NATTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue no 33, Date: 31st October, 2014

BEAUTY OF PANCH POKHARI







INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- NATTA Delegation meet DG DOT
- 5 Images of Nepal to Look for







enews of NATTA

NATTA DELEGATION MEET DG DOT



NTB SUSPENDS

ACTING CEO,

SUBASH NIROULA,

OVER FINANCIAL

IRREGULARITIES



THE DETAILS ON THE

NEXT PAGE......

October 27, A six-member NATTA delegation called on the office of the Director General of the newly set up Department of Tourism replacing the Tourism Industry Division at Bhrikuti Mandap. The delegation led by President D.B. Limbu presented a bouquet and congratulated Tulsi Prasad Gautam on his appointment as Director General of DOT. He also handed over a letter of

NATTA grievances to DG Gautam and expressed the hope that under his able leadership in the department, all those genuine demands of NATTA will be addressed. The demands put up by NATTA include inter alias amendment of the tourism and transport acts of the government, construction of Tourist Bus Terminal in Kathmandu, allocation of certain

percentage to NATTA from NQ tax and renewal of the licenses cancelled etc. CN Pandey, the 2nd VP of NATTA participating in the discourse focused on the problems faced by tour operators in importing tourist vehicles, the registration of the vehicles and incongruous transport regulations.

The DOT was established in its new structural get up on 19th Sept this year. The Director of DOT Chandra Phuyal was also present on the occasion. The other members of NATTA delegation included Treasurer Narayan P. Koney, Executive Member Chitra B.Gurung, Executive Member Binay Basnet and CEO Prof. Hari Sarmah.

MEETING IN PREPARATION OF NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Under the chairmanship of HAN Secretary General, a taskforce of Secretary General of HAN, NATTA, NATO, TAAN, PATA & NMA was formed. The major objective of the formation of taskforce is to prepare for a national symposium on "2 million Tourists by 2020".

Secretary General of NATTA Mrs. Mihika Dhakhwa attended the first

taskforce meeting at HAN Secretariat, Gairidhara on October 29, 2014.







-

Nirola suspended over financial irregularities

- Nandini Lahe-Thapa appointed acting CEO
- Ratish Chandra Lal Suman elected secretary in NTB board

Himalayan News Service

Kathmandu, October 30

The government has suspended Subash Nirola, acting CEO cum director of Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) from his post, based on the direction of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the Legislature-Parliament.

A meeting of NTB Board today took the decision to suspend Nirola.

"Our board suspended Nirola, effective from today, as per the instruction of PAC and a ministerial level decision from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA)," said Suresh Man Shrestha, chairman of the NTB board and secretary of MoCTCA.

On Tuesday, MoCTCA had taken a ministerial level decision and directed the NTB board to suspend Nirola. Nandini Lahe-Thapa, senior most director of NTB has been appointed the acting CEO as gation of Abuse o (CIAA), MoCTCA a ment of Money Lau vestigation to furth gate and take acting progress report to it.

a stopgap measure, according to Shrestha.

MoCTCA has also stressed on the need for changes in the rules so that a competent chief can be appointed through competition at NTB, as underlined by PAC. On October 22, the parliamentary committee based on its study over the NTB anomalies had directed MoCTCA to suspend Nirola and appoint a new chief in the national tourism promotion body through open competition.

Concluding its investigation, PAC had said that Nirola was directly involved in misappropriation of NTB resources by flouting government rules. The committee had also recommended the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA), MoCTCA and Department of Money Laundering Investigation to further investigate and take action against Nirola and also submit monthly progress report to it.

Today's meeting also appointed Ratish Chandra Lal Suman, incumbent member of the executive committee, as the member secretary in the NTB board. He is director general of the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN). Earlier, a threemember inquiry sub-committee under the coordination of Suman had been formed to look into Nirola's involvement in the financial irregularities as provisioned in the NTB Act 1997.

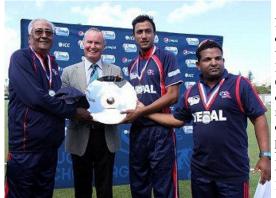
Nirola has been suspended as per the provisions in the Act's Clause (14) Sub-clause (4) and NTB Regulations 1999's Rule (12) Sub-rule (5). The sub-rule states, "If the executive committee considers the continuation of the duty of the post of the CEO is against the interest of NTB, the executive committee may prevent such CEO from discharging duty or suspend such CEO until the inquiry is complete, after the sub-committee to examine the allega-

tions made against the CEO is formed."

