

# NATTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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9TH OCTOBER 2015

Reminiscing our events.....



## Notice on NATTA Membership Renewal

This is to inform all NATTA Members that the deadline for the Membership Renewal of FY 2072/73 is 17th October 2015.

Therefore, request to renew the membership and remaining dues within the deadline.

Member companies renewing after deadline have to pay the fine of Rs. 1,000/-.

## THOUGHT WEEKLY

“ Sometimes by losing a  
battle you find a news way  
to win the war. ”

-Donald Trump

## *NATTA REQUEST NOC FOR FUEL FOR TOURIST VEHICLES*

NATTA Delegates, today, 9th October 2015 visited NOC to submit the letter from Tourism Department, MOCTCA requesting to provide fuel to the tourist vehicles who are in major need for the sightseeing as well as transfers

for the tourists .

Mr. Narayan Gurung Koney, Treasurer and Coordinator for Tour and Transport Committee had yesterday met with DG of Tourism department and submitted the request

letter to MOCTCA to assist in the current situation which is being hampered due to fuel crisis.

## XXth NATTA CONVENTION, SIXTH NATTA SPECIAL PROGRAM CARNIVAL – 2015 AND NATTA FAM TOUR FOR INT'L MEDIA AND TOUR OPERATORS



### 20th NATTA Convention 6th NATTA Special Program - Carnival and NATTA Fam Tour 24th - 29th September 2015



Twentieth NATTA Biennial Convention-2015 with the theme Building Better Tourism With Renewed Strength, Sixth NATTA Annual Special Program Carnival-2015, Fourth NATTA Blood Donation Program and the Familiarization Tour for International Media and Tour Operators including the 2<sup>nd</sup> EC Meeting of South Asia Tourism Federation have concluded with resounding success on 01<sup>st</sup> of October 5, 2015 at a stretch beginning from 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2015.

The XXth Convention of NATTA was inaugurated by Rt. Hon'ble Speaker of Legislative Assembly Mr. Subhash Chandra Nembang and was graced by Hon'ble Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Kripasur Sherpa. NATTA Special Guest of Honour from China Mr. Jiang Ming Yang popularly known as Mr. Ocean, a very popular and well-known Chinese celebrity participated in all NATTA events. He also signed an MOU with NATTA to work for the promotion of Nepalese tourism in China as NATTA Goodwill Ambassador for one year. SAMARTH -NMDP has supported NATTA on its aim to focus on Chinese Market for tourism promotion of Nepal. NATTA targets to bring in 250,000 Chinese Tourists for the year of 2016.

Chief Guest Mr. Subhash Ch. Nembang presented the most coveted NATTA Sagarmatha Award to Mr. Eric Valli, a French citizen for his invaluable contributions to uphold the

tourism industry of Nepal through his rare photographs, books and world famous movies. He was also conferred on the honor of Honorary Life Member of NATTA. Similarly, Mr. Deependra Bahadur Kshetry, former Governor of Nepal Central Bank (NRB) was presented with



NATTA Bhaskar Award- 2015 for his innovative fiscal policy on Repatriation aimed to facilitate the travel trade.

On the occasion, NATTA Excellence Awards and NATTA Media Awards were also given away to the winners. Beside these, Former Presidents of NATTA and current NATTA Advisors were presented Special Plaque of Honor in recognition and admiration of their contributions to reach NATTA to its present height of prestige and glory.

The Honorary President of United Federation of Tour and Travel Agents (UFTAA), Mr. Udaya Nanayakkara presented a key-note speech on the theme of NATTA Convention. The Convention Session was chaired by former Vice-Chairman of National

Planning Commission and Former Ambassador of Nepal to the USA, Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma. The key-note speech delivered at the convention was commented categorically by the Vice-President of National Tourism Recovery Committee, tourism veteran Mr. Yogendra Shakya focusing on the efforts of Nepalese private sector to rise again.

Participated in by 37 international media and tour operators and tourism associations from China, Hong Kong, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Turkey, Italy, France, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Malaysia, the NATTA Fam Tour of Kathmandu, Chitwan and Pokhara was organized with the support of Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September. A comfortable tourist bus was aided by Nepal Tourist Vehicles Association (NTVA) and en route the participants were received by the officials of Nepal Association of Rafting Agents (NARA) for a short but thrilling and exciting rafting. Two tour guides provided by Tour Guide Association of Nepal along with officials from NATTA accompanied the guests on fam tour. Upon arrival in Chitwan, the NATTA Fam Tour group enjoyed the Jungle Safari and the enticingly clear sunset on the banks of river Rapti, where the accommodation and other required logistics were offered by Landmark Forest Park.

