

TAAI's TRAVEL & TOURISM INITIATIVE

NAMASTAAI

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Incredible India

experience
abu dhabi

Business with
Goodness

68TH TAAI CONVENTION 2025

SEPT. 17-19, 2025 ABU DHABI



TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

SINCE 1951





Calling All DMCs! Accelerate your business with TAAI DMC Connect

**Here's an excellent opportunity for DMCs - Tourism Boards/Authorities.
Connect with our reputed Outbound Tour Operators of India.
TAAI - The largest association of tour operators in India (Over 2000 and growing!)
welcomes you to do business – promote your destination with our members.**

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- Our Member DMCs will be published on the 'Tourism Portal' of our website for ready connect with our large membership.
- Promote your brand widely – backed by the TAAI Certification
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**Conditions Apply*

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- The premier nodal association with 74 years of outstanding leadership.
- TAAI - The oldest and the largest in India.
- B2B with the top TAAI companies. Connect directly with decision makers.

**Join us today!
Belong to the family
which proudly declares:
Deal with someone
you can Trust!**

Share your details immediately to membership@taai.in
We shall rush you the link to register your organization as our prestigious Overseas Member of TAAI (DMCs located in India can join us as our 'National Allied Members') to enjoy the same privileges.



“A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.”

-Nelson Mandela

We do not often pause to evaluate our intrinsic growth. A growth that nurtures our inner being with wellness, and is inspired by goodness. More frequently, our focus rests on the growth and well-being of our professional or business pursuits, as if they alone define success. Yet, a mindful glance beyond transactions can truly matter, reminding us of the roles we play in shaping our overall wellness and a more fulfilling life.

Cultivating inherent positive qualities is a true boon, enabling us to grow beyond who we are today. The path to holistic well-being lies in nurturing our physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health, while balancing our professional and personal lives. This approach reminds us that destiny is not random. It is our focus on wellness and the development of a positive character that can shape it meaningfully.

The 68th TAAI Convention and Exhibition in Abu Dhabi is more than an event. It is a confluence of

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

**Embrace
Goodness,
Shape
Wellness.**



intellect, insight, innovation, and inspiration. Powered by the ardent passion of Team TAAI, this Convention is crafted for a deeper purpose: to offer an experience that truly stands apart.

Sixty-seven Conventions and 74 years of TAAI. An incredible story of purpose and positivity. Most of us were not even born at the time of TAAI’s beginning, and a few can recall the glory of those early years. Yet, the thread of emotion, intellect, and awe woven into this legacy is powerful enough to inspire today’s Team TAAI to go above and beyond to create new milestones.

Every TAAI Convention is a test of our Unity, a reflection of our Purpose, a measure of our Quality, and proof of our Value. This 68th Convention is no exception. It dares to go beyond, reminding us that there is always more to do and always new ways to do it.

This Convention is designed to bring in renewed steam and energy. A difficult task turned into an achievable one, thanks to the steadfast support of DCT Abu Dhabi, our principals, our partners, and above all, our members. The positive response we received confirmed the depth of trust we share.

TAAI’s enduring credo - Deal with someone you can Trust - is more than a principle; it is a philosophy of Business with Goodness. Even as we remain busy with business, let us never forget to be good at spreading goodness.

Let’s do it together.

Sunil Kumar R

President

sunilkindia@gmail.com

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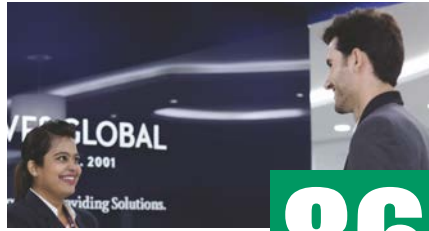
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ABOUT THE COVER

68th TAAI Convention & Exhibition At Abu Dhabi

The cover story takes you behind the making of TAAI's 68th Convention & Exhibition in Abu Dhabi - from key decisions and partnerships to iconic venues, cultural highlights, and the theme Business with Goodness. Discover how this 'Limited Edition' event promises delegates an unforgettable mix of knowledge, networking, and experiences.



TAAI Office Bearers in Action



TAAI's 68th Convention: Celebrating Tourism with Purpose, Vision, and Goodness

TAAI Conventions are eagerly awaited across the travel and tourism industry. The rush to register and the spirit to be part of the event make every Convention special. The 68th edition, from September 17 to 19 in Abu Dhabi, will be yet another event delivered in true TAAI style.

Our evenings at the Emirates Palace, InterContinental, and SeaWorld Yas Island will offer distinctive themes, engaging entertainment, and signature hospitality. The knowledge sessions and ITTE at Grand Hyatt on September 18 and 19 will blend 'Business with Goodness', with top speakers engaging our delegates. B2B sessions will also be a key highlight.

'Business with Goodness' is more than a tagline - it is the guiding philosophy of this Convention. In a world where tourism connects cultures and communities, it emphasises ethics, sustainability, and inclusivity as the true measures of success. With innovation and integrity, we aim to create lasting impact, making goodness the foundation of tomorrow's business.

True to the theme, the convention pairs professional development with an experiential itinerary, offering delegates visits to BAPS Hindu Mandir, TeamLab, Louvre Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Qasr Al Watan, and the National Aquarium.

We are grateful for the support of DCT Abu Dhabi, VFS Global, Emirates Palace, SeaWorld Yas Island, our official DMC Royal Arabian, Grand Hyatt and InterContinental, our official airlines, sponsors, exhibitors, and our very special event management company - Fonoon.

This TAAI Convention celebrates purpose-driven tourism, proving that when business is guided by goodness, it inspires, connects, and empowers a more responsible and vibrant future for global tourism.

Regards,

Shreeram Patel
Hon. Secretary General



Goodness as the Currency of Tomorrow's Business

TAAI's 68th Convention & Exhibition will be held in the vibrant city of Abu Dhabi from September 17-19, 2025, under the inspiring theme 'Business with Goodness'. A warm welcome to our delegates to this much-anticipated event.

Industry leaders, partners, and stakeholders are gathering for enriching business sessions and thoughtfully curated experiences. From the grand inaugural ceremony at Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental to the theme dinner at the InterContinental and the farewell gala at the exclusively reserved SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi - every experience promises to be truly memorable.

The business and B2B sessions are designed to inspire, educate, and empower delegates with insights on ethics, sustainability, and long-term growth. Our focus is 'Goodness as the Currency of Tomorrow's Business'. In today's world of disrupted peace, we as tourism leaders will deliberate on how we can strengthen people-to-people ties and foster peace through tourism.

Our prime responsibility is to promote cultural respect and understanding, thereby enhancing tourism opportunities between Incredible India and Abu Dhabi.

A specially crafted cultural and experiential itinerary includes the BAPS Hindu Mandir, the Louvre, the National Aquarium, the majestic Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, the royal Qasr Al Watan, and more. We are profoundly grateful to DCT Abu Dhabi, VFS, Emirates Palace, SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, InterContinental, our host hotels, airline partners, sponsors, members, our official DMC and event management companies, and the dedicated TAAI Secretariat teams in Mumbai and New Delhi.

We look forward to an engaging event filled with knowledge, networking, destination insights, and connections. Together, let us make this Convention an unforgettable celebration of our industry's strength and spirit.

Warm Regards,

Lokesh Bettaiah
Vice President

TAAI Office Bearers in Action



Conventions like TAAI's don't simply happen. We make them happen.

It's an extremely thrilling time - TAAI's 68th Convention & Exhibition is here! I am excited to share that this is going to be a Convention to remember. We are looking to welcome around 500 delegates to this one-of-a-kind event.

The TAAI Team has been hard at work bringing the Convention's vision to life. Their teamwork, camaraderie, energy, and commitment have been inspiring. It has truly been a privilege to be part of this wonderful committee and contribute to an effort that strengthens TAAI and carries its legacy forward.

This Convention will offer rich networking opportunities through B2B sessions, insights from

speaker sessions, and fresh perspectives on emerging trends to adapt and implement.

We are grateful to DCT Abu Dhabi and all our partners, who have been extremely supportive in showcasing the destination and its offerings. Our sincere thanks also go to the broader network of supporters who have helped ensure that this Convention will be both memorable and impactful.

Wishing everyone a successful Convention ahead. I look forward to meeting you all in Abu Dhabi!

Warm regards,

Paras Lakhia
Hon. Treasurer



At VFS Global, 'Business with Goodness' is rooted in everything we do. Integrity, trust, and transparency guide us as we serve governments, travellers, and communities. By staying true to our values, we have earned the trust of 68 client governments, many of whom have been with us for over two decades.

As the UAE celebrates the Year of the Community in 2025, it is a great honour for TAAI to organise its 74th convention in the UAE, a decision that reflects the deep partnership between India and the UAE. A very important landmark of this bond is the BAPS Hindu Mandir, a symbol of harmony, unity, peace, and inclusiveness between the two nations. It reminds us that when people come together with trust and vision, they can create immense value.

Zubin Karkaria,
Founder & Chief Executive Officer, VFS Global Group



68TH TAAI CONVENTION 2025 AT ABU DHABI



LEARN
CONNECT
COLLABORATE
EXPLORE
EXPERIENCE
INDULGE



TAAI Annual Convention 2025

Message from the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi



Abdulla Yousuf

دائرة الثقافة والسياحة
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
AND TOURISM



It is my great pleasure to welcome the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) to Abu Dhabi for its 68th Annual Convention & Exhibition. Hosting this prestigious gathering is both an honour and an opportunity to further strengthen the deep-rooted relationship between Abu Dhabi and India, one of our most valued and trusted tourism partners.

TAAI has long played an important role in shaping India's dynamic travel and tourism ecosystem, fostering innovation, building global connections, and creating new growth opportunities. This year's theme, "Business with Goodness," reflects our shared vision of building meaningful partnerships that deliver value far beyond commercial success, leaving a lasting impact on communities and cultures alike.

Abu Dhabi is a destination where heritage and innovation meet, home to awe-inspiring cultural landmarks, pristine natural landscapes, world-class attractions, and a thriving business environment.

We look forward to showcasing the emirate's remarkable diversity, encompassing Abu Dhabi's most iconic landmarks and new attractions, as well as our rich heritage and expansive natural landscapes. We hope you will feel welcomed and inspired as you explore destinations such as the majestic Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Louvre Abu Dhabi, Qasr Al Watan presidential palace, teamLab Phenomena Abu Dhabi, and the newly opened BAPS Hindu Mandir – a powerful cultural bridge between the UAE and India.

This convention will serve as a platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and celebration. I am confident it will be both professionally rewarding and personally enriching, leaving every delegate with cherished memories of our hospitality and culture.

On behalf of the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi, I extend my warmest wishes for a successful and memorable convention, and I look forward to the enduring partnerships that will be forged over these three remarkable days.

Abdulla Yousuf

Director of International Operations at the Department of
Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi

TAAI CONVENTION 2025

Behind the Scenes Crafting the 68th TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi



The TAAI and DCT Abu Dhabi Meeting

Everything really kicked off during the discussions that TAAI had with Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi) between April 28 and 30, 2025. It was at the Arabian Travel Market in Dubai that, for the very first time, a formal meeting took place between the TAAI Office Bearers and the DCT Abu Dhabi team, led by Ms. Min.

Meetings with Mr Zubin Karkaria

After the TAAI Office Bearers met with Mr. Zubin Karkaria, Founder & CEO, VFS Global, on April 29, 2025, the idea of choosing Abu Dhabi started to feel much more achievable, especially considering its impressive lineup of new attractions.



Why Abu Dhabi again?

Managing Committee gives the nod!

The question of “Why Abu Dhabi again?” naturally came up within TAAI. But a closer look at the “new” Abu Dhabi, along with the strong support offered by DCT Abu Dhabi, provided the answers. With the TAAI MC set to meet in Guwahati on May 28 and 29, 2025, and the urgency to finalize the Convention before October 2025, the city's latest attractions - especially the much-anticipated visit to the BAPS Temple - emerged as a compelling reason in favour of Abu Dhabi.

In the last week of July 2025, the Managing Committee officially announced that the 68th TAAI Convention would be held in Abu Dhabi. Soon after, President Sunil Kumar and HSG Shreeram Patel travelled to Abu Dhabi for a series of key meetings with the DCT Abu Dhabi team, the BAPS Temple authorities, Emirates Palace representatives, Mr. Zubin of VFS, and the hotels shortlisted to host the Convention.

Event Scheduling and Hotels

The dates were set for September 17 to 19. After over two days of detailed inspections, key decisions were finalized. The Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi was chosen as the Headquarters Hotel, with the InterContinental Abu Dhabi identified as the backup option if a second property was needed. Prestigious venues like Emirates Palace and the newly opened SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi stood out as excellent choices for convention events, while Al Ain was highlighted as a prime destination for pre- and post-convention tours.

Review Meetings

Everything came together positively, and a strong team was quickly formed between TAAI and DCT Abu Dhabi, making it easier to finalize the arrangements. The inspiring guidance of Mr. Zubin Karkaria and VFS Global, along with the blessings of the BAPS Temple in Abu Dhabi, played a pivotal role in shaping the overall vision and perspective of the Convention.

The Clear Goal

The TAAI leadership stayed determined to go all out in delivering a truly high-quality convention, branding it as a special Limited Edition event.

The DMC for Convention

The next key addition to the team was Royal Arabian Destination Management, led by Mr. Naveen Saldhana. They went above and beyond by providing transport, manpower, and invaluable support, including the marketing of the Convention. The visits of the TAAI team were seamlessly coordinated by their VP, Mr. Rabin Balan, along with GM Mr. Nityananda Acharya. Thanks to their dedication and readiness, Royal Arabian earned the distinction of being named the Official DMC for the Convention.





A special Theme Dinner at the InterContinental Abu Dhabi

The evening of September 18, 2025 was reserved for the Convention's Theme Dinner. With the event still open for a venue, the InterContinental Abu Dhabi, located conveniently close to the Grand Hyatt and offering excellent ballroom facilities, was finalized.



The Grand Opening at Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental

To begin again at the very venue where we concluded in 2016 would be a truly remarkable moment. It was a great and fortunate moment to present TAAI and the Convention to the Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental Team, with invaluable support from DCT Abu Dhabi - support that has made a profound difference to this year's event.

Special thanks go to Mr. Sanjeev Shukla, Director of Commercial Strategy, Ms. Sarah, Head of Banquets, and the entire team at Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental, who received our presentation with patience and positivity. Following a series of virtual meetings, Emirates Palace confirmed its role as the host for the Opening Ceremony, in association with DCT Abu Dhabi.



There couldn't have been a grander venue for the spectacular Opening Ceremony of the 68th TAAI Convention than this!

The Grand Ballroom at the Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental

The Opening Ceremony of the 68th TAAI Convention unfolds in the majestic Grand Ballroom of Emirates Palace, Mandarin Oriental.

Spanning 2,183 sqm, magnificently pillarless and echoing pure luxury, this iconic venue stands as a symbol of elegance and excellence.

