



NATTA NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2024



INDIA'S EXTERNAL MINISTER VISIT TO NEPAL

Mr Kumar Mani Thapaliya, NATTA Secretary General, recently attended a dinner program honouring the Foreign Minister during the Indian Minister of External Affairs, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar's, visit to Kathmandu on January 4th at the Hotel Yak & Yeti, Durbar Marg.

This involvement emphasizes the importance of maintaining diplomatic connections between countries. These exchanges are critical to the advancement of Nepal's tourism economy in addition to their diplomatic significance. Engagements like these help to create worldwide goodwill by demonstrating the country's collaborative spirit and establishing a favorable environment. They also play an important role in recruiting international visitors and investments, which strengthens Nepal's status on the world stage. Mr Thapaliya's participation in the dinner program illustrates the commitment of key players to developing cross-border connections for the benefit of Nepal's tourism industry.

Top News

I.:201

- INDIA'S EXTERNAL MINISTER VISIT TO NEPAL
- CYBER SECURITY: A WORKSHOP & AWARENESS SESSION
- A CONSULTATION WORKSHOP
- NATTA LEAVES FOR FITUR - 2024
- INTERACTION & DISCUSSION ON TOURISM ACT, 2080
- FAREWELL TO DR. DHANANJAYA REGMI!
- FITUR - 2024
- FITUR GALLERY





NEPAL ASSOCIATION OF TOUR AND TRAVEL AGENTS

"Cyber Security Significance in the Travel Industry: A Workshop and Awareness Session"

Date: 14 January 2024, Sunday

Time: 01:00PM to 05:00PM

Venue: Auditorium Hall, Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikuti Mandap Kathmandu

CYBER SECURITY: A WORKSHOP & AWARENESS SESSION

Kathmandu, Nepal, 14th January 2024 – The Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA) organized a workshop and awareness session titled "Cyber Security Significance in the Travel Industry" at the Auditorium Hall of the Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu, on 29th of Poush 2080 / 14th of January 2024.

The event was aimed at addressing the current issues of various cyber-related challenges faced by the travel trade sector in Nepal. The session was graced by the presence of Superintendent of Police Mr. Pashupati Kumar Ray from the Nepal Police Cyber Bureau, along with representatives from Global Distribution System (GDS) service providers Sabre Nepal, Amadeus Nepal, and Travelport Galileo Nepal. More than 80 participants attended the session. SP Mr. Pashupati Kumar Ray extended his remarks and presentation in the session, followed by presentations from the GDS service providers Sabre, Amadeus, and Galileo. NATTA President Mr. Ramesh Thapa added his remarks to address the session, and Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya Secretary-General of NATTA, moderated the entire session. A question-and-answer session was held for the participants.

and the session presenters, which played a significant role in eliminating any uncertainties among the participants.

Participants in the session were quite excited, and the session was successfully conducted. At the end of the session, NATTA presented a token of love to SP Mr. Ray and the GDS's representatives as a gesture of appreciation for their valuable contributions.



A CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

A collaborative consultation workshop was conducted by the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), Sustainable Tourism for Livelihood Recovery Project (STLRP), and UNDP Nepal. Officials from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation, Ministry of Finance, NTB Executive Members, and representatives from prominent tourism associations gathered to deliberate on a forthcoming tourism project. UNDP Nepal expressed strong interest in sustaining its involvement in the development and growth of Nepal's tourism sector. The ongoing success of UNDP Nepal's current STLRP project, scheduled to conclude in July 2024, underscores their commitment to fostering positive impacts in the realm of tourism. Mr. Ramesh Thapa, representing the Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA), participated in a program held at the Dhulikhel Lodge Resort in Kavre from January 19th to 21st, 2024.



Looking ahead, as Nepal's tourism sector gradually returns to its rhythm post-epidemic disruptions, there is a collective effort to promote tourism. Future initiatives aim to boost the tourism industry by providing training to businesses, enhancing efficiency and offering data related to tourism. Additionally, there are plans for branding and rebranding tourism destinations to make the tourism business more viable and supportive.



NATTA LEAVES FOR FITUR - 2024

Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA) sets off for FITUR 2024 in Kathmandu Nepal.

A team of ten distinguished representatives from the tourism sector of Nepal, under the leadership of NATTA Secretary General Bhandari, has embarked on a journey to Madrid, Spain, to participate in the globally acclaimed travel trade fair, FITUR 2024, taking place from January 24 to 28.

The team comprises representatives from five esteemed travel companies:

1. Wonderland Travels Nepal Pvt. Ltd.
2. Trekking Exploration in Himalaya.
3. Kora Tours Pvt. Ltd.
4. Top of the World Adventure Pvt. Ltd.
5. Mega International Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd.

The farewell ceremony at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA), Kathmandu was graced by the presence of Mr. Ramesh Thapa, President of NATTA, Mr. Achyut Guragain, Immediate Past President, Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya, Secretary General, other executive members of the NATTA board, and the Secretariat CEO.



This year, NATTA has taken the initiative to participate in FITUR independently due to internal issues with the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), with whom they usually collaborate for such events.

Participating companies are ready to represent and advocate for both their own businesses and Nepalese tourist products and destinations at the next event, taking a key step toward presenting Nepal's stunning beauty and various options to a worldwide audience.