PAC, after a month-long investigation, had also concluded that along with Acting CEO Nirola, former chairman of NTB Sushil Ghimire, members and top government official were also engaged in financial irregularities at NTB. The panel had also recommended the antigraft body to investigate various institutions and individuals associated with NTB's financial irregularity issues in the past.

The transgressions at NTB include amendment to the bylaws of NTB that gives power to the CEO for procurement of goods and services violating the standard norms of the Public Procurement Act, arbitrary selection of consultants and payment to them, agreement for tourism promotional advertisements with foreign media for 'certain commission', and use of NTB fund in unproductive activities, among others.

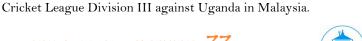
Source:: The Himalayan Times / Ekantipur



Nepali cricket team Captain Paras Khadka and Coach Pubudu Dassanayake receive the trophy after Nepal won the title of ICC-World This image shows an early morning scene at the banks of B a g m a t i River in Gaurighat, Kathmandu on Thursday during the Chhath.



The area was decked out with multicoloured electric lights.



Places to Travel for The Month of November

MONTH of NOVEMBER



Season's Best Pondicherry Corbett Delhi Kerala Udaipur Morocco <u>Singapore</u> Mauritius Cambodia

Cruises Asia Caribbean Galpagos Cruise Mediterranean Singapore



Special Events The Days of the Dead, Mexico Giant Omelette Footis Pushkar Fair



Off Season's Best Sienna Shanghai Kalimpong Mashobra Ootv Barcelona, Spain Oporto, Portugal Tenerife

Festivals

Gurunanak Javanti Thanksgiving Day, USA Diwali Festival Bhai Dooi

Bheemeshwari BR Hills GreatBarrier Reef Hawaii Mahabaleshwar Neckar Valley, Germany Ecuador

Wanaka Kangaroo Island, AUS

Adventure

Pilgrimage Ajmer Sharif Sarnath, UP Rome Pushkar Amritsar **Yogyakarta** Wat Arun, Bangkok Meenakshi Temple

Beach Koh Samui Maldives Goa Murud Janjira Tarkarli, Maharashtra Varkala, Kerala French Polynesia Tranquebar Jamaica

Hill Stations

Chiang Mai, Thailand Darjeeling Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

Kodaikanal Munnar, Kerala Heidelberg, Germany Panchgani Santiago, Chile



Luxury Amarvilas, Agra Acapulco, Devigarh, Udaipur Mexico Oberoi Vanyavilas, New Zealand Ranthambore Dalhousie Saman Villas - Bentota, Seychelles

One & Only Le Saint Cruise Geran, Mauritius

Honeymoon

Umaid Bhawan, Krabi, Thailand Jodhpur Bintan Island Sri Lanka Mediterranean

Heritage

Angkor Wat, Cambodia Badami, Karnataka Egypt Jodhpur Cu Chi Tunnels, Vietnam Mysore Tangier, Morocco



Wildlife

Kolkata

Puri

Jaipur

Sariska

Shantiniketan

Ranthambhore

Karnala Ranthambore Gir Forest Reserve Pench, Nagpur Sarawak, Malaysia Mudumalai Great Smoky, USA Vedanthangal Mountain Zebra, SA

Hyderbad Warangal Chennai Yercaud Delhi

<u>Jaipur</u>



Spa & Health

Taj Green Cove Resort, Kovalam

Mumbai Alibag Amboli Pune Ganpatipule Lonavala

Offbeat

Mirik, West Bengal **Shillong** Mount Abu Luang Prabang, Laos Nuremberg Nha Trang, Vietnam Theog, Himachal Lombok, Indonesia Alice Springs, AUS



Getaways from **Bangalore** Mudumulai Chandigarh Coorg Kasauli







FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT



5 Beautiful Pictures of Nepal that is to Look For...



Mount Machhapuchchhre (also known as Fishtail mountain) as seen from a small village called Sarangkot just above Pokhara.



Mount Everest under the stars at night.







Picture taken from Sarangkot, which is about 25 minutes ride from Pokhara.



A stunning capture of Siddhapokhari, Bhaktapur.



Manang on the foothills of Gangapurna mountain.

To be continued....

Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents

नेपाल एशोसियशन अफ टुर एण्ड ट्राभल एजेन्ट्स Goma Ganesh, Gairidhara,Naxal

Tel: 4419409/4418661, Email: mediacentre@natta.org.np, Website: www.natta.org.np, Facebook: Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA)