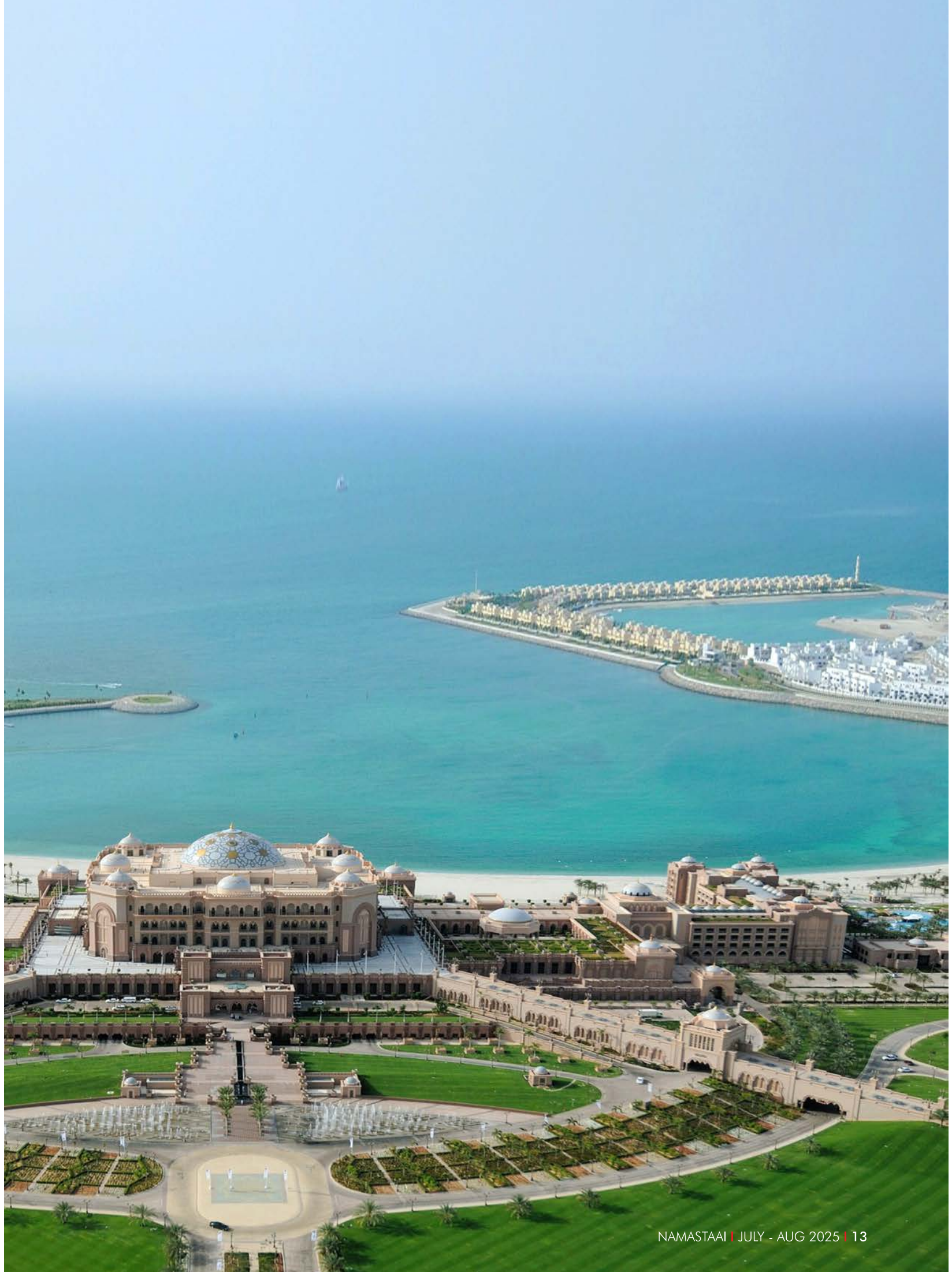
To experience the splendour of Emirates Palace is to be inspired, and for our delegates, it will be a cherished moment, as its aura sets the perfect tone for a Convention of purpose and pride.

The opening networking evening will come alive with the traditional Ayyala Dance, memorable entertainment, and a classy dinner.

Our sincere gratitude to Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental, and DCT Abu Dhabi for graciously hosting this dinner.

We profusely thank VFS Global for being the Event Hosts of the Opening Ceremony, supporting the entire set-up, beverage, entertainment and more.







**The Farewell Gala
At SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi
- you can't expect more!**

For the concluding Farewell Gala, the goal was to create something truly unique. Back in 2016, the Gala had been held at Ferrari World, so this time we set out to find an equally exceptional venue. Thanks to the efforts of DCT Abu Dhabi and Miral, we were rewarded with an extraordinary choice, the SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi which was confirmed as the venue for the Farewell Gala on September 19. It was great connecting with Mr. Mikhail Kapoor, who supported the coordination and the hosting.

We sincerely thank Miral Destinations - Yas Island for hosting the dinner at the Farewell Gala

The Farewell Gala of the 68th TAAI Convention & Exhibition, on September 19, 2025, is set to be an unforgettable evening, hosted inside the spectacular Hypersphere 360° of SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi. Known as the world's largest 360-degree LED screen, this venue creates a breathtaking immersive experience unlike anything else on the planet. Delegates won't just attend an event - they'll step into a one-of-a-kind visual journey that they'll remember and cherish long after the gala ends.



The most incredible opportunity – BAPS Hindu Mandir Abu Dhabi

Beyond the three grand evening events, the question remained - what would serve as the true highlights of the Convention? What rare and memorable experiences could be crafted for the delegates?

Naturally, the BAPS Hindu Mandir Abu Dhabi stood out as a highlight, an experience of immeasurable value. With the support of VFS, the temple authorities, and Mr. Umesh Raja, a devoted sevak from the UK who has been part of the temple administration since its inception, one entire afternoon is dedicated to this extraordinary visit. For delegates, it promises to be a truly meaningful experience and a memorable take-home gift from the Convention.

The temple visit is finalised for the afternoon of September 18, scheduled from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. The program will include a visit to this amazing and iconic temple, the much-anticipated Ganga Arti, followed by a special address from His Holiness - an experience that delegates are eagerly looking forward to.



A huge blessing. Audience with His Holiness Swami Brahmavihari Dass

On September 3, 2025, a four-member team from the TAAI Membership Committee visited the temple to review the arrangements.

For the TAAI delegation, it was an unforgettable and deeply moving experience, as they had the honour of receiving blessings from His Holiness Swami Brahmavihari Dass, a rare and divine privilege.

The audience with His Holiness Swamiji also provided us an opportunity to discuss the Convention Theme – Business with Goodness. Swamiji expressed his delight at the theme and shared insightful incidents that offered valuable lessons. He conveyed his joy in receiving the TAAI Convention delegates at the temple, making the occasion truly memorable.

Review Meeting with DCT Abu Dhabi. An honour to meet Mr. Abdulla Yousuf, Director International Operations, DCT - Abu Dhabi

It was a moment of rare privilege that the TAAI Team could meet Mr Abdulla Yousuf, Director of DCT Abu Dhabi. The meeting reviewed the convention program, the B2B sessions, and the opportunities for the

delegates to discover Abu Dhabi, to better promote this destination. It was very kind of Mr Abdulla Yousuf to have given us this opportunity to interact with him.

During our discussions with leaders and in our meeting with Mr. Zubin, the idea of goodness emerged as a guiding theme. It resonated deeply with us and connected beautifully with the TAAI credo, 'Deal with someone you can trust.'

At a time when global tourism faces challenges, goodness, as an approach, has the power to build harmony and create lasting value. This led us to the theme of our Convention: Business with Goodness.'

Being the HQ hotel for a TAAI Convention is always a special occasion, both for the hotel and for TAAI, as the venue comes alive with the excitement of delegates.

A series of planning meetings were successfully held, thanks to Mr. Kunal Salooja and Ms. Kuldeep Kaur, who remained fully aligned with TAAI's detailed requirements, including the design of the Knowledge Sessions and B2B activities.

The assurances from Mr. Alexander Pichel, General Manager of Grand Hyatt, inspired confidence in the TAAI teams. We extend our sincere thanks to Grand Hyatt for their wholehearted support.



The 68th TAAI Convention Launch - The Press Meet

The Press Conference to launch the 68th TAAI Convention and Exhibition was a grand and well-attended affair. Held on August 10, 2025 at Le Meridien, New Delhi, the conference highlighted the key features of the upcoming Convention.

Over 80 media personnel participated, gaining detailed insights into the program and the Convention Theme.



Addressing the gathering, President Sunil Kumar emphasized that TAAI has established itself as an association that actively promotes global destinations. He noted that several tourism boards worldwide are eager to partner with TAAI, as its conventions consistently drive remarkable growth in outbound travel from India. He also expressed gratitude to the Department of Culture and Tourism, Abu Dhabi, whose proactive support made it possible to host this Convention in Abu Dhabi.



When asked why Abu Dhabi was chosen again, despite the last convention being held there in 2016, President Sunil explained that the city has undergone remarkable evolution. Many world-class attractions, most of which did not exist a decade ago, inspired TAAI to return.



Highlights for delegates include BAPS Temple Abu Dhabi, Louvre Abu Dhabi, teamLab Abu Dhabi, SeaWorld Yas Island, Qasr Al Watan, and the National Aquarium Abu Dhabi. The majestic Emirates Palace will host the Opening Ceremony on 17th September.

The Press Conference was graced by Mr. Nikhil Jeet of DCT Abu Dhabi, along with several media leaders and TAAI leadership from both the national and the Northern Region.

We sincerely thank Le Meridien New Delhi for their gracious hospitality in hosting this Press Conference.

Travel Agents Association of India
68th Convention & Exhibition of TAAI
 September 17 to 19, 2025. Abu Dhabi, UAE

Schedule Of Events At A Glance

Time	Particulars	Dress Code	Venue / Remarks
Wednesday, 17th September 2025			
All Day	All Arrivals	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
All Day	Airport – TAAI CON Hotels Transfers (Driving Time: 45 Minutes)	TAAI Team Help Desk at Airport	
10:30 - 18:00	Registration Desk	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
All Day	Check-in (Check-in time is 3 PM) A reception lounge with tea-coffee is proposed for early arrivals	Luma Terrace At Grand Hyatt	
10:30 and 11:15 - 15:30	City Tours with Lunch	Coaches Depart from Grand Hyatt	
12:00 - 13:00	Managing Committee (1)	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
11:30 - 14:30	Lunch (Shuttles Available – 4-minute drive)	Lal Qila Corniche, Abu Dhabi	
14:00 - 15:30	M – Organizing Committee Review (2)	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
16:45 - 17:45	Shuttle from Hotels to Emirates Palace	5-minute drive	
18:00 - 20:30	Opening Ceremony 68th Convention & Exhibition of TAAI	Formal Dark Suit/ Saree or appropriate.	Emirates Palace
20:30 - 23:00	Entertainment & Dinner	Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental Dinner Hosts: Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental & DCT Abu Dhabi	
	Beverage & Event Sponsors	VFS Global	
22:00 - 23:00	Shuttles To Hotels Grand Hyatt & InterContinental		
Thursday, 18th September 2025			
07:00 – 10:00	Breakfast	Respective Hotels	
09:30 – 15:30	India Travel Trade Expo (ITTE) The B2B/Exhibition Opportunity	Foyer At Grand Hyatt (B1)	
09:30 – 13:15	Knowledge Sessions Delegate Interactive Sessions	Business Attire	Ballroom At Grand Hyatt (B1)
09:30 – 13:15	Sponsor Knowledge Session	Amadeus	

Time	Particulars	Dress Code	Venue / Remarks
Thursday, 18th September 2025			
12:00 – 14:30	City Tours & Lunch (For Spouses only)	Coaches Depart from Grand Hyatt	
13:30 – 14:30	Networking Lunch	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
15:00 – 18:45	Visit to BAPS Hindu Mandir, Abu Dhabi	Departures from Grand Hyatt from 15:00 Hrs	
18:45 – 18:55	Shuttles to Hotels	Please be quick (45-minutes drive)	
20:00 – 21:30	Shuttle Buses to InterContinental	Departure from Grand Hyatt	
20:15 – 23:00	Theme Evening – Dinner TAAICON Shirt for Delegates (This will be given at the time of registration)	Dress: Black Trousers, Pants, Slacks for TAAICON shirt InterContinental Abu Dhabi	
	Beverage & Event Co-Sponsor	Royal Arabian Destination Management	
22:00 – 23:00	Shuttle Buses to Grand Hyatt		
Friday, 19th September 2025			
07:00 - 10:00	Breakfast	Respective Hotels	
09:30 - 15:30	India Travel Trade Expo (ITTE) The B2B/Exhibition Opportunity	Foyer At Grand Hyatt (B1)	
09:30 - 13:15	Knowledge Sessions Delegate Interactive Sessions	Business Attire Ballroom At Grand Hyatt (B1)	
13:30 - 14:30	Networking Lunch	Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi	
	Beverage Sponsor	Adesh Cabs, Rajkot	
14:30 - 18:30	Discover Abu Dhabi	Departures from Grand Hyatt	
18:30 - 19:00	Shuttle to SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi	Departure from Grand Hyatt and InterContinental	
20:30 - 23:00	Farewell Gala Entertainment & Dinner SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi	Dinner Hosts: Miral Destinations, Yas Island	
	Beverage Hosts	myPartner by MakeMy Trip	
22:00 - 23:00	Shuttles to Hotels		
Saturday, 20th September 2025			
10:00 - 10:30	Departures for Airport/Your own destination		
12:30 Hrs	12:30-13:00: Post Tour to Al Ain	2 Nights – 3 Days of Excitement	

Special Awards & Important Notes

- a) All Delegates must positively attend the Knowledge Sessions
- b) During Knowledge Sessions: Lucky Delegate Awards
- c) ITTE Awards: Those with 90% Visits will be included in the Mega Lucky Draw with attractive prizes
- d) We have the City Tours & Post Tours to be booked by the Delegates. This is a limited option offer.
You may opt for the tours you are interested in from your registration platform

68th TAAI Convention & Exhibition At Abu Dhabi – 2025

Attractions for the Delegates

Seeing is Believing. The fascinating experience of discovering Abu Dhabi, or rediscovering this fast-evolving destination, is an important aspect of the 68th TAAI Convention. Abu Dhabi has consistently added more impressive landmarks to its large treasure of top attractions. Delegates are offered Free Tours to some top attractions of Abu Dhabi.

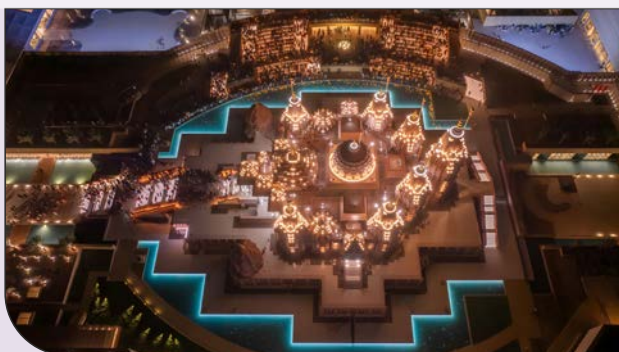
BAPS Hindu Mandir Abu Dhabi

An exclusive Delegates visit on September 18.

BAPS Hindu Mandir Abu Dhabi built by the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Inspired by Pramukh Swami Maharaj and consecrated by Mahant Swami Maharaj on February 14, 2024, this is the first traditional Hindu mandir in Abu Dhabi. The architectural marvel of this temple reflects the harmony between two different traditions, beliefs and countries.

The temple's creation is astounding. A Muslim King donates land for a Hindu Temple. The lead architect of the temple is a Christian Catholic. The Project manager is a Sikh. The Foundation designer is a Buddhist. The Construction Company is a Zoroastrian Parsi. The Chairman comes from a Jain tradition. The Chief Consultant is a man of no religion.

The temple - spread over 27 acres of land – is 108 feet in height, 262 feet in length, and 180 feet in width. No concrete and no steel have been used in the making of this temple. The exquisite domes, the seven spires symbolic of the seven emirates in the UAE, the intricate carvings that narrate the tales from Hindu scriptures make and the Wall of Harmony, all make the temple truly unique.



Convention City Tours

City Tours are organised for our Delegates on all three days – September 17 to 19. These are free of charge and include entrance fees. A unique aspect of a TAAI Convention is to inspire the Delegates to discover the destination and support its promotion. A detailed schedule of Tours is also published and advance bookings sought.

Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental Abu Dhabi

Convention Inaugural - Opening Ceremony on September 17.

Emirates Palace Mandarin Oriental, Abu Dhabi is where luxurious comfort, impeccable service and unique dining experiences come together in an enchanting setting. From a distance, the hotel looks like something out of an Arabian fairytale, with the main building alone stretching over one kilometre from one wing to the other and the gardens spreading across 100 hectares. There is a pristine 1.3km private beach, stunning pools, a private marina and natural bay.