INTERACTION & DISCUSSION ON TOURISM ACT, 2080

With regards to the Tourism Act, it is known that the Government of Nepal is drafting a new Tourism Act 2080 to implement the terms of the Nepal Tourism Act 2035 from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation. On that draft, all concerned associations and institutions were invited on 11th Magh 2080 to a discussion and interaction program at the Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management, which was attended by Honorable Minister of Tourism Ministry Mr. Sudat Kiranti, Honorary Minister of State Ms. Sushila Sirpali Thakuri, Secretary Dr. Deepak Kafle, and the Tourism Act 2080 Drafting Committee.

All the concerned associations, institutions and bodies raised their opinions, suggestions and attention-grabbing issues on that draft.



FAREWELL TO DR. DHANANJAYA REGMI!

NATTA recently honored Dr. Dhananjaya Regmi the outgoing CEO of the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), at its headquarters on January 30, 2024. The celebratory ceremony, led over by NATTA President Mr. Ramesh Thapa, was filled with appreciation and respect for Dr. Regmi's vital contributions to Nepal's expanding tourism industry.

During the ceremony Dr. Regmi received heartfelt wishes for success in his future actions, highlighting his appreciation for his innovative leadership. The recognition of Dr. Regmi's departure was followed by a commitment from the NATTA community to carry on his legacy. Despite the void created by his exit there is an unwavering commitment to



Meanwhile, on behalf of Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents, President Mr. Ramesh Thapa, Senior Vice President Mr. Pramod Dahal, General Secretary Mr. Kumar Mani Thapliya and Executive Head of NATTA Secretariat Mr. Raghunath Bidari participated in the program for the collective rights of all travel & tour businesses and the tourism sector where the president had to prepare and present detailed reports on the draft.

After discussing the draft plan at NATTA headquarters on Magh 14th 2080, the President of NATTA presented an official suggestion in written and attention was also paid to the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation at the Singha Durbar.

draw inspiration from Dr. Regmi's achievements paving the path for fresh beginnings and sustained greatness in Nepal's tourist industry. Cheers to Dr. Dhananjaya Regmi's leadership legacy!



NATTA LEAVES FOR BTTF - 2024

The Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents (NATTA) has announced that it will be actively participating in the much-awaited BTTF 2024, which will take place in Dhaka from February 1st to February 3rd, 2024. The renowned executive member of NATTA, Mr. Bishnu Pandey, is managing this extraordinary event. Ten tour and travel companies with 16 delegates are working together to make this trip a huge success, which is a big partnership.

The following travel companies are set to dazzle attendees with their unique offerings and services:

1. MD Adventure Travel and Tours
2. Nepal Big Mountain Travel Company Pvt. Ltd.
3. Mission Nepal Holidays
4. Trekking Venue Nepal
5. Recreation Holidays Pvt. Ltd.
6. Global Treks & Expedition
7. Radha Krishna Holidays Pvt. Ltd.
8. Namaste Tourism and Holidays Pvt. Ltd.
9. Enchanted Yatra Pvt. Ltd.
10. Aura Vacation Pvt. Ltd.

 **Nepal Association of Tour & Travel Agents**
Together we can Achieve



Location: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) Agargaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh

The active involvement of these businesses highlights the industry's overall strength and zeal for the travel and tourism sectors.

Mr. Achyut Guragain, Immediate Past President and Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya, Secretary General, attended the farewell ceremony at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) in Kathmandu together with other NATTA board members.

We express our sincere gratitude to the Bangladesh Tourism Board for the heartfelt welcome extended to our Nepali delegates participating in BTTF 2024. Our commitment extends beyond mere participation, as we aspire to actively contribute to the grand success of the festival.



FITUR - 2024

In FITUR-2024 Tourism Trade Fair which was organized from 10th to 14th of Margha 2080 respectively from 24th to 28th of January 2024, various tourism businessmen of Nepal participated in the FITUR-2024 tourism trade fair under the coordination of Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents. Every year, the Nepal Tourism Board and the Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents jointly organise the program, but this year due to the internal problems of the tourism board, they did not participate in the tourism fair.

10 representatives of 5 business companies of the Nepali Tourism area participated in the fair under the coordinatorship of NATTA Working Committee Secretary Mr. Yubika Bhandari. The event was attended by NATTA and other following members.

- Wonderland Travels Nepal Pvt. Ltd.
- Trekking Exploration in Himalaya
- Top of the World Adventure Pvt. Ltd.
- Kora Tours Pvt. Ltd
- Mega International Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd..



In addition, Nepali Ambassador to Spain Dr. Sarmila Parajuli Dhakal accepted the invitation of the participants in the trade fair and attended the fair and enhanced the beauty of the fair. Also, the embassy provided 2 volunteers every day during the fair period was to be organized.

The FITUR fair is famous as a unique tourism fair in Europe and every year tourism professionals from all over the world gather to participate in the FITUR tourism trade fair and promote their business to Spain and it is very important in Nepal's export business.

In the past years, the Nepal Tourism Board has made the necessary arrangements for stall management and decoration in the fair but the Nepal Tourism Board has not cooperated with them. Complaining that the government and the tourism board have become apathetic and insensitive in the promotion of Nepal's tourism, the participants informed that various tourism-related promotional materials of Nepal were presented in the fair and the program was very successful as expected.



RENEW YOUR NATTA MEMBERSHIP ?