On the very next day,

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the members of the NATTA Fam Tour group was joined by Mr. Eric Valli in Pokhara along with NATTA executives. All the team were accorded a very warm welcome by NATTA Western Regional Association, Pokhara Tourism Recovery Committee (PTRC), Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) Pokhara, Restaurant and Bar Association of Nepal (REBAN) Pokhara, organizers of Pokhara World Tourism Day Celebration Committee and multitude of tourism related associations and enterprises. In Pokhara, accommodations were arranged at Da Yatra Courtyard, Hotel Barahi and Temple Tree.



A special video footage covering the whole of the journey from Kathmandu to Pokhara and back to Kathmandu has also been shot and an edited footage was also telecast by Mountain TV and News 24 channel. In addition, One TV of Hongkong and Tourism Web TV of Italy who participated in the NATTA Fam trip are also airing a special footage on Nepal shortly. Action Asia of Hongkong has already published a special feature on Nepal on last 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

NATTA, in close coordination with **Nepal Tourism Board, SAMARTH –NMDP** as well as a few of **fellow associations** and **industry partners**, has successfully concluded the Fam Tour of three major touristic destinations, Kathmandu Valley, Chitwan and Pokhara, meant for the international media and tour operators. These media representatives and tour operators were selected on the basis of their profile. They were provided to and fro air passages and accommodations on F/B basis all through their stay in Nepal.

**PRESS MEET AT NATTA SECRETARIAT**

NATTA had shortly completed the recent events, *XXth NATTA Convention, Sixth Special Program - Carnival* along with *FAM Trip*. To give an overall view it organized a Press Meet at NATTA Secretariat on 4<sup>th</sup> October, Sunday.



President Mr. D.B Limbu, 1st

V.P Mr. Shambhu Raj Pathak, Secretary General Ms. Mihika Dhakhwa in the interaction, responded with all their views, opinions queried by the media.

On the occasion, a video was also showcased to all the media. The video has the footage of all the activities accomplished by NATTA for the revival of tourism including the activities performed during the last week of September i.e Convention, Special Program and Fam tour to Chitwan, Pokhara and Kathmandu.

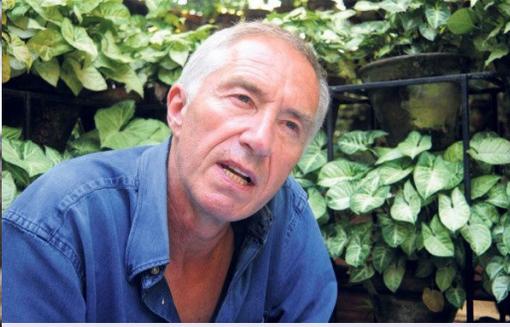
**MEET WITH WORLD BANK OFFICIAL**

NATTA Officials, President D.B Limbu, Secretary General Mihika Dhakhwa and CEO Prof. Dr. Hari Sarmah had an official meeting with official of World Bank Group Ms. Claire Honire Hollewg at NATTA Secretariat on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The meet basically focused on the current scenario of Tourism in the aftermath of Earthquake and the overall industry and the constraints faced by the industry in its recovery process.



## GOVERNMENT SHOULD HELP ME PORTRAY NEPAL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



Eric Valli, the renowned French photographer and director of movies like Caravan, Honey Hunters of Nepal, and Himalayan Gold Rush, among others, was recently awarded with Nepal Association of Tours and Travel Agents (NATTA) Sagarmatha Award. The association honored Valli recognizing his contribution to promotion of Nepali tourism industry in international arena. **Kriti Bhaju** of Republica talked to Valli to know about his future plans and his expectations from Nepal. **Excerpts:**

**You were recently honored with NATTA Sagarmatha Award for promoting Nepal's tourism industry through your works. What do you plan to do further for the promotion of tourism in Nepal?**

What I want to make clear is that I have never promoted Nepal. I have fallen in love with this country and it's a love story for me. I am in love with the beauty of architecture and landscape of villages, as well as tradition, culture, coolness and openness of people living here. I have been doing my job. Taking pictures, writing books, telling stories and making films related to travel is my profession. While doing my job, I am promoting Nepal knowingly or unknowingly.

**What can we expect from this visit?**

I am currently busy promoting 'Living Yangtze', which is about the world's largest waterway - the Yangtze River -- in different parts of the world. It is a multi-media work that has explored the link between the untouched natural wisdom of Chinese people and the simplicity of a life in harmony with their lifeblood, the Yangtze River. My movie Himalayan Gold Rush, which is a Chinese co-production, had 600 million viewers. The movie helped a lot to promote Nepal in China. What can I do better than this?

I arrived here on September 19. Since then I have been visiting mountains, doing research for my new film on resilience of Nepalis. This movie will give an example of tolerance and cooperation of Nepalis to the world mainly after the earthquake till this date when they are facing numerous problems. I plan to launch this film on April 25, 2016.