Emirates Palace, Mandarin Oriental, Abu Dhabi is one of the most remarkable buildings in Abu Dhabi when it comes to architecture. Picture this: During the day, the palace's golden exterior contrasts with the lush greenery, silvery water fountains, and crisp blue sky. And at night, the hotel's lighting changes subtly, with an ethereal rainbow effect displayed on the main dome. Featuring 114 domes, the palace's central dome is a striking 72.6 metres above the ground, meticulously crafted with gold, mother of pearl and crystals. The building also boasts 1,002 chandeliers - the largest weighing 2.5 tons - with other photo-worthy features, including two handmade wall displays portraying the palace.

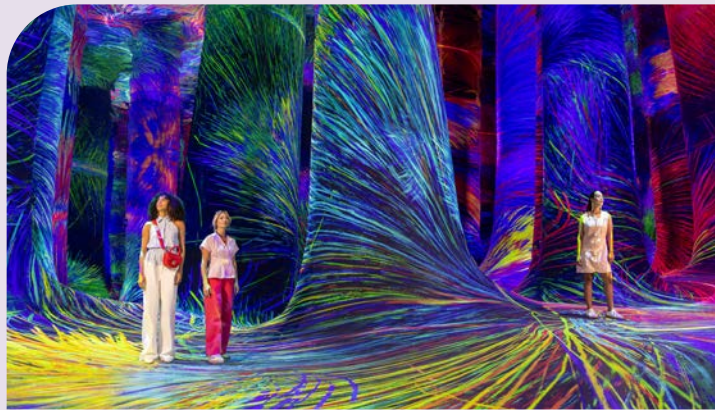


teamLab Phenomena

A Universe of Living Art

Push the limits of your imagination

teamLab Phenomena is an art museum in Saadiyat Cultural District, Abu Dhabi home to the most prestigious Abu Dhabi art museums. It offers you a mind blowing expedition that is different for each visitor and changes every time you visit.



teamLab Phenomena Abu Dhabi showcases groundbreaking artworks by the international art collective teamLab. The installations are inspired by the balance between nature, the manufactured world and the environment.

These living, evolving creations are shaped not only by natural forces but also by your interaction and engagement. Immerse yourself in these artworks and become one with the environment.



Qasr Al Watan – The Royal Palace

Qasr Al Watan is more than an imposing Royal palace in Abu Dhabi; it is a unique testament to the spirit of the United Arab Emirates' people and its leaders.

Experience more than a palace, a testament to the UAE's rich heritage and visionary spirit.

The Presidential Palace invites the world to share the culture, knowledge and inspiring journey of this region. Qasr Al Watan offers an enriching interactive journey in a contemporary setting that reveals and reflects on governance, knowledge and craftsmanship. Majestic and stunning, immersive and moving, a visit to the Presidential Palace of the Emirates grants an illuminating view of the region's rich heritage and bright future.



The Louvre Abu Dhabi

Louvre Abu Dhabi is a new cultural beacon, bringing different cultures together to shine fresh light on the shared stories of humanity.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi is a universal museum located on Saadiyat Island, UAE, a pioneering cultural project resulting from a partnership between the UAE and France. Designed by architect Jean Nouvel, it's known for its iconic "rain of light" effect under a vast, geometric dome and for presenting universal human creativity across cultures and time. The museum houses a permanent collection of artworks and loans from France, showcasing universal stories of humanity through exhibits that bridge Eastern and Western art.

The Dome

This colossal dome, made of 7,850 stars in eight layers, creates a unique "rain of light" effect as sunlight filters through it, resembling a traditional Arab medina.



The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque is a large, modern mosque in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and is considered a masterpiece of Islamic architecture. Commissioned by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, it symbolizes unity and tolerance and is one of the largest mosques in the world, able to hold over 40,000 worshippers. Its design features a blend of various Islamic architectural styles, including a large central dome, four

107-meter-tall minarets, and the world's largest hand-knotted carpet. The mosque is a popular tourist attraction, welcoming visitors of all faiths, though visitors must adhere to a modest dress code.

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque ranks first in the Middle East for top attractions and 3rd globally for cultural and historical experiences in the Tripadvisor Report 2024

SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi
The Farewell Gala on September 19, 2025

The World's Largest Indoor Marine Life Theme Park

With over 100 animal experiences and presentations, including up-close animal encounters and expeditions, you will learn about the incredible One Ocean that connects all of us. SeaWorld Yas Island is home to over 35 interactive experiences and rides, live characters and performances, 17 dining options, 13 retail outlets, and roaming entertainment across all realms.

Its eight realms can be explored across five indoor levels spanning an area of approximately 183,000 sq. metres. The Endless Ocean realm is home to the world's largest and most expansive multi-species aquarium. This innovatively designed aquarium contains over 25 million litres of water and is a dynamic habitat for more than 68,000 marine animals, including sharks, schools of fish, manta rays and sea turtles.

Located on Abu Dhabi's Yas Island, this amazing Marine Life Theme Park has over 100,000 marine animals including 150 species of birds, fish, mammals and reptiles. Animal habitats in each realm of SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi have been custom designed using state-of-the-art technology and the highest standards for animal welfare.



68TH TAAI CONVENTION 2025 - CONVENTION HOTEL

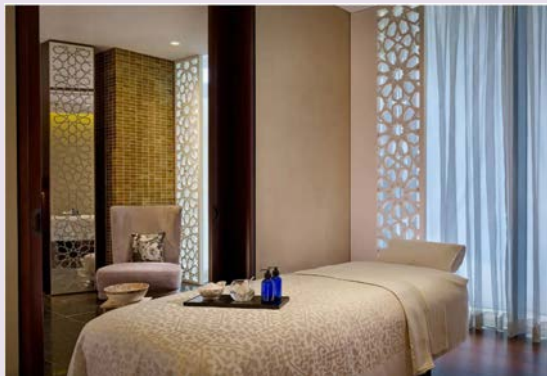


Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel & Residences Emirates Pearl

Abu Dhabi's Premier Luxury Hotel:
Unmatched Comfort & Elegance



Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel & Residences Emirates Pearl is a striking landmark in the iconic West Corniche district. Its awe-inspiring design and extraordinary architecture make it one of Abu Dhabi's most distinctive luxury hotels. Conveniently located, it is just minutes from the city's business hub and high-end shopping districts, and a 35-minute drive from Abu Dhabi International Airport.



A stay at the Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi is all about sophisticated luxury. Its design seamlessly blends modern architecture with traditional Emirati elements, from statement chandeliers to an undulating feature wall inspired by the desert dunes. Most rooms have private balconies offering scenic views of the Arabian Gulf or the glittering cityscape.

Situated near Qasr Al Watan, the hotel gives you easy access to shopping malls, the Founder's Memorial, and the white sands of Corniche Beach. Plus, the Saadiyat Cultural District - home to the Louvre Abu Dhabi — is only a 20-minute drive away. When not out exploring the city, you might like to cool off in the infinity pool or enjoy a spot of pampering in the spa.

Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel & Residences Emirates Pearl
West Corniche, Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



InterContinental Abu Dhabi A great legend and heritage of a Nation

Built and opened under the vision of a great leader - His Highness, the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founding father of the United Arab Emirates, the InterContinental hosted first Gulf Cooperation Council Conference for the Gulf States, in 1981. Since then, the hotel has been home to presidents, royal families, celebrities and captains of industry.

An InterContinental hotel is a luxury hospitality property belonging to the InterContinental Hotels & Resorts brand, which is part of the British multinational InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG). Founded by Pan Am in 1946, the brand is known for its focus on "bold exploration, cultural discovery, and worldliness," offering high-end accommodations and immersive experiences in global destinations for both business and leisure travellers.

Managed by IHG Hotels and Resorts, InterContinental Abu Dhabi has been providing luxury Arabian hospitality with state-of-the-art designs, a diversity of facilities and well-trained professionals to deliver the finest experience for decades.



InterContinental Abu Dhabi
King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud Street
Abu Dhabi



Special Airline Offers for TAAI Delegates

Delegates attending a TAAI Convention are special. Our Airlines have been most generous in offering the TAAI Delegates special prices, in order to enable them to travel to Abu Dhabi.

	(Open Jaw) 20%, 25% and 12% (AUH / RKT & FJR / DXB)
	15 %
	15 %
	8%
	Fixed Fares - most impressive (AD 50% Eqv)

We acknowledge our gratitude and appreciation to our esteemed Airlines for having offered special fares to our Delegates visiting Abu Dhabi.



68TH TAAI CONVENTION & EXHIBITON
THE DREAM TEAM THAT MADE A DREAM CONVENTION INTO REALITY

TAAI National Office Bearers (2024-2026)

Sunil Kumar R.
President



Bettaiah Lokesh
Vice President



Shreeram Patel
Hon. Secretary General



Paras Lakhia
Hon. Treasurer



TAAI National Managing Committee Members



Sameer Karnani
Chairperson - Airline Council



Amish B. Desai
Chairperson - Allied Services Council and Technology Council



Manav Soni
Chairperson Tourism Council



Gopal Unadkat
Chairperson - Membership Development Council



Hema R. V. Chander
Chairperson - Cultural, Sports & Promotion of Local Events



P. Lalith Kumar Jain
Chairperson Taxation Council



Rajan Sehgal
Chairperson - Public Relation Council



V.C. Krishnarajh
MC Member (Co-opted)



Irshad Mehdi
Coordinator for Marketing NamasTAAI

Chairpersons - Regions and Chapters



Neeraj Malhotra
Chairperson
Northern Region



Anjani Kumar Dhanuka
Chairperson
Eastern Region



Rajesh Poddar
Chairperson
Western Region



Devaki Thiyagarajan
Chairperson
Southern Region



Nagesh Pampati
Chairperson
Andhra Pradesh & Telangana
Chapter



Mehboob Shaikh
Chairperson
Central & South
Maharashtra Chapter



Harraj Singh Sidhu
Chairperson
Chandigarh Chapter



Timoteo Luis Colaco
Chairperson
Goa Chapter



Prashant Madlani
Chairperson
Gujarat Chapter



Sameer Baktoo
Chairperson
J&K Chapter



Niranjana S. Bhargava
Chairperson
Karnataka Chapter



Mariyamma Jose
Chairperson
Kerala Chapter



Hemendra S Jadon
Chairperson
Madhya Pradesh
& Chhattisgarh Chapter



Gurjeet Singh Sekhon
Chairperson
Punjab Chapter



Manoj Sogani
Chairperson
Rajasthan Chapter



Devan Shah
Chairperson
Saurashtra-Kutch Chapter



Vishal M. Shah
Chairperson
South Gujarat Chapter



S. P. Rajendran
Chairperson
South Tamil Nadu



Hina Zaidi
Chairperson
UP & Uttarakhand Chapter



Alok Vaidya
Chairperson
Vidarbha Chapter

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- Anjani Kumar Dhanuka**
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- Hina Zaidi**
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- Vishal Mahendrakumar Shah**
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- Gurjeet Singh Sekhon**
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- Neeraj Malhotra**
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Immigration, Welcome**

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- Mehboob Shaikh**
+91 98500 80120
- Alok Vaidya**
+91 93733 79679
- Harraj Singh Sidhu**
+91 98155 42307
- Amit Navlani**
+91 98260 94438

**Transportation, Shuttle,
Media, VIPs**

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- Anjani Kumar Dhanuka**
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- Sameer Baktoo**
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- S.P. Rajendran**
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Harraj Singh Sidhu

+91 98155 42307

*Here's to a Convention full of learning,
networking, and memories!
Wishing all the delegated
an unforgettable experience in Abu Dhabi!*

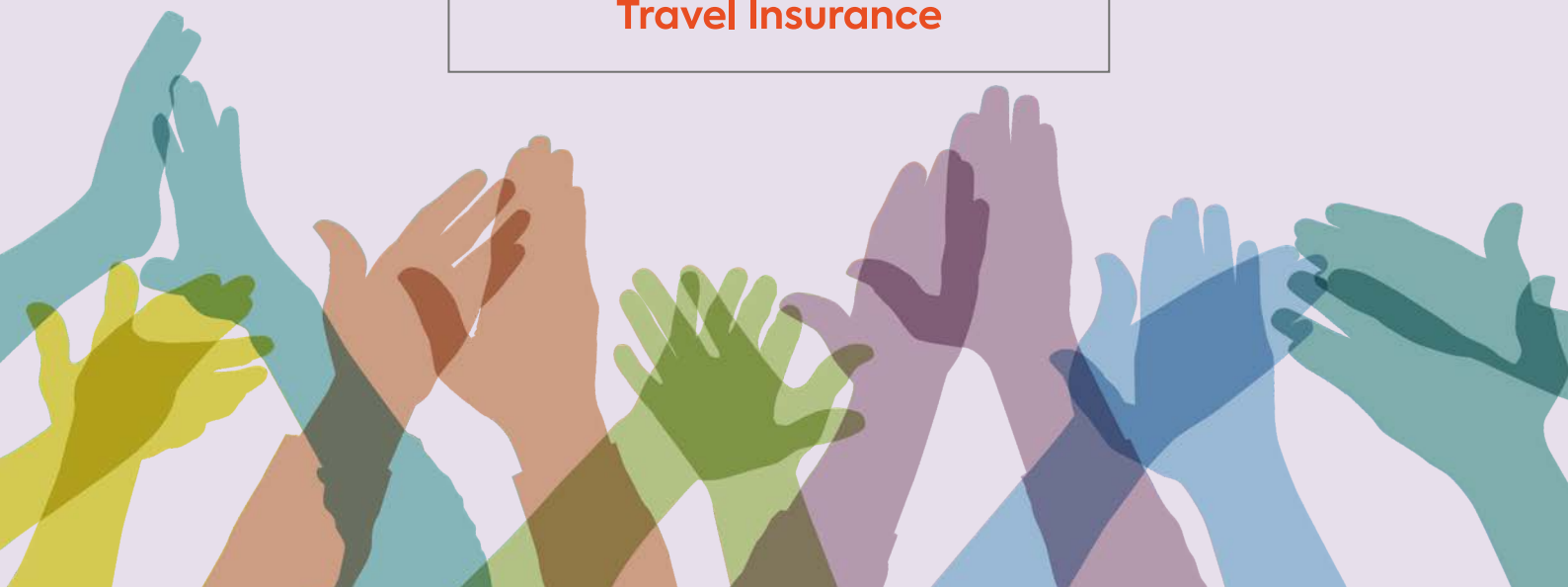


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India Tours Pvt Ltd.



South Asia's Largest Travel Show




Business with Goodness

The theme for the 68th TAAI Convention is as unique and inspiring as the event itself. 'Business with Goodness.' And what do the leaders from the travel and tourism industry feel about this thought-provoking subject? Let's find out!



Business with Goodness seeks to prioritize social responsibility, sustainability, and ethics alongside revenue and profit. By integrating true values into our operations, businesses can foster trust, loyalty, and long-term success. Extremely pleased to have this as the theme of the TAAI Convention

Vinay Malhotra
Head of Global Sales, IndiGo

Businesses have to exist for a purpose and for profit. The purpose of business is to create goodness in its operating ecosystem - for the customers, for the society at large and increasingly more now for the environment. This has to be balanced with justifiable profits for its shareholders, its employees and its partners. Both, the purpose of goodness and profit, have to co-exist and support each other for a sustainable and long-term business continuity.

Aashish Gupta
Consulting CEO



At Amadeus India, we firmly believe that 'Business with Goodness' is our promise to our valued travel partners. We are committed to empowering the travel fraternity with advanced technology, reliable support, and sustainable solutions that not only enhance business efficiency but also deliver exceptional customer satisfaction.

By combining innovation with responsibility, we help our partners achieve success while creating value addition for the travel industry. Together, we build a future where progress and purpose align seamlessly.

