



## MEETING WITH TOURISM LEADERS AND MINISTER

On January 5, 2025, NATTA President Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya, along with other travel association leaders, attended a Breakfast Meeting with the Honorable Minister of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation, Mr. Badri Prasad Pandey.

### Key agendas included:

- Revising the Tourism Act and Tourism Policy to address contemporary needs.
- Ensuring the proper management of Nepal Airlines for enhanced connectivity.
- Accelerating Nepal Tourism Board's initiatives to globally promote Nepal as a top travel destination.

The presence of the CEO of Nepal Tourism Board enriched the discussions, fostering a collaborative and unified approach to tackling these tourism priorities. Together, we are dedicated to creating a sustainable, efficient, and thriving tourism sector in Nepal.

## TOP NEWS

- MEETING WITH TOURISM LEADERS AND MINISTER
- ENHANCING TOURIST TRANSPORTATION
- NATTA STRENGTHENS TOURISM TIES IN DHAKA
- NATTA AND TOAB FOCUS ON JOINT TOURISM INITIATIVES
- TOFTIGER CERTIFICATION FOR HOTEL BARAHI KATHMANDU
- MEETING FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM GROWTH - KIRTIPUR
- ADDRESSING NEPAL'S TOURISM CHALLENGES
- NATTA'S ENGAGEMENT IN NEPAL AIRLINES REFORM
- TOURISM LEADERS ADVOCATE FOR AVIATION REFORM
- INTERACTION PROGRAM ON CUSTOMS AND TRADE
- NEPAL'S PRESENCE AT FITUR 2025
- FITUR 2025 GALLERY



# ENHANCING TOURIST TRANSPORTATION



On January 7, Hon. Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation, Mr. Badri Prasad Pandey, along with NATTA President Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya and NTB CEO Mr. Deepak Raj Joshi, visited the Sorhakutte Tourist Bus Station.

The inspection highlighted the pressing need for a dedicated tourist bus terminal in Kathmandu to enhance travel services to key destinations like Pokhara and Chitwan. Minister Pandey assured swift action, while NATTA remains committed to strengthening tourism infrastructure and improving the overall travel experience in Nepal.



# NATTA STRENGTHENS TOURISM TIES IN DHAKA



On January 10, NATTA Secretary Mr. Bishnu Pandey participated in the Tourism Ties event at the Embassy of Nepal in Dhaka, where he had a productive meeting with His Excellency Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari. Discussions centred on strengthening tourism cooperation, with plans for a Sales Mission in Dhaka gaining momentum. His Excellency expressed keen interest in supporting and collaborating with NATTA to enhance tourism exchanges between Nepal and Bangladesh.





## NATTA AND TOAB FOCUS ON JOINT TOURISM INITIATIVES



NATTA Secretary Mr. Bishnu Pandey visited the TOAB office to discuss ways to enhance collaboration and promote tourism between Nepal and Bangladesh. The meeting included in-depth discussions on the next steps for implementing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between NATTA and TOAB on June 13, 2024. Both sides emphasized their commitment to working closely together to create opportunities that will strengthen tourism ties.

The discussion also highlighted the potential benefits of sharing resources and knowledge to create a more sustainable tourism environment in both Nepal and Bangladesh. Both organizations agreed to continue regular communication and collaboration for achieving these goals.



## TOFTIGER CERTIFICATION FOR HOTEL BARAHI KATHMANDU



Hotel Barahi Kathmandu has been awarded the prestigious TOFTiger certification for excellence in sustainable practices, valid from September 2024 to August 2027. To celebrate this achievement, a special event was held on January 19th, attended by NATTA Secretary General Ms. Yubika Bhandari and other tourism professionals. In her speech, Ms. Bhandari emphasized the importance of sustainable hotels in boosting tourism and praised Hotel Barahi Kathmandu for setting a benchmark in responsible tourism, inspiring others to adopt eco-friendly and community-driven practices.

## MEETING FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM GROWTH - KIRTIPUR

On 19th January 2025, NATTA Secretary General Ms. Yubika Bhandari, along with other association leaders, held a meeting with Kirtipur Municipality Mayor, Shree Krishna Man Dangol. The discussion focused on enhancing tourism facilities in Kirtipur and exploring effective strategies to attract more visitors to the area. Key topics included infrastructure development, heritage conservation, community engagement, and promotional initiatives to position Kirtipur as a must-visit destination. Both parties pledged to collaborate for sustainable tourism growth in the municipality.



## ADDRESSING NEPAL'S TOURISM CHALLENGES



On January 21, an engaging discussion took place with the Honorable Chairperson of the Parliamentary International Relations and Tourism Committee, Mr. Raj Kishore Yadav, along with the heads of various tourism associations. The focus of the conversation was on addressing the ongoing challenges faced by Nepal's tourism sector, particularly in relation to tourism development policies and their implementation. The discussion also revolved around how Nepal has struggled to achieve significant success in the contemporary growth of its tourism industry, despite its immense potential.

NATTA Secretary General Ms. Yubika Bhandari was an active participant in the program, where she provided insightful inputs on the key challenges the tourism industry is currently facing. She emphasized the need for more cohesive policy implementation, better infrastructure, and a stronger promotional strategy to help the tourism sector thrive.

We are grateful to Mr. Raj Kishore Yadav for his valuable insights and contributions to the discussion. His understanding of Nepal's tourism challenges is vital for moving forward. Thanks to all participants for their input and commitment to fostering sustainable growth in the tourism industry.

## NATTA'S ENGAGEMENT IN NEPAL AIRLINES REFORM



NATTA Secretary General Ms. Yubika Bhandari actively participated in a crucial discussion with Hon. Shishir Khanal, Chairperson of the Nepal Airlines Reform Recommendation Subcommittee, and a member of the Parliamentary International Relations and Tourism Committee. The discussion focused on the challenges in Nepal's tourism policies, implementation gaps, and their impact on sustainable growth.

A major point of deliberation was the management contract model as a potential solution for improving Nepal Airlines' operations and efficiency. Ms. Bhandari, representing NATTA, emphasized the need for immediate reforms to strengthen Nepal's aviation sector and boost tourism.

Such dialogues play a vital role in driving positive change, and Ms. Yubika Bhandari's engagement in this high-level discussion reflects NATTA's commitment to Nepal's tourism and aviation development.

A special appreciation to Hon. Shishir Khanal and all distinguished chairpersons for their valuable participation in this important conversation.