**Do you have any plans to bring more tourists to Nepal?**

I have not helped any country to bring tourists and Nepal is not an exception to it. I have been traveling and doing my job and this has helped in bringing more tourists to Nepal. I have written more than 10 books about Nepal and made half a dozen films about different places, culture and tradition of this country. I want to make 'Cultural Encyclopedia' of Nepal and all my works are focused on it.

However, I have to go through different hassles while doing my works in Nepal. I wish that to be facilitated.

**What should the government do so that you can work here without any hassles?**

I have been facing problems with visa and trekking permits. I have been doing my best without wanting to promote Nepal in the best way I can. You do not have to pay for that. I published 32-page article in National Geographic. It is worth advertisement of millions of dollars. I would like to continue what I have been doing. But I have never received any help from the government. I would love to have medals and awards. But it would be more beneficial for me if the government waived off visa fee. The government can facilitate me on trekking permits so that I can travel easily as I have portrayed Nepal nicely throughout the world. I have to wait for more than a week to get a permit. It's ridiculous as I have been portraying good image of Nepal throughout the world.

**What message do you want to give to Nepal and Nepalis?**

They should stand on their ground and be proud of being a Nepali because it's a beautiful country with rich culture that no one else has. I wish that political parties are not be affected by bigger countries. The government should make a plan, make a slogan like other countries, film and document its tourism attractions and become stronger so that tourists can come and see incredible culture, tradition and natural beauty. When I come back again I want Nepal to be more peaceful.

## Amazing Facts...



There's a swing on the edge of a cliff in Ecuador. It has no safety measures and is called the "Swing at the End of the World".



Fauja Singh started running when he was 89 to cure his depression after his son was killed in front of him. Just before turning 102, he ran the Hong Kong 10k in 1:32:28 as the world's oldest marathon runner.



The city of Los Angeles is the 3rd most productive oil field in the U.S., but most of the oil wells are camouflaged inside of fake office buildings and even sculptures.



A man named Walter Summerford was struck by lightning 3 times in his life. After his death, his gravestone was also struck.



"Monowi" is a town in Nebraska that has a population of just one person; the Mayor pays taxes to himself.



These 5 women are the "Last Living People" born in 1800's.



Hatebeak is a death metal band whose lead singer is a parrot.



Queen Elizabeth does not hold a passport. Since all British passports are issued in the queen's name, she herself doesn't need one. She just has to say that she is the queen.



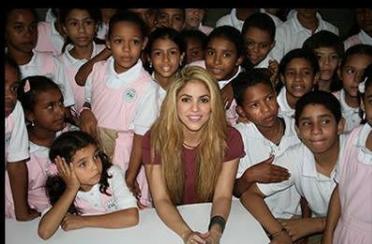
Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet helped pay the nursing home fees for the last Titanic survivor so she wouldn't have to sell anymore Titanic mementos to raise cash.



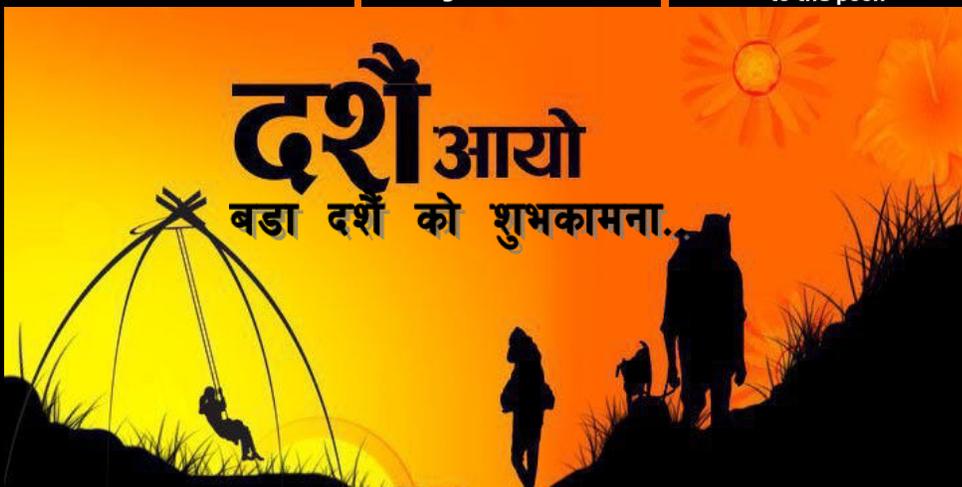
In Japan there is a family that has run the same hotel for nearly 1,300 years... or 46 generations



There is a secret swimming pool in the Mojave Desert that anyone can use. There are no roads, trails or signs that lead to the pool.



Shakira has been making music for more than 23 years and can play the guitar, drums, percussion and harmonica. She also speaks 7 different languages, is the founder of a charity called Pies Descalzos and is a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF.



Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents

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