Sandeep Dwivedi
Managing Director India and Subcontinent (Travel Seller), Amadeus

'Businesses with Goodness' invites us to lead with heart, not just strategy. In tourism creating jobs, preserving heritage and building infrastructure must move from intention to action. When travel is guided by empathy and responsibility, it becomes a force for shared prosperity - uplifting communities, enriching cultures and connecting humanity. Let's rise to this moment together, and shape an industry that doesn't just grow but truly gives back.

Sunil Talreja
Chief Commercial Officer - India Operations, InterGlobe Air Transport Ltd (IGAT)





Business with integrity and care is not just a choice, it is the only way to survive and thrive in today's turbulent times. When global disruptions shake confidence and margins grow razor-thin, our real strength lies in trust, honesty, and responsibility.

By standing firmly with our customers and treating partners with fairness and respect, we create loyalty that lasts, stability that sustains, and respect that inspires. Goodness in business is what keeps tourism alive and strong, connecting people across borders, opening doors to opportunities, and driving progress even during relentless challenges.

Rajiv Bhatia

Executive Director - APAC Market Expansion, Sabre Travel Network (India) Pvt. Ltd.

One should do business with goodness, where my company and industries' success is not just financial profits, but also judged by positive impact on industries, environment and society. It should include employee satisfaction, customer loyalty and good relationships among all our colleagues and suppliers in our related field, like Airlines, Cruises, Hotels etc and have mutual trust in doing business with each other by offering high quality products and customer service.



Vikram Dhawan

Chief Strategy Officer - Travel Businesses, Via.Com – EBIX Cash



The travel and tourism industry is a harbinger of peace, fostering connections across cultures and communities. 'Business with Goodness' is more than a theme; it's a call to action. As we gather in Abu Dhabi, let us redefine success through trust, empathy, and impact - where every transaction also becomes a step toward transformation. I wish the 68th Convention all success, and I'm confident the industry will remember it for many years to come.

Sheldon Santwan

Editor-in-Chief & CEO, TravelBiz Monitor

Business with Goodness is the essence of meaningful travel. The travel industry thrives on trust, compassion, and shared experiences. 'Business with Goodness' reminds us that every itinerary is more than a transaction- it is a promise of care, responsibility, and memorable journeys. TAAI, and its members, stand committed to strengthening this bond by ensuring that every traveller experiences integrity in service and excellence in delivery. Because in travel, as in life, the wisest choice is to 'Deal With Someone You Can Trust.'



Amish Desai

Director, Beleat Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, India

From a media perspective, our endeavour has always been to spotlight the positive contributions of the travel and tourism industry. While we at BOTT (Business of Travel Trade) continue to ask the right questions, our larger mission is to showcase the resilience, innovation, and dedication of the fraternity that works tirelessly behind the scenes to craft memorable travel experiences for millions. Tourism is often the first to suffer during natural calamities, yet it continues to inspire hope, rebuild economies, and connect cultures. By supporting our trade associations, we ensure that industry voices remain strong. ‘Business with Goodness’ beautifully captures this spirit of purpose-driven growth, and I applaud TAAI for choosing this as the theme for its upcoming Convention in Abu Dhabi.

Priyanka Saxena Ray

Editor, BOTT (Business of Travel Trade)



‘Business with Goodness’ is a forward-thinking strategy rooted in trust, inclusion, and sustainability. At Sunsha Global, we see travel not just as a service, but as a responsibility to uplift communities, support diverse voices, and preserve our shared environment. Purpose-driven business is no longer optional; it's the foundation of long-term value. Let's drive growth that benefits people, planet, and progress together.

Manoj Joseph

Director, Sunsha Global Pvt. Ltd, Pune

Business with good ethics is rewarding in more ways than one. Being straightforward and forthcoming about things results in a sound reputation and the word of mouth benefits your business like nothing else. Being unapologetic about charging your consultancy fee has to be accompanied by following best practices, having sound knowledge of the product and giving honest advice to the client even if it does not translate into business.

Anita Sharma

Director, International Travel Forum, Indore



‘Business with Goodness’ reminds us that success is measured not just in numbers but in the positive impact we create. In travel, every journey is an exchange of cultures and values. When we conduct business with trust, empathy, and fairness, we not only grow but also strengthen communities and foster peace across borders. Goodness is the compass that ensures our progress is meaningful and lasting.

Amrutlal Thanki

Director, Jonki Travel Link Pvt. Ltd., Rajkot, Gujarat, India



Members First

A focus that drives TAAI!

“There's little life in what we do, when what we do, does not grow!”

Guided by this clear focus, the TAAI President and his team started an earnest effort to prioritize the 'Members First' initiative, in October 2024.

Looking back at the last ten months, President Sunil Kumar says with confidence and conviction: “This is just the beginning.” There is much more that needs to be initiated and nurtured to make TAAI a members-first forum that engages all stakeholders. With more than a year ahead to build on this momentum, the coming months promise to keep the TAAI leadership busy at every level—Chapter, Region, and National.

The premise of the 'Members First' initiative is rooted in what President Sunil Kumar said last year: “In a growing industry, we cannot be losing members.”

The 'Members First' program continues to remain a top priority for TAAI's leadership, encompassing not only enhanced engagement opportunities but also high-quality events and strategic partnerships that deliver greater value to members.

In line with this focus, TAAI has embarked on a series of initiatives and created systems that, while still evolving, have laid the foundation for stronger member participation in this 74-year-old association.

Seventy-five years of TAAI is a celebration for everyone - a milestone that allows every member to take pride in belonging to an association with a glorious legacy of leadership, excellence, and unmatched stature, both nationally and globally.

‘Deal with someone you can trust’ has always been the defining ethos of TAAI. This philosophy continues to guide members in delivering reliable services, offering genuine care, and strengthening the trust our customers place in us. By driving more active and participative member engagement, we can collectively optimize this opportunity to earn lasting customer goodwill—further reinforcing TAAI's resolve to remain truly customer-centric.

The initiatives of TAAI's National Team form only half the story. The other half must be written by our members, who are encouraged to actively shape a more relevant, engaging, and member-driven association. We invite every member to join this special journey - one that builds leadership for every agency and strengthens our formidable association.

**‘Deal with
someone
you can
trust’**



Hyderabad



Mumbai

More 'In-Person and Deliberative' Managing Committee Meetings

Building a second line of leadership remains a key priority for the current leadership. Empowering committees and leaders at the Regional and Chapter levels is essential to nurturing future leadership that can guide TAAI to even greater heights.



Jaipur



Guwahati

Beginning with Hyderabad and followed by Mumbai, Jaipur, and Guwahati, the two-day Managing Committee meetings have fostered rich debates and discussions. MC Members and Chairpersons are invited to present detailed reports on the impact they have created and the extent of member engagement they drive. These deliberative sessions help TAAI and its Managing Committee identify new areas of opportunity, ensuring that the respect and admiration we command continue to grow. Today, TAAI possesses excellent resources among its members. This valuable strength will be further optimised.



Milestones in Motion

Key initiatives shaping TAAI's journey



NAMASTAAI

The relaunch of NAMASTAAI, TAAI's flagship magazine first introduced in 2016, showcases the vibrant calendar of activities offered month after month, by TAAI's Regions and Chapters, providing members with opportunities to participate, network, and enhance visibility. The lasting impression created by the magazine, once it reaches readers, adds significant value to TAAI. Over the years, it has often served as TAAI's 'business card'—a powerful representation of the association when building relationships or when authorities seek to understand more about TAAI and the vibrant, active network we proudly celebrate.

20 Regions & Chapters

With more active Regions and Chapters, and thanks to the dedication of our Chairpersons and Office Bearers, TAAI leaders continue to guide members and lead Chapters effectively - ensuring continuity of meetings, events, partnerships, education, and more. Their unwavering zeal drives the creation of meaningful occasions that bring members closer to the industry community while keeping stakeholders actively engaged.



National Working Groups

From a governing team of about 32 members at the National level, including our Chairpersons, the opportunity has now expanded to include over 100 more members who are actively engaged. They have been inducted into TAAI's Working Groups—covering Airlines, Tourism, Allied Services, Sports & Culture, Membership Development, and more. This structure will continue to be strengthened to ensure that these committees remain dynamic and highly active.



TAAILOGUE

It has been our commitment to keep members regularly updated on TAAI's initiatives and activities, particularly at the national level. TAAILOGUE—a dialogue between the TAAI President and members - reaches our fraternity month after month, keeping everyone informed about the association's progress. A glance at the seven editions published so far is testimony to the fact that TAAI allows little 'pause' in its journey, remaining an action-packed team that is always on the move.





TAAI 75 Years Logo Launch



With the unveiling of the TAAI 75 Years logo, the countdown to a landmark celebration begins. The National Committee is charting the runway with milestones that honour the past and inspire the future.

**What is a road without a milestone?
Just a journey without direction.
Milestones give meaning, progress,
and purpose to every path we walk.**



The curtain raiser of TAAI's 75th Year was held promptly in January 2025 at New Delhi — one year ahead of the milestone year. We were deeply honoured by the presence of our Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Shri Gajendra Shekhawat, who launched the 75 Years Logo and commended TAAI for its foresight and advanced planning. Drawing a parallel with the 'Amrit Kaal' of India's Independence, he applauded TAAI for its long journey and its resolve to plant significant milestones on the path to its 75th Year.



An important landmark initiative accompanying this celebration was the active engagement of our members through TAAI's Regions and Chapters. With leadership at all levels embracing fresh approaches and renewed energy, TAAI has entered this new phase with higher levels of member engagement and a stronger sense of collective purpose among TAAI's leaders across India.



TAAI WoW Awards.

75 Awards to Accomplished Women Leaders to commemorate International Women's Day 2025

The travel and tourism industry, in India and across the globe, is proud of its exceptional women leaders whose contributions remain truly unique. The industry's massive evolution - driven by innovation, technology, fresh approaches to leadership, and more - has been made possible through the untiring and brilliant efforts of women in our field.

Inspired by our very own women leaders within TAAI, this initiative was launched with multiple purposes. Honouring accomplished women not only celebrates their achievements but also inspires our members and encourages more women to step into leadership roles, taking on greater responsibilities as they progress in their careers. The task was by no means easy for TAAI. India is blessed with many women leaders whose invaluable support and impactful contributions have added immense value to the excellence of our industry.



Among the 75 awardees are 20 outstanding women leaders from TAAI-accredited representatives of our member agencies - recognized for their positive leadership. TAAI remains committed to actively engaging and promoting the cause of women leaders who continue to drive the strength and growth of India's travel and tourism industry.



Partnerships, New Programs, Educational initiatives

An ongoing feature of TAAI has always been to encourage more partnerships with all authorities in Tourism, Education, Technology, Skill Development and more. This is a never-ending learning for TAAI to continue its purposeful evolution, year after year.



Our partnerships remain strong and active. Leading B2B organizations such as SATTE, OTM, BLTM, GPS, TTJ, along with several global, national and regional B2B programs, offered by Tourism authorities, continue to associate with TAAI.

TAAI deeply appreciates the excellent role these organisations play in supporting buyer-seller networking, education, and industry growth. As destinations evolve with new attractions, hotels, and diverse experiences, TAAI remains committed to encouraging member development through these valued partnerships. TAAI will continue to associate and support B2B exhibitions.



Our partnership with **VFS Global** has opened new avenues for TAAI and its members. In line with the 'Members First' program, TAAI collaborated with VFS at several national roadshows aimed at reviving trade relationships.

A landmark initiative this year was the TAAI-VFS Visa Insights Workshop, where TAAI members -including agency owners and senior visa professionals - engaged directly with VFS mission representatives from centres across India. With the shared objective of 'Let's get on the same page', the workshop fostered meaningful dialogue, empathy, and collaboration. It helped iron out challenges faced by customers during document submissions, resulting in practical solutions that promise to make the visa process at VFS centres more seamless and efficient.



Launched at Hyderabad during May 2025, these workshops are already held in over six cities in India, and the program shall continue to be held in more cities. This is an excellent gesture from VFS to honour TAAI's proposal and partner to support quality member engagement.

An MoU with VFS on the Referral Program for Value Added Services supported TAAI's initiatives to offer higher incentives to our member agencies. With an SOP in place, this program will continue to grow and support higher membership participation and thus complement the 'Members First' program of TAAI.

TAAI gratefully acknowledges its partnership with VFS Global for these initiatives and many more programs launched across the country. We extend our sincere appreciation to the leadership of VFS Global for readily joining hands with TAAI and supporting the cause of building a stronger industry through the sharing of knowledge and skills with our leaders and personnel in our organisations.



Engagement via Sport

Sport is an important area that supports larger member participation. Our Regions and Chapters, thanks to the initiatives by our Chairpersons, have motivated excellent engagement; getting the industry together at regional levels and organising cricket matches with excellent giveaways and prizes.

A large number of our Regions and Chapters have been most successful in designing unique approaches and organising this sport.

It was a wonderful occasion for our members. Match-winning trophies, awards, an ambience of professionalism, excellent hospitality and TAAI visibility were clearly conspicuous.

These Cricket Matches received excellent support from our partners and associates, and we were generous with our branding.



TAAI's Online Membership Portal Launched 150+ Members Join Our Family!

With the launch of our new Online Membership Portal, becoming part of the TAAI family is now simpler than ever. Applications can be submitted, endorsed, and approved entirely online — ensuring faster processing and greater convenience. And the results speak for themselves: more than 150 new members have already joined, and we are well on our way to crossing the 200 mark.

'Rally for The Valley' Campaign

A timely initiative to revive tourism in Jammu & Kashmir

Mid-May to mid-June 2025 was a difficult period for Jammu & Kashmir, with tourism being badly affected in the wake of the horrific Pahalgam terror attack. Recognizing the urgent need to stand by the people of the Union Territory whose livelihoods are largely dependent on tourism, TAAI launched the 'Rally for The Valley' campaign.

'Let's Go To J&K,' was its rallying cry. And walking the talk, seventy-five delegates from across the country, including TAAI's national leadership, gathered in Srinagar from June 10 to 12, 2025 to officially launch the campaign. The TAAI team visited several iconic locations in Srinagar, including the Lal Chowk and the Mughal Gardens. The carefully chosen itinerary balanced symbolic confidence-building with a practical assessment of ground conditions. This was followed by a trip to Pahalgam as well, further reinforcing the message of safety and vibrancy.



The official launch of the 'Rally for The Valley' campaign on June 11, 2025, at the Radisson Collection, Srinagar was a high-profile event that brought together leaders from the government, tourism, and hospitality sectors. Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir Omar Abdullah lauded the initiative and expressed his gratitude to the association for reposing faith and confidence in the Valley.



"Having you here is so encouraging for us because it shows that you haven't given up on us and therefore we shouldn't give up on ourselves either"

~ Omar Abdullah
Chief Minister, Jammu & Kashmir

With milestones already in motion and new initiatives unfolding, Members First has set a strong foundation for the year ahead. TAAI's 75th year is not just a celebration of the past but an invitation to reimagine the future—together, as one family. The strength of our association lies in our members, and by putting them first, we ensure that TAAI continues to stand tall as a symbol of leadership, trust, and unity in Indian travel and tourism.

The robust structure of TAAI, comprising four Regions and 16 Chapters, serves as a formidable backbone driving the association with remarkable strength and visibility. The key focus remains actively engaging members and representing their challenges and concerns.

Working Together Works – this guiding principle has become TAAI's hallmark strategy. The association mandates bimonthly meetings across all Regions and Chapters, creating a continuous flow of networking opportunities and knowledge exchange through industry presentations.

Whether it is Hotel Classification or Airport Advisory or partnering with a B2B Show or promotion of travel and tourism, TAAI is an excellent playground, for travel and tourism organizations to score big, with the right connect.

Each of the Regions and Chapters are ably led by a team of elected office bearers: Chairman; Secretary and Treasurer. In addition, we have various TAAI National Working Groups and each Region/Chapter has a nominee on the National Working Group.

