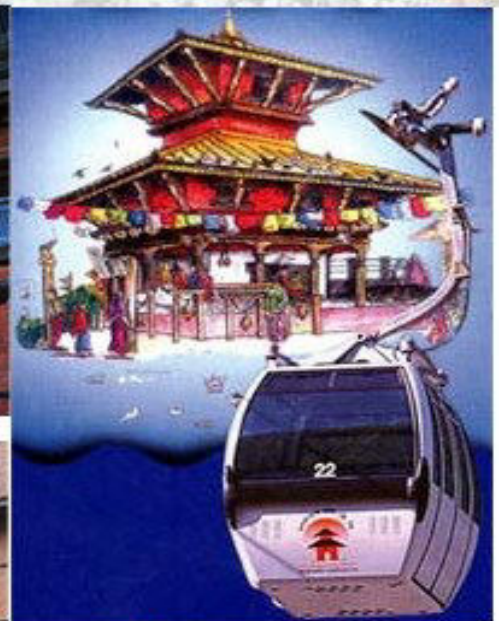




NATTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

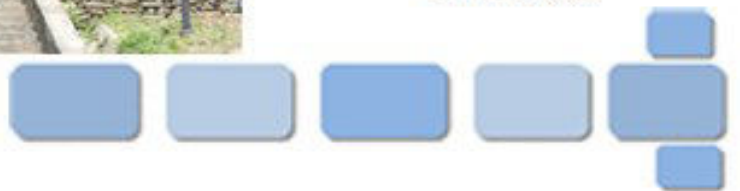
Issue no 23, Date : 8th August, 2014

BEAUTY OF GORKHA



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR, NRB
- LATE PAYMENT CHARGES WAIVED, IATA AND MORE.....





'NATTA EXPRESSES DEEP SYMPATHY AND SOLICITUDE TO THE INJURED PEOPLE AND MEMBERS OF THE BEREAVED FAMILIES TRIGGERED BY THE MASSIVE LANDSLIDE IN SINDHUPALCHOWK DISTRICT. LET US SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF SINDHUPALCHOWK.'

MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR, NRB

NATTA delegation led by the President, Mr. D. B. Limbu met with the Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, Dr. Yubraj Khatiwada at his office on Monday, 4th August 2014. The meeting was held mainly to discuss regarding the payment of monthly BSP Link fees & annual fee of IATA to be paid in Nepalese currency locally by our members. Also discussed was the possibility of removing the dual currency system that has been existing in air ticketing. The Secretary General, Ms. Mihika Dhakhwa, explained the difficulty faced by our member agents to transact in dual currency (USD and NPR) for air ticketing and she also put forth the logic that the USD transaction is a minimal amount compared to the NPR transaction on airfares that is paid to IATA and therefore, such a nominal amount should not stand as a

hurdle for ticketing agents. The Governor has taken this matter positively and NATTA will be submitting a report with the data on the total payment made to BSP and the percentage calculation of USD payment of the same.

Another issue discussed during the meeting was the difficulty faced by our member agents operating Kailash tours for Indian tourists in which the NRB policy does not allow remittance in USD to China for the INR received by Indian tourists. The tour & transport sub-committee will soon meet to work on a proposal to be submitted to the Governor on the benefits to the nation's coffers of conducting Kailash tours to Indian tourists.

MR. YADU LAMICHHANE NOMINATED NEW MEMBER IN NATTA

In keeping with Article 15(1) of Paragraph 5 of NATTA Statute, President Mr. D.B. Limbu proposed the NATTA Board to nominate Mr. Yadu Lamichhane, Managing Director of Asiatic Travels Pvt. Ltd. as a new member in the NATTA Executive Committee. This proposal has been unanimously approved by the Board.

BSP LINK USE TRAINING COMMENCES

Keeping in mind the need for information and knowledge on the ongoing changes in BSP Link, NATTA in coordination with IATA has started

training sessions for the IATA accredited NATTA members. Three sessions commenced on 4th & 5th August at NATTA Secre-

tariat. Duration of each session was of 2 hours and 15-16 persons attended per session. The training session will continue next week.

