and to place India at the centre of Heritage Tourism in Asia Pacific region, National Rail Museum (Ministry of Railways), New Delhi in collaboration with Asia Pacific Heritage & Rail Tourism Organization (APHTRO), is organizing an international conference cum exhibition on Heritage Rail Tourism in India at National Rail Museum, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi between 19-21 October, 2016.

National Rail Museum (NRM), New Delhi is one of the prominent tourist destinations in New Delhi and is a member of International Association of Transport & Communication Museums (IATM), UK. Headquartered in Japan, Asia Pacific Heritage & Rail Tourism Organization (APHTRO) is the sole and pioneer organization in Asia Pacific Region for promoting heritage rail tourism in the region.

The Conference, first of its kind, will bring together eminent personalities, stakeholders, tour operators dealing with Heritage tourism from various parts of the Globe, deliberating on ideas and way ahead for promoting Heritage tourism in Asia Pacific region especially in India.

The conference will also present immense opportunities to domestic tour providers to showcase their products and services to clients, customers and international counterparts for attracting more inbound tourists as well as creating synergy to build a sizable domestic heritage tourism market. Details of the conference may be seen at http://aphtroindia.org/.

Considering long standing cooperation between Ministry of Railways and Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO), Ministry of Railways solicit active support of IATO to make this Conference (APHTRO India 2016) a grand success.

It is requested that IATO may actively participate in the Conference and showcase tourism potential in the country through 2-3 display stalls during the conference. A 20 minutes presentation session will also be provided for interaction with conference participants. Details of Registration, Conference and Stall fees etc. can be perused in the attached form.

A line of confirmation will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

(Subrata Nath)

Executive Director/Heritage Telefax: 011-23385330

Mobile: 9717640389 Email: subrata.nath@nic.in

Enclosed: Registration Form for APHTRO India 2016

Copy to: Executive Director (PM), Railway Board, New Delhi- For information & necessary action please.



## Registration Form

## APHTRO India Conference

October, 19-21, 2016

## National Rail Museum, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India

I/We wish to participate in the APHTRO India Conference, 2016 and Book Stalls for display.

Name/ Name of the Lea	der.		
Number of Participants	; No	of Days (Indicate dates if not registered for all 3 day	ys)
Name of the Organizat	on.		
Mailing Address			_
City,	5	State/Province.	
Postal Code,	; Country	Telephone. ()	
Mobile,	; Email	ıl	
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		Name & Signature.	

[Please email scanned copy completed registration form to info@aphtroindia.org and/or send the completed form alongwith Demand Draft to Aphthro India Chapter, National Rail Museum, Chandra Gupta Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021, India.]