With over 150 industry leaders actively steering governance and strategic direction, TAAI maintains the sector's most dynamic and interconnected network. This exceptional structure explains why TAAI's Active and Allied membership continues its impressive growth trajectory year after year.

In these following pages, one can notice the active engagement that TAAI offers its members, the vital work of its four Regions and 16 Chapters, and its unmatched presence in the industry.



TAAI'S MOST ACTIVE INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

**Working Together
Works:
20 Regions
And Chapters –
On The Move**

TAAI Northern Region

Milestones of Collaborations, Events and Promotions

In the capital and beyond, TAAI Northern Region has consistently brought the industry together in ways that are both purposeful and impactful. The past few months have been no different — marked by productive meetings, powerful partnerships and unstinted support for TAAI's campaigns.



Annual General Meeting Concludes Successfully

The TAAI Northern Region Annual General Meeting for the Year 2025 was held at The Ashok, Chanakyapuri on August 18, 2025. General Secretary Mr. Anurag Agarwal called the well-attended meeting to order, after which the Chairperson Mr. Neeraj Malhotra, presented the Annual Report.

The report reflected a dynamic year for the region, with members actively engaging in three meetings and several key initiatives including the national launch of the TAAI's 75 Years Logo, an event coordinated and co-hosted by the TAAI Northern Region, support for the TAAI WoW Awards that celebrated women leaders in the

travel and tourism industry, and active participation in the 'Rally for the Valley' campaign to revive tourism in Jammu & Kashmir.

The region also played a prominent role in several industry events, such as the Korea Road Show, Mihuru Webinar, and the unveiling of the Arunachal Tourism logo.

At the members' annual meeting, the TAAI Northern Regions accounts were adopted, and the session concluded with a resounding endorsement of the upcoming TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi.

Standing in solidarity with Air India

Following the tragic crash of Flight AI 172, the TAAI Northern Region leadership visited Air India's office in Gurgaon on June 30, 2025. The team met Mr. Manish Puri, Sales Head, Air India, and Ms. Sonia Bhalla, Vice President and expressed their solidarity and support; a gesture that was warmly acknowledged by the airline's leadership.

Visa and Travel Updates with VFS

The TAAI Northern Region members' meeting was held on July 25, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn, New Delhi. The event brought together key voices from the travel industry, fostering meaningful conversations and updates. A big shoutout to the team from VFS for their insightful session on visa processes and tech-driven advancements in tourism - truly informative and much needed!



It is this blend of advocacy, action and empathy that keeps the TAAI Northern Region not just at the center of conversations—but at the heart of the industry's progress.

TAAI Eastern Region

Driving Tourism Growth through Industry Engagement

The TAAI Eastern Region continues to strengthen its role in tourism promotion, actively participating in flagship industry events and building collaborations that expand opportunities for members across domestic and international markets.

TTF Kolkata Roadshow: A Platform for Growth

At the TTF Kolkata Roadshow, organised by the TASK Group, TAAI Eastern Region underlined its commitment to advancing both outbound and inbound travel. The event brought together travel professionals, tourism boards, and industry stakeholders under one roof to network, collaborate, and discuss the future of travel.

TAAI Members engaged with exhibitors, explored new travel products, and participated in productive B2B meetings. The Region's active presence reinforced its emphasis on tourism revival and creating fresh avenues for member growth.

Jammu & Kashmir Tourism in Focus

The Region also took part in the Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Roadshow in Kolkata, hosted by the TASK Group. The event introduced Eastern India's travel community to the scenic attractions and evolving infrastructure of Jammu & Kashmir.

A highlight of the evening was the felicitation of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Omar Abdullah, by TAAI Eastern Region leadership. The Chief Minister expressed appreciation for the support and enthusiasm shown by Eastern India's travel trade community in promoting Jammu & Kashmir as a preferred destination.



Annual Members Meeting: Active Engagement

The Annual Members Meeting of the TAAI Eastern Region was held on August 18, 2025, at the Kenilworth Hotel in Kolkata. The event drew strong participation, reflecting continued engagement and support for the organization.

The agenda was presented, discussed, and adopted with active involvement from attendees, who contributed to constructive deliberations throughout the session. The meeting concluded with appreciation for the members' engagement and their ongoing commitment.



These initiatives underscore TAAI Eastern Region's leadership in connecting stakeholders, promoting destinations, and driving tourism growth in Eastern India.

TAAI Western Region

Powers Industry Partnerships and Destination Collaborations

The TAAI Western Region is stepping into the new travel season with a clear agenda: deepen industry partnerships, broaden destination choices, and ensure its members remain at the centre of an evolving marketplace. Over the past months, a series of meetings and initiatives have underscored the Region's role as both connector and catalyst.

Spotlight on Ginger Hotels

At its fourth chapter meeting in July, the Western Region turned the spotlight on accommodation. Ginger Hotels engaged members with a detailed presentation on its expanding portfolio and future plans, reinforcing the vital role of hotels in the travel value chain. The session also welcomed the newly appointed Regional Director,

Mr. Farouq, who outlined his priorities for building stronger collaboration between travel professionals and service providers. The conversations reflected the Region's commitment to keeping dialogue active and partnerships productive.

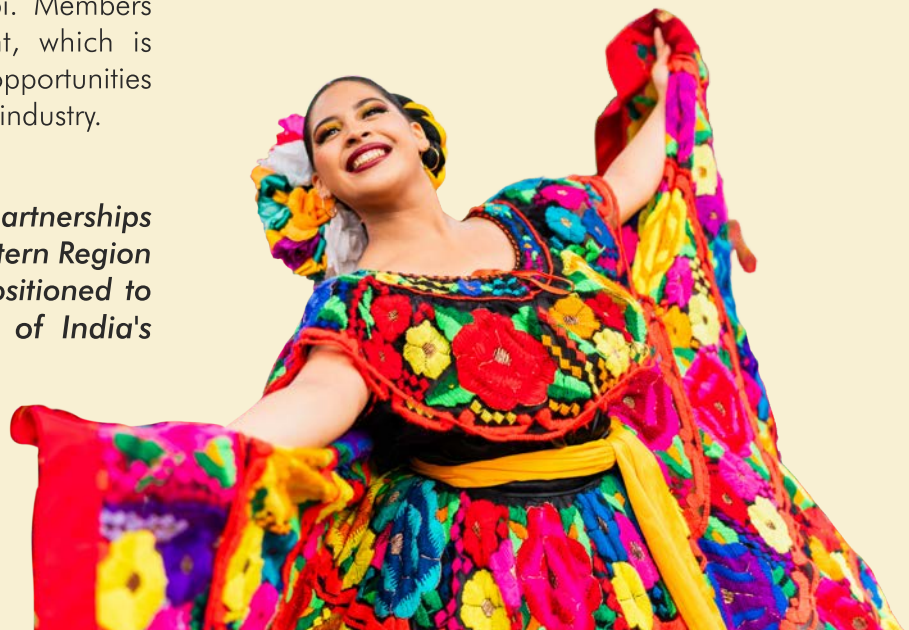
Mexico on the Horizon

Looking outward, the Western Region is also building new international bridges. Members met with Mr. Alejandro Sánchez de la Rosa, Head of Economic and Commercial Promotion at the Consulate of Mexico in Mumbai, to explore ways of positioning Mexico as a destination of choice for Indian travellers. The discussions focused on collaborative strategies that would diversify agency offerings while opening up Latin America's cultural and leisure attractions to a wider Indian audience.

Annual Members Meet Concludes on a Strong Note

The TAAI Western Region convened its Members Meet on August 14, 2025, bringing members together to discuss key priorities and upcoming initiatives. A key item on the agenda was the extensive briefing on the highly anticipated TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi. Members received important updates on the event, which is expected to provide significant networking opportunities and insights into emerging trends shaping the industry.

With initiatives that span both domestic partnerships and international collaborations, the Western Region is ensuring that its members are well-positioned to navigate—and shape—the next phase of India's travel landscape.





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TAAI Southern Region

Collaboration, Celebrations, and Connections

The past few months have seen TAAI Southern Region actively engaged across diverse fronts - from destination partnerships and cultural diplomacy to wellness initiatives and industry advocacy. Each activity underscored the region's commitment to strengthening connections within the travel fraternity while opening new avenues for collaboration.

Chennai-Penang: Direct Flight, Direct Impact

On July 15, 2025 members from the TAAI Southern Region joined hands with Tourism Malaysia and the Penang Convention & Exhibition Bureau to mark the launch of the new direct flight between Chennai and Penang. The event, part of the Penang Roadshow, was led by Mr. Hishamuddin Mustafa, Director, Tourism Malaysia (South India), and Mr. Ashwin Gunasekaran, CEO, Penang Convention & Exhibition Bureau. The initiative is expected to provide fresh momentum to tourism flows between South India and Malaysia.



International Yoga Day Celebrations Continue...

An exponent of the Sivananda style of Yoga, Mr. Thambi M. Ramesh was part of the region's International Yoga Day Celebration on July 18, 2025. The program introduced yoga techniques and mindfulness for the well-being of members. This was followed by a Yoga session that left participants rejuvenated.

A Cultural Connect with Peru

TAAI Southern Region members were invited to the 204th Independence Day celebrations of the Republic of Peru, held in Chennai on July 28, 2025. The evening brought together dignitaries including H.E. Mr. Javier Paulinich, Ambassador of Peru, and Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services of Tamil Nadu, alongside TAAI representatives - an event that highlighted cultural diplomacy and tourism ties.



Tourism Promotion and MICE Industry Dialogue

The IEIA – MICE Industry Leaders Connect: Focus South event on July 29, 2025 saw strong participation from members of the TAAI South Region. Shri Suman Billa, IAS, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, addressed the gathering.

Exploring Synergies with Sri Lanka

Members of the TAAI Southern Region met with Mr. G.L. Gnanatheva, Minister of Commerce at the Deputy High Commission of Sri Lanka, in Chennai, on August 13, 2025. The discussions explored future synergies and cooperative initiatives with Sri Lanka Tourism.



Annual Members Meeting



The Annual Members Meeting, held on August 19, 2025 at Residency Towers, Chennai, brought the region's activities into focus. The Chairperson's report reviewed the highlights of the year: four

regional meetings, close engagement with tourism boards, airlines, consulates, and IRCTC, and active participation in industry events.

The report also noted the contribution of Rs.4.90 lakh by TAAI Southern Region members towards the Kerala Wayanad Relief Fund.

The meeting was also a moment of reflection, paying tribute to respected members and past leaders of the region who passed away during the year: Kalaimamani V.K.T. Balan Ayya Avakal, Past Chairperson Mr. Saravanan, Past MC Member and Chairperson, and Past Regional Office Bearers Mr. Arul Lazaran and Mr. Anandavello.

As this was a non-election year, proceedings concluded with the adoption of statutory items - marking the close of yet another active and meaningful year for the Southern Region.

From forging new alliances to honouring shared traditions, the Southern Region's activities over the past months highlight both its vibrancy and its vision. With members actively engaged at every step, the region continues to add strength and visibility to the travel fraternity.



“It seems that the more places I see and experience, the bigger I realize the world to be. The more I become aware of, the more I realize how relatively little I know of it, how many places I have still to go, how much more there is to learn.”

~ Anthony Bourdain

TAAI AP & TS Chapter

Interactive Chapter Meeting and Training Program Empower Tourism Professionals

The TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana State (AP & TS) Chapter continues to enhance member value through thought-leadership sessions, community initiatives, and digital safety programs. Its focus on empowerment, sustainability, and operational resilience has built strong momentum in the run-up to the Abu Dhabi convention.



Leadership Perspectives at the Chapter Meeting

The fourth Chapter Meeting of the TAAI AP & TS Chapter was held on August 7, 2025 at Hotel Golconda, Hyderabad. The meeting provided a platform for discussions on key issues. TAAI President Sunil Kumar, addressing members, outlined the initiatives introduced during 2024–2025. He elaborated on the upcoming 68th TAAI Convention & Exhibition in Abu Dhabi, to be held from September 17–19, and highlighted the special events planned around it. He encouraged members to participate in this flagship event, which is being offered at a significant subsidy.



Chapter Chairperson Leads Skill Development Program



Chapter Chairperson Nagesh Pampati represented TAAI as faculty at the 'Induction Program for Guides and Facilitators,' which focused on communication and presentation skills. The program was organized by India Tourism.



Annual Members' Meet

The Annual Members' Meet was held virtually on August 18, 2025 to complete statutory requirements and ensure compliance. The activity report of the TAAI AP & TS Chapter and the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2025 were approved. The meeting also reflected on key initiatives undertaken during the year and the outcomes achieved.

Activity Overview and Impact

Thought Leadership Sessions

Invited leading figures from the travel and tourism industry to share insights and practical experience, strengthening members' knowledge and networks.

Women's Day Initiative

Honoured around 50 women staff members across two hospitality institutes, recognizing their contributions and inspiring future leaders.



Environmental Stewardship



In partnership with Telangana Police Training School, 10,000 saplings were planted on campus - reinforcing the Chapter's commitment to sustainability and community well-being.

Cyber Awareness Programs

- Completed: A full-day cyber safety awareness program with Telangana Police for IHM students, covering digital hygiene, fraud prevention, and responsible online behaviour.
- Upcoming: A full-day session with cybersecurity professionals for frontline staff across member agencies to strengthen operational resilience.

Looking Ahead: Abu Dhabi Convention

Objectives: Equip members to face future challenges with confidence by focusing on capability-building, innovation, collaboration, and measurable outcomes.

Expected Outcomes: Deeper strategic insights, practical toolkits, peer benchmarking, and action plans tailored to regional priorities.



TAAI Chandigarh Chapter

Driving Regional Tourism Initiative

The TAAI Chandigarh Chapter has been actively engaging in tourism promotional activities, strengthening industry partnerships, and creating meaningful opportunities for its members.



Participation in the TTJ Travel Mart

On July 9, 2025 the Chapter participated in the TTJ Travel Mart at The Lalit Hotel, Chandigarh. The delegation, led by office bearers, joined the lamp-lighting ceremony to inaugurate the event. The Mart successfully hosted focused one-to-one B2B meetings, creating valuable opportunities for travel trade professionals to connect and explore synergies.

Punjab Tourism Meeting

On August 13, 2025 the members of the TAAI Chandigarh Chapter held a constructive interaction with Sanjeev Kumar Tewari IFS, Managing Director, Punjab Tourism Development Corporation Limited. Discussions focused on promoting Punjab's

religious, village, and heritage tourism, with key destinations such as Amritsar and Patiala highlighted in the proposed itineraries. Significantly, Mr. Tewari agreed to introduce a specialized certification course for TAAI members in these tourism segments - a move that will enhance professional knowledge and credibility. On this occasion, the Chapter Office Bearers also presented him with the NamastAAI magazine, further strengthening collaborative ties.

Through these initiatives, the TAAI Chandigarh Chapter reaffirms its commitment to fostering tourism growth, enhancing professional learning, and expanding business opportunities for its members.

Annual General Meeting of 2024–2025

The TAAI Chandigarh Chapter successfully concluded its Annual General Meeting for 2024–2025 on August 19, 2025 at Hyatt Centric, Sector 17, Chandigarh. Key points discussed included:

- Rally for The Valley - Promotion of Kashmir Tourism
 - Updates on the upcoming TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi
 - Chandigarh Travel Agent Registration & ID Cards
- Issues raised included the Chandigarh Administration's registration process for travel agents. Members also discussed introducing official ID cards for all TAAI members to strengthen recognition and credibility.



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TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter Collaborative Workshop with VFS Global Witnesses Strong Member Turnout

The TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter conducted a Visa Insights Workshop titled 'Let's Get on to the Same Page' at the Lemon Tree Hotel in Pune on August 2, 2025. This special program was designed for top visa consultants and industry leaders, featuring a collaborative session with the VFS Team.