NATTA SET UP RELIEF FUND

With a view to extend generous support to the victims of the natural disaster caused by most devastating flood and landslide that occurred last week in Jure of Sindhupalchok, the executive board of NATTA and the staff of the Secretariat have set up a Relief Fund in Sunrise Bank under the title Nepal Assoc. Tour & T.A (Relief F) bearing the account number 00210250772011. The seed money collected has already been deposited and NATTA members have been sent a circular to contribute to the fund either by sending the cash/cheque directly to NATTA Secretariat or by depositing the same in the above account.





SOLIMAR INT'L & SAMARTH CALL ON NATTA

Ms. Natasha Martin, a tourism consultant from Washington DC and Ms. Neha Shrestha, a tourism marketing analyst at Samarth called on the Secretariat of NATTA and held discussions with President Mr. D.B. Limbu, 1st VP Mr. Shambhu Raj Pathak, Secy. Gen. Ms. Mihika Dhakhwa, Executive Member Mr. C.B. Gurung and CEO Prof. Hari Sarmah on issues of upholding the product like GHT (Great Himalaya Trail) since SNV (Netherlands) has now shifted the responsibility of marketing and promoting the GHT to Samarth. NATTA, once an active member of the GHT Steering Committee suggested the visitors that the association is always committed



The NATTA team recently met with Natasha Martin, a tourism consultant engaged by Samarth-NMDP, who is reviewing the Great Himalayan Trail website and brand. She has asked us to circulate this brief survey among our members. If you could kindly take five minutes from your day to fill out the survey, it will be greatly appreciated. The survey can be accessed by clicking the link below:

[Access Survey](#)

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1757852/The-Great-Himalayan-Trail-Survey-1>

LATE PAYMENT CHARGES WAIVED

There were nine IATA accredited NATTA agents who had received an invoice on late payment charges. As there were no prior information on such charges by IATA, NATTA requested the same to be waived for the members. The good news came when the same was waived to our 9 members and effective from 1st August 2014, IATA has circulated the notice through BSP Link to members regarding the charges applicable. Below is the circular of the same.



All IATA Accredited Travel Agents in Nepal.

1st August 2014

Subject: Administrative Charges approved by the 35th Passenger Agency Conference.

Dear Agent

This letter is to inform you that the 35th Passenger Agency Conference approved a proposal to terminate all Administrative Fees & Charges currently being applied across all regions globally and replace them with the two under-mentioned fees/charges effective 1st January 2013.

1. Late Remittance Recovery Charge and
2. Reinstatement Recovery Charges.

As always, these charges will be based on a cost recovery principle. They will be applied in amounts as follows:

(a) **Late Remittance Recovery Charge:**
USD128.00 + (Bank base interest rate + 2%) on unpaid amount X Number of Delayed Days

365

Bank base interest rate for Nepal is 7 %
(b) **Reinstatement Recovery Charge:** Flat fee of USD 119.00.

Yours sincerely,

ISS Operations and Service Center,
Asia and Pacific





MEDIA PICK OF THE WEEK



INDIAN PRIME MINISTER MODI CONCLUDES HISTORIC VISIT TO NEPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today wound up his "historic" visit to Nepal with a slew of sops focusing on the 4 Cs - cooperation, connectivity, culture and constitution - to enhance bilateral ties.



Modi, the first Indian prime minister to visit Nepal in 17 years, stressed the importance of the constitution writing to the Nepalese leadership including President Ram Baran Yadav and Prime Minister Sushil Koirala.

"You should not think about the party but the country. Nepal needs a constitution at the earliest," Minister of external Affairs spokesman Syed Akbaruddin quoted Modi as telling them.

During the visit, Modi assured Nepal that India did not want to interfere in its internal affairs. Seeking to allay fears here of Indian interference in Nepal's affairs, the Prime Minister said India has no intent to "dictate" anything to Nepal which should choose its own course in its endeavour to build a stable and prosperous democratic republic. "Nepal is a truly sovereign nation. We have always believed that it is not our job to interfere in what you do but to support you in the path you decide to take," he said while addressing the Constituent Assembly yesterday.

India will assist in construction of a multi lane motorable bridge on Mahakali river to facilitate shorter and easier route between western Nepal and Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and New Delhi, the spokesman said.

The construction of the first phase of the link road between Nepal and Terai region of India, will be completed expeditiously. Delay in this project was one of the concerns articulated by Nepalese side including opposition parties, he said. Akbaruddin said along with the first phase of this project India also agreed to commence work on second phase.

