

30th October, 2020

To All Members

Subject :Update on IATO Activities (Monday 19th October to Sunday, 25th October 2020)

Dear All,

Please find appended the Update on IATO Activities (Monday 19th October to Sunday, 25th October 2020)

With regards,

Rahul Chakravarty

COO

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Update on IATO Activities (Monday, 19th October to Sunday, 25th October 2020)

Dear Members

Greetings

Please find appended relevant activities of our association for the period (Monday, 19th October to Sunday, 25th October 2020)

Segments covered are

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

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

- 1. Communication / Letters that addressed key issues**

**Segment 1 update sequence by date:23 October**

**Friday, 23rd October**

**IATO's request for restoration of E-Visa and Tourist Visa for survival of tour operators and the tourism industry**

On date IATO wrote to Mr. Yogendra Tripathi Secretary (Tourism) that while it welcomed the step taken by the Government in relaxing the Visa and travel

restrictions for more category of foreign nationals who want to travel to India on business, conference and other categories, it is really disheartened and disappointed that E-visa/Tourist Visa and Medical have not been restored. IATO pointed out that this will send a wrong message amongst foreign counterparts (foreign tour operators) that India is not ready to welcome foreign international tourists.

A copy of the letter was marked to A Director General (Tourism), B Additional Director General (Tourism), and C Joint Secretary Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India

**On the above context, on date, IATO also wrote to Mr. Anil Malik, Additional Secretary (FOREIGNERS), Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division) and made a humble request to MHA to open E-visa and tourist visa at the earliest and if this is not possible then at least announce the definite date of announcing the opening of E-visa for tourists.** This will help foreign tourist to visit Pan India in the near future. Otherwise the inbound tour operators shall lose all their business in 2021 also for foreign tourist's arrivals.

**Webinars/ Panel Discussions/Circulars/Meetings/Chapter news**

**Segment 2 update sequence by date:21,24 October**

**Wednesday, 21st October**

**Virtual Road shows was organised by Odisha Tourism on 21st October 2020. All Members (Tour Operators & Travel agents) were informed on the 19th October.**

**Saturday, 24th October**

Dekho Apna Desh Webinar series: Episode 61- Bundi: Architectural Heritage of a Forgotten Rajput Capital was organized on 24th October 2020(1100-1200 hrs.)  
Members were informed on the 17th October

A Webinar was organised by SEPC in association with IATO on “Inputs on Incentive Schemes as Suitable Alternative to SEIS for Proposed FTP (2021-25)” on 24th Oct, 2020 from 3:00 pm to 4:15 pm  
Members were informed on the 21st October

**Media Coverage**

**Segment 3 update sequence by date:19,24 October**

**Monday, 19th October**

IATO urges Andaman to revive tourism and remove restrictions on the operation of flights and ferries

<http://www.uniindia.com/iato-urges-andaman-to-revive-tourism-and-remove-restrictions-on-the-operation-of-flights-and-ferries/east/news/2203579.html>

**Saturday, 24th October**

**Tour Operators' body want tourist visa ban relaxed**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/tour-operators-body-want-tourist-visa-ban-relaxed/article32932547.ece>