Key Highlights of the Event:

Excellent Attendance: The event saw participation from approximately 40 members of the chapter, along with 16 VFS team members, including Ms. Anahita, South Asia Head for Marketing, and Pune Manager Ms. Shanaya Mehta.

TAAI Leadership at the Forefront: The TAAI team was led by Mr. Amish Desai, Chairperson of the Allied Services Council, Chapter Chairperson Mr. Mehboob Shaikh, and Hon. Secretary Mr. Yazdi Marker. Their active involvement paved the way for an informative and well-structured dialogue.

Focused and Engaging Discussions: The session covered embassy protocols and VFS procedures in detail. TAAI members highlighted challenges faced by applicants and engaged in an animated discussion.

Moderation and Appreciation: Mr. Amish Desai effectively moderated the session, ensuring a productive exchange of ideas and knowledge sharing. The Chapter office bearers felicitated the entire VFS Team. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Chapter Chairperson Mr. Mehboob Shaikh who expressed gratitude to all the attendees for their active participation.





Annual General Meeting Held Successfully

The TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter conducted its Annual General Meeting at Hotel Shreyash, Pune. As this was a non-election year, the agenda included only the Chairperson's Report and passing of accounts. The meeting was followed by high tea at the centrally located venue, making it convenient for members to attend.

Presenting his report at the meeting, Chairperson Mr. Mehboob Shaikh spotlighted TAAI's achievements at both the national and Chapter level. He proudly announced a milestone - the TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter has crossed 100 members for

the first time. Since October 2024, the Chapter has hosted seven meetings and three major events, including the much-anticipated annual TAAI Cricket Tournament and the VFS Workshop. With activities stepping up to the next level, the Chapter is drawing more members eager to engage with and benefit from TAAI.

Hon. Treasurer Mr. Syed Zakir Hussaini presented the annual accounts statement, which was passed by the house without objections. This was followed by a Vote of Thanks delivered by Hon. Secretary, Mr. Yazdi Marker.



Business with Goodness is more than a theme - it is a responsibility. It has the power to reshape our sector by placing integrity, empathy, and responsibility at the heart of every transaction.

In our ever-changing world, travel is not just about movement or logistics; it is about creating impact with integrity. When we lead with goodness, we ensure that tourism becomes a force for peace, prosperity, and cultural understanding. Goodness is not just a value - it is the strength that ensures resilience and long-term success.

When we embrace goodness as a business principle, we not only safeguard consumer confidence but also ensure that our growth uplifts communities, protects our environment, and promotes harmony. This philosophy makes our sector resilient, future-ready, and truly global in spirit.

As a proud member of TAAI, our vision must be to build journeys that enrich communities, empower the agent fraternity, and inspire trust, thereby positioning India as a global leader in travel, tourism, and hospitality. True business success lies not just in growth, but in leaving behind a legacy of goodness.

Jay R. Bhatia

Managing Director, Tulsidas Khimji Holidays, Mumbai, India



TAAI Goa Chapter

Positive Approach to Tourism Development

The TAAI Goa Chapter held its Annual Members' Meeting on August 19, 2025 at Hotel Ginger Goa, Candolim, North Goa. Members braved the challenging weather conditions and torrential rains to attend the meeting - reflecting their commitment to the travel fraternity through TAAI.

The Chairperson's report outlined the various activities held during the past year. The Treasurer presented the financial report for the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 offering a clear view of the Chapter's fiscal health.

Key discussions focused on the challenges facing Goa's tourism sector, with particular emphasis on taxi rates and the pressing need for infrastructure development. Members reaffirmed their resolve to work together—with one spirit and one purpose—to contribute to a more positive and sustainable tourism landscape in the state.

The Hon. Secretary proposed the vote of thanks, and the meeting concluded with cocktails and dinner graciously hosted by Ginger, Candolim.



TAAI Goa Chapter Takes Key Step Toward Representation on Goa Tourism Board

On August 25, 2025, Chairperson Mr. Timoteo Luis Colaco, Hon. Secretary Sainath Krishna Prabhu, and Past Chairperson Mr. Nilesh Shah of TAAI's Goa Chapter met with Shri Kedar Naik, Director of the Goa Tourism Board, to formally seek TAAI's representation on the Board and handed over a letter in this regard.

Mr. Nilesh Shah, who had served as the Chairperson of the TAAI Goa Chapter during the formation of the Goa Tourism Board, recalled the circumstances that led to TAAI's non-inclusion and underlined the association's extensive national and international presence. Chairperson

Mr. Timoteo Luis Colaco and Hon. Secretary Sainath Krishna Prabhu further stressed how TAAI's inclusion would strengthen the Board by bringing in its wide network and deep industry expertise.

The Director assured the delegation that their request would be considered favorably and presented at the next meeting of the Goa Tourism Board. This development marks an important step for TAAI Goa in strengthening its role within the state's tourism ecosystem and reinforces the association's commitment to advancing Goa's tourism industry.





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Key Facts & Figures



Annual Capacity
45 million passengers



Total Commercial Space
35,000sqm



Hourly Capacity
11,000 passengers



Hotels
Over 200+ in Abu Dhabi, including 138-room AUHotel at Zayed International



Biometric Touchpoints
5 active, 9 by end of 2025



Proximity

- 30 minutes to downtown
- 30 minutes to Khalifa Port
- 4-hour flight from one-third of global population
- 8-hour flight from 80% of global population
- Frequent fliers within 4-hour flight: +500 million people



Retail & F&B
163 outlets



Dedicated Retail & F&B Space
+19,000sqm

Global Recognition

World's Most Beautiful Airport
Prix Versailles, December 2024

Fastest Growing Airport
by International Seat Capacity OAG, May 2024

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Abu Dhabi, since 2015

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2024 Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards

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TAAI Gujarat Chapter

Knowledge Sharing, Partnerships, and Culinary Journeys



Industry Insights and Destination Knowledge

On July 18, 2025, the TAAI Gujarat Chapter gathered at the Welcomhotel by ITC, Ahmedabad, for an engaging chapter meeting in collaboration with the Destination Management Company, Joy-N-Crew. The evening saw enthusiastic participation from agents and their teams, who came together for updates, learning, and camaraderie.

A detailed presentation by Joy-N-Crew on Japan and Kenya offered members a deeper understanding of the opportunities and experiences these markets hold.

The evening also included:

- Key updates were provided on the WoW Awards, honouring women who have made a lasting impact in the travel and tourism industry.
- Announcement of TAAI’s 75th anniversary celebrations and unveiling of the commemorative logo. Insights on ‘Rally for The Valley,’ an initiative to revive tourism in Kashmir, presented by National Treasurer Mr Paras Lakhia.
- Information on NAMASTAAI's printing and distribution, along with advertising opportunities for members, shared by Hon. Secretary General Mr. Shreeram Patel.

Adding a personal note to the gathering, Senior Member and Founder Chairperson Mr. Natubhai Shah reflected on TAAI’s origins in Gujarat, marking the milestone of the association’s 75th year with a sense of pride and continuity.

Malaysian Food Festival: A Taste of Cultural Exchange

On August 1, 2025, the TAAI Gujarat Chapter attended the Malaysian Food Festival in Ahmedabad at the invitation of Tourism Director Ms. Noria Jafar. Organised by the Malaysian Tourism Board, the event gave members a valuable opportunity to engage directly with tourism representatives and explore avenues for collaboration.

From live demonstrations by visiting chefs to discussions with Ms. Vivian Chu of the Accor Malaysia team, the festival blended professional dialogue with cultural immersion. A spirited performance by a Malaysian dance troupe added a flourish, making the event both enriching and enjoyable.



A Goa Sojourn: Fostering Connections Across Chapters

The Gujarat Chapter organised a two-night, three - day familiarisation trip to Goa. Hosted by chapter member Mr. Jayendrasinh Vaghela, owner of M/s. R. K. Voyagers, the trip offered members a chance to unwind, reconnect, and strengthen bonds.



In a show of collaboration, TAAI South Gujarat Chapter was invited to join the trip. Their active participation made the experience especially memorable. Through shared experiences and conversations, the Goa sojourn reinforced the sense of partnership that underpins TAAI's work.



TAAI J&K Chapter

Strengthening Tourism through Collective Vision and Collaborative Action

The TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter continues to play a vital role in supporting the tourism ecosystem of the Union Territory by actively engaging with its members, stakeholders, and government bodies. Over the past few months, the Chapter has undertaken several important initiatives that reaffirm its commitment to the sustainable growth and development of tourism in the region.



Annual Meeting

On August 19, 2025, the TAAI J&K Chapter convened its Annual Meeting, bringing together its office bearers and members to review progress, address challenges, and chart the course ahead.

Chairperson Mr. Sameer Ahmad Baktoo presented the Annual Report, which highlighted the following key points:

- Details of meetings and events attended on behalf of the Chapter.
- Proposals submitted to the authorities addressing various issues and concerns of members.
- Activities and initiatives conducted under the banner of TAAI J&K Chapter.

Updates on TAAI's 'Rally for The Valley' initiative. The session provided a forum for constructive dialogue and collective brainstorming, ensuring that the voices of local stakeholders were represented at both the regional and national levels.

The meeting concluded with an interactive session featuring Chief Guest Mr. Waseem Raja, Tourism Director, Kashmir, whose presence added valuable perspective to the discussions.





TAAI J&K at Gulmarg Development Authority Event

In line with its vision of collaborating with government agencies to promote tourism in the region, the Chapter participated in an event organised by the Gulmarg Development Authority. Office bearers and members contributed their expertise and ideas to strengthen Gulmarg’s reputation as one of India’s premier tourist destinations.



Engagement with the Governor and Chief Minister

The Chapter also had the privilege of meeting the Hon’ble Governor and the Hon’ble Chief Minister at SKICC to review the progress of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025. This dialogue provided an important opportunity to highlight the contributions of the travel trade, address concerns related to the pilgrimage, and share suggestions for enhancing the experience of devotees. The discussions underscored the government’s recognition of TAAI J&K as a key stakeholder in ensuring the smooth execution of large-scale tourism events in the Union Territory.



Looking Ahead

Through sustained dialogue with the government and active partnerships with stakeholders, the TAAI J&K Chapter remains committed to promoting tourism in Jammu and Kashmir, bolstering the travel industry, and contributing meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the region.





TAAI Karnataka Chapter

Imparting Knowledge through Meaningful Collaboration



Strategic Planning for the Term Ahead

The fourth meeting of the TAAI Karnataka Chapter was held on July 9, 2025, at The Park, Bengaluru. Members discussed upcoming initiatives for the 2024–2026 term and participated in a presentation by Mr. Gaurav Khandelwal, Director Sales – GRN USA DMC and GRN Connect. The meeting was well attended and served as a useful forum for planning and exchange of ideas.



TAAI-VFS Visa Insights Session

On August 9, 2025, the TAAI Karnataka Chapter, in collaboration with VFS Bengaluru, hosted the TAAI-VFS Visa Insights Session with the theme 'Let's Get on the Same Page' at the The Ananthar Rooms & Banquet, Bengaluru. Attended by about 50 participants, including TAAI members and officials from VFS Bengaluru, the session provided a platform for members to share concerns, exchange ideas, and gain valuable insights from the VFS team's presentation.

This initiative, rolled out across India by TAAI in collaboration with VFS, seeks to align visa heads of TAAI travel companies with VFS executives at Missions to streamline processes and ensure a seamless experience for customers submitting visa applications. The Karnataka session marked

yet another step towards strengthening collaboration, improving industry practices, and building a more informed travel community.





Fifth Chapter Meeting

The Chapter conducted its fifth meeting on August 19, 2025, at Radisson City Centre, Bengaluru. The session featured a presentation by Traversia Technology Pvt. Ltd., a leading travel technology company offering innovative solutions for TMCs to better serve their corporate clients. With around 25 members in attendance, the meeting proved engaging and productive.

Annual Members Meet

The Annual Members Meet of the TAAI Karnataka Chapter was also held on August 19, 2025, at Radisson City Centre, Bengaluru. The statutory agenda was successfully transacted, with all required approvals completed.



Business with Goodness

In the travel industry, our purpose goes beyond destinations. Operating with ethics, sustainability, and social responsibility at our core. We are committed to enriching lives, protecting the planet, and delivering long-term value to our travellers and communities. By fostering trust, cultural respect, and environmental stewardship, we create meaningful experiences proving that travel can be both impactful and responsible.

Kavitha

Manager, OneUS Travels Private Limited, Chennai, India



TAAI Kerala Chapter

Setting the Tone for Impactful Growth in Kerala’s Travel Industry

Wedding and MICE Conclave

On August 16, 2025, the TAAI Kerala Chapter, led by Chairperson Ms. Mariyamma Jose, and Hon. Secretary Ashraf Nellikunnan, participated in the Wedding & MICE Conclave organised by the Kerala Travel Mart, in Kochi. The seminar, ‘Sacred Vows & Scenic Views – Reimagining Destination Weddings in Kerala,’ highlighted the state’s potential as a premier wedding and MICE destination. The event facilitated meaningful interactions with agents from across the country and proved to be a highly successful platform for industry collaboration.



Annual Members Meet

The Annual Members Meeting of the TAAI Kerala Chapter was held on August 19, 2025, at The Mercy Luxury Business Hotel, Kochi, with strong participation from members across the state. The agenda included a review of the past year’s activities, discussions of key industry issues, and plans for the year ahead. Members engaged actively in the proceedings, reflecting the chapter’s unity and commitment to growth. The well-organised event concluded on a positive note with renewed enthusiasm for collaborative progress in Kerala’s travel industry.



Kerala Aviation Summit 2025

TAAI Kerala Chapter also participated in the Kerala Aviation Summit 2025 organised by Cochin International Airport (CIAL). The event was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan and attended by distinguished dignitaries. By joining the summit, TAAI Kerala Chapter reinforced its commitment to supporting government-led initiatives and promoting the state’s role in advancing aviation and tourism.



TAAI MP & CG Chapter

Blending Business with Heritage and Nature



Special Presentation on Japan & Kenya at the fourth Chapter Meeting

The fourth Chapter Meeting was successfully held on July 5, 2025, at Hotel Jardin, Indore. The event drew enthusiastic participation from members across Indore, Bhopal, Ujjain, and other cities, reinforcing strong regional engagement. The meeting also featured a well-received presentation on Japan and Kenya, which sparked keen interest in these picturesque destinations.

New plans of action were shared, and discussions on key industry issues and opportunities were taken up. The interactive evening concluded with networking over cocktails and dinner.



Go Green – The Chapter’s Tree Plantation Drive



The TAAI MP & CG Chapter organized a tree plantation drive on July 20, 2025. Responding to Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon’s clarion call not only to plant but also to nurture the saplings for long-term impact, members actively participated in the drive and adopted saplings.

This marks the seventh consecutive year of the Chapter’s commitment to this environmental initiative. The plantation drive underscores its dedication to protecting the environment for a better tomorrow.



TAAI MP & CG's Tadoba FAM Trip - Networking Amidst Nature

A memorable Familiarization Trip (FAM) was organized to Tadoba for members of the TAAI MP & CG Chapter. It was hosted by WelcomHeritage – Vanya Villas Resort & Spa. A group of 25 members, led by Chapter Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon, participated in the trip. The experience included a jungle safari, yoga sessions, nature walks, and fun-filled evenings. The FAM was thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees and provided a great platform for bonding and relaxation in a natural setting.



TAAI Punjab Chapter

Updates, Ideas, and Networking Mark a Productive Chapter Meeting

The TAAI Punjab Chapter held its official meeting on July 26, 2025, at Hotel President, Jalandhar. Chairperson Mr. G. S. Sekhon extended a warm welcome to Mr. Amit Balraj Bedi, Senior Manager, VFS Jalandhar and his team from VFS Delhi, as well as representatives from VFS Chandigarh and Jalandhar. The meeting saw an impressive turnout of nearly 20 members from Jalandhar and Amritsar, setting the stage for a meaningful exchange of updates and ideas.