He said the prime minister donated 2,500 kgs of sandalwood to Pashupatinath temple. India also promised to provide assistance for restoration and renovation of the temple. For this 25 crores will be provided. ASI will begin work soon.

India also offered assistance for development of Janakpur, Baraha Chhetra and Lumbini, including linking Lumbini with the Buddhist circuit of India, based on specific proposals from government of Nepal, he said.

'NATTA ALSO RELEASED AN PRESS STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGING ON THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI'S STATEMENT WHILE ADDRESSING THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AT CA HALL.'



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WORLD TRAVEL AND TOURISM EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER

2ND **2nd International Hospitality & Tourism Conference 2014** Penang, Malaysia, Malaysia

4TH **International Conference: Taking responsibility for the visitor economy** Leeds, United Kingdom

5TH **International Conference, Pro-Mountains: Tourism, Environment, Sustainable Development** Drobeta Turnu Severin, Romania

15TH **1st International Academic Conference on Tourism - INTACT 2014** Yogyakarta, Indonesia

26TH **5th Encuentros: Dialoguing Tourism** Portoroz, Slovenia

29TH **National Society for Experiential Education 43rd Annual Conference** Baltimore, United States of America

SEPTEMBER 2014

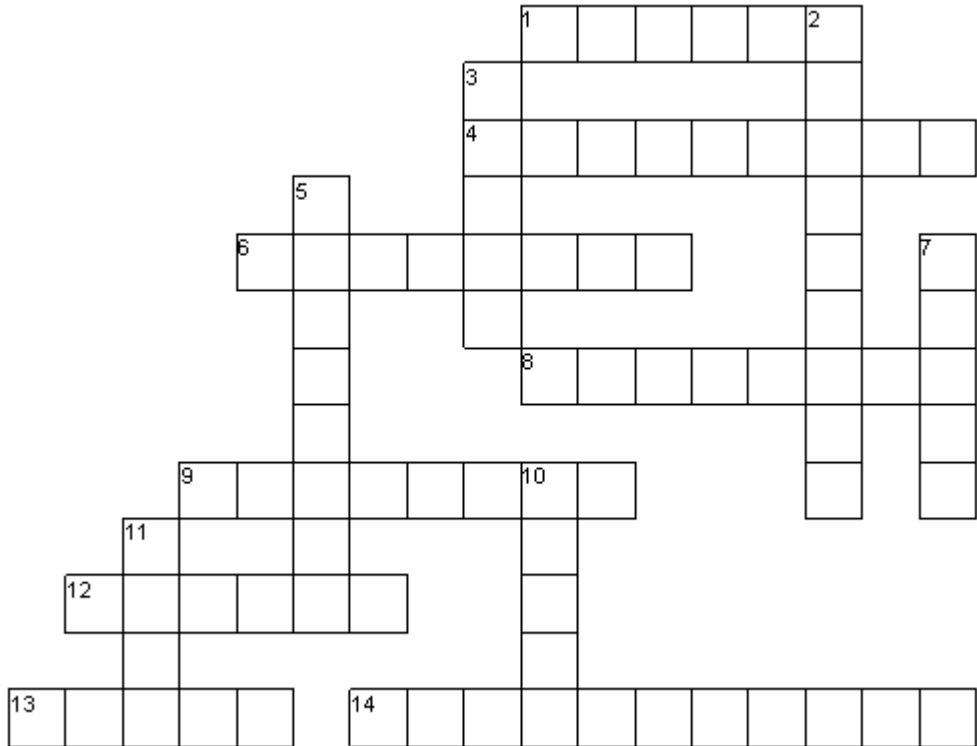
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



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TRAVEL CROSSWORD PUZZLE

FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT



N.B. There are no spaces between words.	
Across	Down
1. a long flight causes this 4. short trip for tourists 6. used for transporting clothes 8. form of identification 9. money used in a country 12. proof of payment when travelling 14. visiting places of interest	2. useful reading for tourists 3. a place to sunbathe 5. without taxes 7. place to stay when travelling 10. bus for tourists 11. necessary to enter some countries



**Nepal Association of Tour
and Travel Agents**
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and Travel Agents (NATTA)**
 (Official Page)