Visa Updates from the VFS Team

Members benefited from timely insights as Mr. Amit Balraj Bedi (Senior Manager, VFS Jalandhar) briefed them on the latest developments. Mr. Sachin Thakur from VFS Chandigarh introduced himself and joined the dialogue, while Mr. Naveen and other colleagues addressed concerns raised by members - creating an atmosphere of open exchange and practical takeaways.



Focus on Membership Drive

The discussion also turned toward membership growth. Chairperson Mr. G. S. Sekhon proposed reaching out to IATA members not yet part of TAAI, with support from the Mumbai Secretariat. This targeted outreach, members felt, would add momentum to the Chapter's expansion.

VFS Referral Program

Hon. Secretary Mr. Paramjit Singh Bhatia, presented updates on the VFS Referral Program. Detailed information was later circulated via the Chapter's official WhatsApp group to help members register seamlessly. A gentle reminder was also issued for clearing pending membership fees.

Call for Amritsar Meeting

Members suggested hosting a future Chapter meeting in Amritsar — a move that would not only encourage broader participation but also strengthen regional engagement.

The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Hon. Secretary Mr. Paramjit Singh Bhatia, followed by high tea and lively networking.



TAAI Rajasthan Chapter

Driving Dialogues, Gaining National Spotlight and Celebrating the Spirit of India



TAAI-VFS Collaborative Session - 'Let's Get on the Same Page'

TAAI, in collaboration with VFS Global, successfully organized a focused interactive session in Jaipur on July 19, 2025 titled 'Let's Get on the Same Page'. The session drew enthusiastic participation from over 30 members of the TAAI Rajasthan Chapter. It marked an important step towards strengthening dialogue, building trust, and enhancing transparency in the visa facilitation services.

Senior representatives from the VFS teams in Delhi and Jaipur engaged with members, addressing concerns and providing valuable clarifications on procedural matters including documentation and letter formats. The open discussions helped bridge



operational gaps and gave members greater clarity and confidence in handling visa applications. The initiative was widely appreciated as a meaningful, member-focused effort by TAAI. A special note of thanks was extended to Chapter Chairperson Mr. Manoj Sogani and his team for ensuring the success of this collaborative event.

Chapter Chairperson on Doordarshan

In a proud moment, Chapter Chairperson Manoj Sogani was invited to Doordarshan for a live panel discussion on the impact of Jaipur being



ranked 5th among the 'World's Most Favourite Cities'. The debate featured eminent personalities including former Rajya Sabha member and Chairperson of the Rajasthan Heritage Protection and Promotion Authority Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat, and the Additional Chief Forest Officer of Rajasthan. His participation not only highlighted the city's global recognition but also positioned TAAI at the heart of the tourism dialogue on a national stage.

Strong Presence at the Sri Lanka Tourism Roadshow

Tourism Roadshows gain added significance with TAAI's involvement, a fact reaffirmed by the active participation of the TAAI Rajasthan Chapter in the Sri Lanka Tourism Roadshow in Jaipur. Treasurer Arvind Pareek was honoured as Chief Guest and performed the traditional lamp-lighting ceremony.

Annual General Meeting – Institutional Governance and Strategic Review



The TAAI Rajasthan Chapter convened its Annual General Meeting on August 19, 2025, at Hotel Gangaur, Jaipur. With the required quorum established, the Hon. Secretary Dashrath Singh Rathore formally called the proceedings to order, setting the stage for a comprehensive review of the chapter's progress.

Chairperson Manoj Sogani's extensive presentation chronicled the chapter's activities, strategic initiatives, and notable achievements during the term, providing members with a clear overview of the chapter's trajectory and accomplishments across various operational areas.

The audited financial statements for 2024–25 were presented to the assembly for thorough review. Following detailed examination and discussion, the accounts received unanimous approval from the membership, reflecting strong confidence in the chapter's financial management and transparency.

In accordance with organizational protocols, the complete AGM proceedings, including the minutes of the meeting, were formally submitted to the Hon. Secretary General for official records and institutional memory.

The meeting concluded efficiently with all agenda items successfully addressed. Chairperson Manoj Sogani expressed gratitude to all attendees for their active participation and continued commitment to the chapter's growth and success.

Independence Day: Pride, Patriotism, and Purpose

The TAAI Rajasthan Chapter celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great fervour. In a symbolic gesture of inclusivity, women from the tourism industry had the honour of hoisting the National Flag, followed by the National Anthem. The gesture underscored unity, empowerment, and the Chapter's enduring spirit of service to both nation and industry.





TAAI Saurashtra & Kutch Chapter

Sharpening Skills, Strengthening Governance

The TAAI Saurashtra & Kutch Chapter continues to prioritise member learning and organisational transparency, with July and August 2025 marked by two key engagements.



Spotlight on Training in Rajkot

On July 19, 2025, the Chapter convened its third meeting of the 2024–2026 term at Hotel Grand Regency, Rajkot. The meeting was devoted to knowledge-building, with an insightful product session by Asego Travel Insurance and a comprehensive presentation by VFS Global’s Ahmedabad team. The program was designed not only for members but also for one nominated visa staff representative from each agency, ensuring that the learnings would be carried directly into day-to-day operations.



Annual Meeting, Virtually Conducted

The Chapter’s Annual Meeting for 2024–2025 was held virtually on August 19, 2025. Chairperson Mr. Devan Shah presented his report on the year’s activities, which was received with appreciation by the members. Hon. Treasurer Mr. Amrutlal Thanki then tabled the Annual Accounts for the year ending March 31, 2025. After review and discussion, the accounts were unanimously adopted by the members present.



By balancing professional training with sound governance, the TAAI Saurashtra & Kutch Chapter reaffirmed its commitment to both strengthening the skills of its members and maintaining transparency in its operations — an approach that speaks to the Chapter’s steady growth and focus on the future.



Business with Goodness is about building trust-driven partnerships that go beyond profit, nurturing relationships that last and create shared value. In tourism, every interaction is an opportunity to spread empathy, respect, and cultural harmony. True growth comes when business uplifts communities, strengthen human connections, and contribute positively to society. Goodness in business is not just a choice - it is the foundation of sustainable success.

Keyur Gondalia

Proprietor, Royal Tours & Travels, Rajkot, Gujarat, India

TAAI South Gujarat Chapter

Strengthening Bonds, Expanding Horizons



Goa Fam Trip - Reconnection and Collaboration

The South Gujarat and Gujarat Chapters of TAAI came together from August 5-7, 2025, for a familiarisation trip at the Golden Tulip, Goa. The three-day gathering brought together 45 members (20 from South Gujarat and 25 from Gujarat), creating a valuable opportunity to reconnect and collaborate.

The program balanced professional exchange with leisure, as members explored the host property, discovered the city through sightseeing tours, and embraced Goa's famed 'Susegad.' Beyond the



itinerary, the trip provided an effective platform for strengthening relationships, encouraging collaboration, and setting the tone for sustained chapter growth.



Annual General Meeting - A Blend of Tradition and Innovation

On August 19, 2025, the South Gujarat Chapter held its Annual General Meeting in

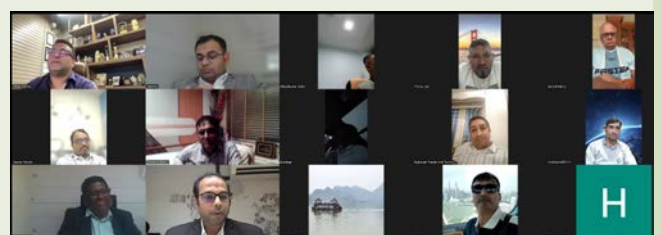
hybrid mode, ensuring participation both in person and virtually. This format respected members' time while broadening access, and was well received across the chapter.

Chapter Chairperson Mr. Vishal M. Shah presented a comprehensive review of the year's activities, including meetings at Daman, Vadodara, and Surat. He also highlighted some of the key decisions taken at these meetings, such as inviting Management Committee members to chapter meetings to strengthen industry engagement; promoting simplified membership enrolment under the guiding philosophy: 'More Members, More Business.' and encouraging members to adopt modern technologies, digital

tools, and CRM systems to keep pace with industry change.

The session placed particular emphasis on the 68th TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi, outlining benefits of participation, registration details, and opportunities to network with international airlines, tourism boards, and hospitality partners.

The open forum further addressed pressing concerns, such as evolving airline fare structures and the increasing importance of technology-driven solutions. The AGM closed on an optimistic note, with members reaffirming their commitment to collective progress and chapter growth.



Zimbabwe B2B Meeting - Surat as a Global Connector

On August 23, 2025, the South Gujarat Chapter participated in a high-profile B2B meeting organised by the Surat Chamber of Commerce, featuring the Ministry of Tourism, Zimbabwe. Held at the Sanhati Building, the event welcomed Hon. Tourism Minister of Zimbabwe, along with senior officials Mr. N. M. Ndlovu (Additional Director of Tourism) and Ms. Sophia Hope T. Chimba (Head of Zimbabwe Tourism).

TAAI South Gujarat had the privilege of felicitating the visiting dignitaries, and discussions centered on building stronger tourism and hospitality partnerships. Zimbabwe highlighted its wildlife, adventure tourism, and cultural heritage. Indian agents expressed interest in positioning the destination for niche markets such as wildlife enthusiasts, student groups, and luxury travellers.

The meeting underscored Surat's emerging role as a hub for international tourism collaborations, reinforcing the chapter's ability to connect global destinations with Indian stakeholders. Both sides concluded with a shared commitment to continued dialogue and future cooperation.



Business with Goodness



It's a long-awaited BUSINESS ETHIC which clearly determines an individual mindset who is a true Entrepreneur, Leader or Moderator between the entire travel trade. Supporting, Assisting and Collaborating are the key words. So let's go for it with TAAI 68th Convention at Abu Dhabi

Mrs. Jyoti Singh
CEO – Proprietor, Sailor Travel and Tours (India)

Business with goodness isn't just a mantra; it's a responsibility. Today, ethical practices and honoring trust form the basis of real relationships with clients. By embracing responsible tourism and caring for the environment and local communities, we set meaningful standards. When we come together and support each other, we help our industry progress and leave a truly positive mark on every destination.

Ashok Jain, Owner
Dial & Travel, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India



TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter

Dialogue, Development, and the Future of Tourism

In July 2025, the TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter placed both its members and the larger cause of regional tourism in sharp focus through a series of purposeful engagements in Madurai and Trichy.



Conversations in Madurai

The Chapter's fifth meeting for the 2024–2026 term was held on July 3, 2025 in Madurai, drawing members from across the region. The choice of an out-station venue infused fresh dynamism into the proceedings, encouraging greater participation and exchange. Two new members were introduced and welcomed into the fold, while the discussions that followed reflected the concerns and priorities of today's travel trade — from visa updates to broader industry trends. Beyond the formal agenda, the



gathering created space for meaningful networking, allowing members to share experiences and ideas in an atmosphere of camaraderie.

A Gesture of Recognition in Trichy

On July 10, 2025, the Chapter turned its attention to dialogue with the government. In Trichy, Chairperson Mr. S. P. Rajendran and Hon. Secretary Mr. M. Sheik Abdullah called on the District Collector Thiru V. Saravanan, I.A.S., felicitated him and presented him with a copy of the NAMASTAAI Magazine. The interaction was both symbolic and substantive — an acknowledgment of governance that plays a pivotal role in shaping tourism, and an opportunity to place key issues on the table. Among them: the need for regular transport services to accommodate the daily flow of pilgrims, and the development of infrastructure that can sustain and enhance temple tourism, a cornerstone of the region's visitor economy.



Marking an Annual Milestone

The Chapter convened its 16th Annual General Meeting during the month. Seventeen members were present as Chairperson Mr. S. P. Rajendran delivered the AGM report and the Hon. Treasurer Mr. P. Pathinathan presented the financial statements for 2024–2025. The reports were shared and discussed before the Hon. Secretary Mr. M. Sheik Abdullah brought the meeting to a close with a vote of thanks. While procedural in nature, the AGM reaffirmed



the Chapter's commitment to transparency, accountability, and collective progress.



TAAI UP & UK Chapter

Strategy, Dialogue, and Shared Purpose



Annual Members' Meet in Lucknow

Members of the TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter gathered at the Radisson Hotel, Lucknow on August 19, 2025 for the Annual General Meeting. The elegant setting provided a fitting backdrop for an agenda of reflection, review, and strategic planning.

The meeting opened with a warm address of welcome, before the Chapter Chairperson Ms. Hina Zaidi took the stage to present the Annual Activities Report. The year's milestones were laid out with clarity - from successful meetings to advocacy efforts - offering members a sense of both achievement and momentum.

The financial review followed, as the Hon. Treasurer Pradeep Kumar Roy walked members through the year's accounts. The detailed report gave members a clear view of the chapter's financial health and key transactions.

A highlight of the meeting was the discussion on

strategic priorities for the coming year. Members engaged actively, sharing perspectives and suggestions that will inform the chapter's roadmap. The dialogue underscored both the collective commitment of the membership and the importance of aligning local initiatives with TAAI's broader national vision.

The conversations spilled naturally into the networking breaks, where formal discussions gave way to candid exchanges over tea and coffee. It was in these moments that the collective spirit of the chapter was most visible - a group of professionals united by shared challenges, opportunities, and the determination to move forward together.

The meeting concluded with renewed energy and a shared sense of purpose - a reminder that, beyond reports and reviews, it is strategic clarity and collaboration that continue to drive the chapter forward.



As a proud TAAI active member since 2005, we strive to live and follow the principle of 'Deal with someone you can trust'. We, as a Travel Management Company consider our patrons as our 'partners in growth'. To ensure doing Business with Goodness, our activity and core philosophy should be - we acting as a responsible partner with empathy towards their vulnerabilities and establish such a solid trust that the underlying message of 'Without a Travel Agent You are on Your Own' gets ingrained in them.

Keep faith and you will reach the top.

P. Thomas Oommen

Managing Director, Thomas Travel Solutions Pvt Ltd., Vadodara, Gujarat. India

TAAI Vidarbha Chapter

Wild Encounters, Clear Vision, and the Spirit of Independence

Into the Wild at Tadoba

For the members of the TAAI Vidarbha Chapter, mid-July brought an unforgettable brush with the wild. On July 16 and 17, 2025, the chapter organised a FAM trip to the Tadoba–Andhari Tiger Reserve near Chandrapur - Maharashtra’s oldest and largest national park. Hosted by Tadoba Jungle Camps, the one-night stay was a seamless blend of hospitality and adventure.

The program opened with a presentation by General Manager Mr. Yash, highlighting the camp’s offerings, followed by an engaging talk by naturalist Mr. Naman, who traced the reserve’s diverse habitats and wildlife. But it was the dramatic tiger sighting at Junona Safari Gate that truly electrified the group - a thrilling moment that left every member with a story to carry home.



Annual Meeting in Nagpur

The TAAI Vidarbha Chapter’s Annual General Meeting for 2024-2025 was held on July 19, 2025, at Hotel Centre Point, Nagpur.

The Hon. Treasurer Tushar Mishrikotkar presented the financial report, while the Chairperson outlined the chapter’s activities and achievements. Hon. Secretary Rajendra Akolkar brought the proceedings to a close, followed by high tea - a fitting occasion for informal conversations and networking.

Independence Day at a Historic School

On August 15, 2025, the Vidarbha Chapter came together once more - this time to celebrate India’s 79th Independence Day at Sule High School in Dhantoli, Nagpur. Established in 1913 and inaugurated by the then British Governor, the school provided a poignant, historic setting for the flag-hoisting ceremony organised by Hon. Secretary Mr. Rajendra Akolkar.

As the tricolour rose against the backdrop of a pre-Independence institution, it underscored the inseparable bond between service to industry and service to nation.





BAPS Hindu Mandir

A Timeless Testament of Harmony

The BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi stands as a radiant symbol of tolerance, faith, and unity, strengthening the bond between the UAE and India.

Inspired by the blooming lotus, its architecture celebrates multicultural and multireligious harmony - offering peace, inspiration, and a divine connection for all.

On behalf of the BAPS Hindu Mandir, Abu Dhabi, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) as it celebrates its landmark 68th Convention & Exhibition in the vibrant city of Abu Dhabi.

For over seven decades, TAAI has not only connected people to places but has also woven together cultures, communities, and hearts. As you now embark on the historic 75th year, the theme 'Business with Goodness' beautifully reflects the timeless values the world needs today - peace, empathy, kindness, and service.



When the heart of business beats in harmony with goodness, growth gains a soul. It ceases to be merely the work of architects of progress and becomes the art of building a world rooted in peace and harmony. May this convention inspire every delegate to blend success with selflessness, ambition with altruism, and innovation with integrity.

We sincerely thank **Mr. Sunil Kumar, President of TAAI**, whose warmth, vision, and personal commitment have been a guiding force in making the 68th TAAI Convention in Abu Dhabi a reality. His inspiring leadership and tireless dedication have ensured that every detail reflects the spirit of 'Business with Goodness.'

We extend our sincere gratitude to **Mr. Zubin Karkaria of VFS** for his unwavering support and invaluable inspiration. Mr. Zubin's profound insights, rooted in values and goodness, have not only shaped this year's theme 'Business with Goodness' but also inspired us to make the BAPS Hindu Mandir visit a meaningful highlight for all delegates.

From the timeless sanctuary of the BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi, we offer our prayers that this convention becomes a milestone of inspiration, collaboration, and positive transformation for the global travel, tourism, and hospitality industry.

Swami Brahmviharidas

Head, BAPS Hindu Mandir, Abu Dhabi





History & Vision: From Prayer to Reality

On 5 April, 1997, in Sharjah’s desert sands, His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj prayed for peace among nations and envisioned a Mandir in Abu Dhabi to bring countries, cultures, and faiths together.

Nearly three decades later, under the leadership of His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj - the Mandir’s creator and inspiration - the vision rose from the desert into reality as the Middle East’s first traditional Hindu stone temple.

H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan praised its legacy:
“Many people make promises, but only a few deliver. You have delivered more than you promise. This Mandir will be one of the wonders of the world, like the pyramids - and even more.”



Features & Significance: BAPS Hindu Mandir, Abu Dhabi

A spiritual and cultural marvel for every traveller

Here are the key highlights every visitor should explore:

The Harmony Wall

- One of the largest 3D-printed walls in the UAE.
- Length: 45m | Height: 4.5m | 225 layers
- Its flowing curves represent desert dunes, adorned with miniature metallic landmarks from East to West, symbolizing how great civilizations thrived on harmony.



The Fairytale Immersive Show

- A 13-minute 360° experience using 20 high-tech projectors.
- Unfolds the story of the Mandir's creation like a living fairytale, projected across four walls and the floor for a truly immersive journey.



Abhishek Mandap

A sacred space honouring:

- Bhagwan Swaminarayan and BAPS spiritual gurus
- River Saraswati, India's holy rivers, the world's major rivers, and sands from all seven emirates of the UAE
- Tribulus Omanense (UAE's national flower), dates, and sacred elements of nature



Main Mandir (Nij Mandir)

- Seven pinnacles (Shikhars), each crowned with Kalashes and Dhawaja, represent the seven emirates of the UAE.
- Stone carvings depict inspiring stories from Ramayan, Mahabharat, Shrimad Bhagvat, Shiva Puran, and Swaminarayan texts.
- Thousands of sculpted figures of flora and fauna including cows, elephants, peacocks, camels, oryx, falcons, and more, celebrating India's and Arabia's natural beauty.



Value Tales from Past & Present Civilizations

Carvings narrate values from 14 great civilizations: African, American, Arabian, British, Chinese, Dutch, Egyptian, Emirati, Greek, Indian, Inuit, Mayan, Mesopotamian, and Native America



Dome of Harmony & Dome of Peace

- Dome of Harmony: Celebrates the five elements - earth, water, fire, air, and space - shared by all humanity.
- Dome of Peace: The central dome, symbolizing peace as the essence of life, sculpted by 12 artisans over one year.



Amphitheatre

- Inspired by the Varanasi ghats of India.
- Evening arti ceremonies mirror the spiritual grandeur of the Ganga Arti at Haridwar.



Indian Value Stories

Fifteen stories—from the ancient Panchatantra to Pramukh Swami Maharaj's historic prayer - reflect the virtues of Indian culture and spirituality.



Sustainability Highlights

- Eco-friendly foundation: Natural sandstone layer, no steel piles used.
- Local sand sourced directly, cutting transport emissions.
- 3,000 m³ concrete pour with 55% fly ash for sustainability.
- Bamboo, glass, and 300+ sensors for structural safety and efficiency.
- Repurposed wooden pallets turned into furniture for the Mandir.

“The BAPS Hindu Mandir is for all of humanity. It will usher in a new age of faith and hope, bringing the whole world together in harmony and collaboration.”

~ **Narendra Modi**
Prime Minister of India

“It marks the beginning of something special which will serve as both a place of worship and as a community centre for all. “

~ **HE Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan**
Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, UAE

“The mandir is truly unimaginable, incredible and indescribable that words alone cannot define. People often say that stones don’t speak and are lifeless. But here, even stones can speak. It is foundational milestone in the revival of Indian Culture.”

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
Minister of Culture and Tourism,
Govt. Of India



“It really is probably one of the most breathtaking things I’ve ever seen. Everybody of all faiths and no faith that wish to come here, feel the love and succour that it brings.”

~ **Julia Simpson**
President and CEO,
World Travel & Tourism Council

EVENTS

BAPS Hindu Mandir Welcomes Defence Attachés of over 20 Nations

The BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi welcomed the New Year by hosting Defence Attachés, dignitaries, and families from over 20 embassies in a celebration of Unity, Diversity and Harmony. Delegates offered prayers for world peace, experienced the Fairy Tale immersive show, and admired the Mandir’s intricate architecture and cultural narratives.



Ambassadors & Diplomats from 90+ Nations Visit BAPS Hindu Mandir, Abu Dhabi, UAE

More than 90 ambassadors and senior diplomats have visited the 27-acre BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi. Warmly welcomed with traditional rituals, the dignitaries have witnessed the Mandir’s intricate carvings and timeless artistry, blending ancient tradition with modern science.





OMSIYYAT

During the holy month of Ramadan, BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi hosts 'Omsiyat: An Interfaith Cultural Evening', bringing together leaders and community members from diverse faiths. Esteemed UAE dignitaries, including HE Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, grace the event alongside religious leaders from the Jewish, Christian, and Baha'i communities.

#help100 Campaign

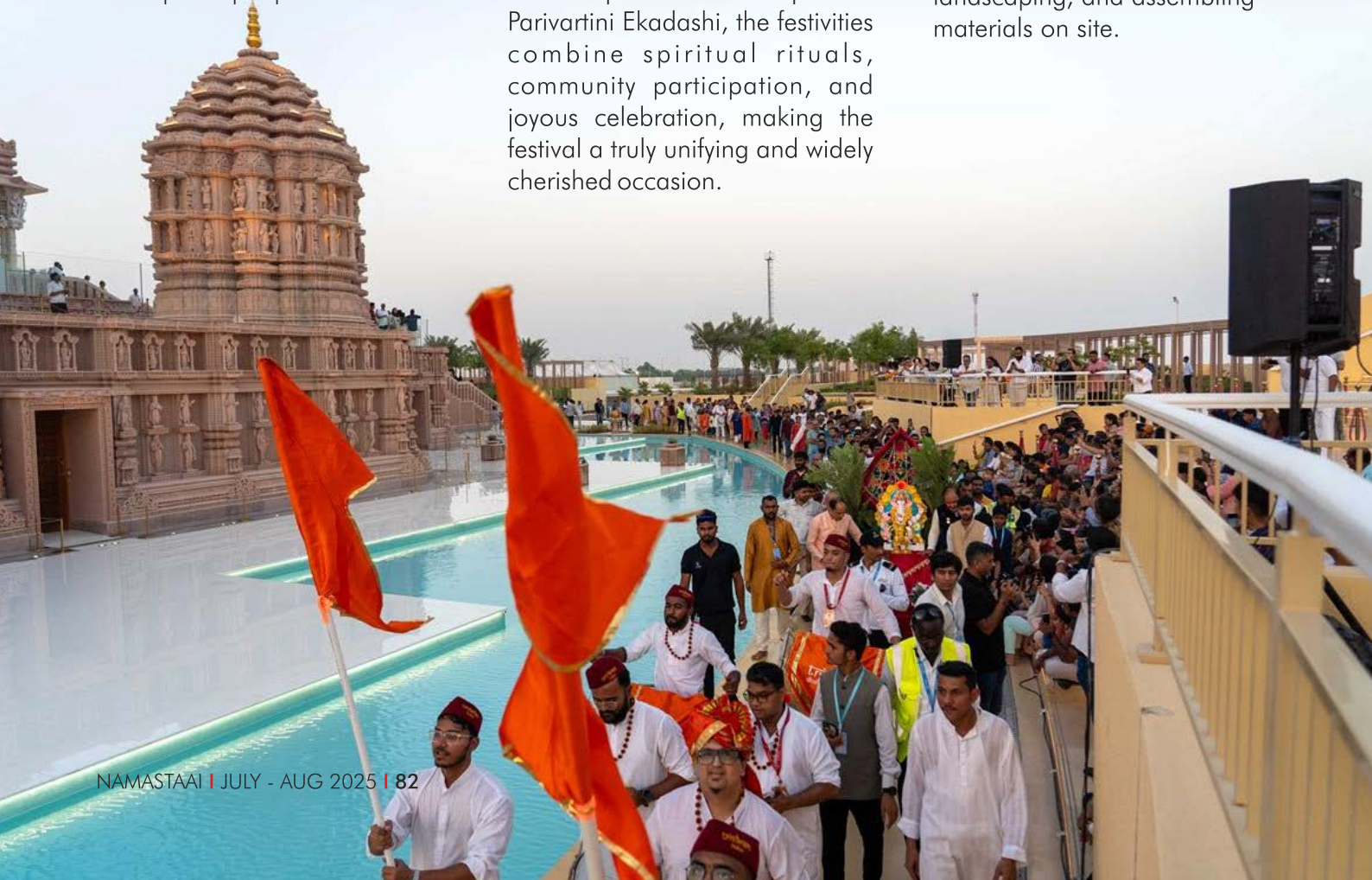
The #help100 campaign was a social initiative by the BAPS Hindu Mandir in Abu Dhabi. This campaign encouraged people to perform acts of service and share their experiences to inspire others to help 100 people.

Ganesh Chaturthi

The week-long Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations at the BAPS Hindu Mandir brings together thousands of devotees in a vibrant display of devotion and cultural richness. From the ritual shapana of Shri Ganeshji to the Visarjan on Parivartini Ekadashi, the festivities combine spiritual rituals, community participation, and joyous celebration, making the festival a truly unifying and widely cherished occasion.

Volunteer Initiative

- Thousands of volunteers dedicated their time and skills, from managing logistics to assisting artisans.
- Volunteers helping in stone carving, cleaning, landscaping, and assembling materials on site.



A warm welcome to our new members

The strength of any industry lies in its ability to welcome fresh perspectives and new talent. We are delighted to introduce the newest members of our ever-growing TAAI family. As the nodal body of the travel and tourism industry for over seven decades, TAAI has cultivated a network that transforms business relationships into lasting partnerships. Our newest members join a prestigious community of industry leaders who share our commitment to innovation, quality, and sustainable growth in tourism. We not only represent our members' interests, but offer them hand-holding and upgrades.

Our membership includes companies and organizations involved with Travel - aviation, airlines, tourism boards, government authorities, hospitality, hotels and resorts, training, technology and allied services. This diversity creates a powerful ecosystem where collaboration breeds success.

We have three categories of Members. Active, Branch Associates and Allied for organizations, agencies, companies and authorities - each tailored to different business models and aspirations. Our doors remain open to international partners through our overseas membership program, reflecting our global outlook and reach.

Applications are received online at 'travelagentsofindia.com' or at 'taai.in'

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE AGENCY	CITY	REPRESENTATIVE I	REPRESENTATIVE II
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02	STU Holidays Private Limited T/A Vivance Travels	Chennai	Mr. Venkatesh Subramani	Mrs. Ramya A.
03	Vivance Travels Private Limited,	New Delhi	Mr. Abhimanyu Kumar	Mr. Deepak Kumar
04	Unity Tours & Forex Private Limited	Rajkot	Mr. Girishkumar Manoharlal Bhattad	Mr. Arvind Bhattad
05	Amruta Trips	Rajkot	Mr. Badal J. Lunagariya	Mr. Nil J. Lunagariya
06	Aarvi Holidays LLP	Rajkot	Mr. Vimal J. Mungra	Mr. Dhaval J. Mungra
07	Aniket Tours And Travels	Aurangabad	Mr. Aniket Ravindra Mule	
08	Bliss Travel House	Pune	Mr. Nileshkumar Sonar	Mrs. Gayatri Sonar
09	Fortune Connect Holidays Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	Mr. Dharmesh Nandkumar Punjabi	Mr. Vedant Dharmesh Punjabi
10	Arna Global Enterprises Private Limited	Rajkot	Mr. Brij Jagdish Sagparia	Mr. Ilaben Jagdishbhai Sagparia
11	Meghdoot Travels	Valsad	Mr. Ashish Ranchhodhbhai Patel	Mr. Ankurkumar Ashokbhai Patel
12	Hollyatra Tours And Travels Private Limited	Gurgaon	Ms. Pinki Sharma	Mr. Akhil Chandra
13	Tour Studio Private Limited	New Delhi	Mrs. Roma Rani	Mr. Jitendra Kumar
14	For You Holidays	Ujjain	Mr. Chandan Panchal	Mrs. Deepa Panchal
15	Dream Tours	Rajkot	Mr. Jignesh V. Ghaghada	Mr. Samir Dhakan
16	Veer Travel Agency	Navsari	Mr. Mineshkumar Dayalbhai Patel	Mrs. Nitixa Mineshkumar Patel
17	MIH Thematic Trails Private Limited, T/A MAKE IT HAPPEN	Goa	Ms. Maria Victor	Mr. Murali Shankaran
18	Assam Holidays	Guwahati	Mrs. Shikha Agarwala	Mr. Amit Agarwal
19	J Square Tours And Travels	Ahmedabad	Mr. Jatin Paghadal	Mr. Jayesh Kikani
20	Krish Tours & Travels	Ahmedabad	Mr. Nirav D. Patel	Mr. Manoj Patel
21	Trip Airpe Private Limited	Jaipur	Mr. Nitin Bairathi	Mr. Chandra Prakash Sharma
22	Hello Asia Travel Company Limited, T/A Hello Asia Travel Co., Ltd.	Vietnam	Mrs. Nguyen Thi Hong Hanh	Mr. Siddhesh Rane
23	Travelopedia International Private Limited	Guwahati	Mr. Raman Agarwal	Mr. Priyankush Borah
24	Parekh Holidays	Navsari	Mr. Gaurav Parekh	Ms. Anugna Soni
25	Runway Travels	Gorakhpur	Mr. Syed Zafar Iqbal Rizvi	Mr. Firoz Iqbal



TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA Online Membership Portal Launched!



A great way to join TAAI! Apply Online | Endorsed Online | Approved Online

TAAI - India's largest, oldest and nodal association in the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry, on its journey to the 75 Years of TAAI launches its newest initiative—TAAI Online Membership Portal to admit new members to TAAI.

- **Active:** (IATA accredited Travel Agencies/Tour operators)
- **Allied Associates (Authorities):** Airlines, Hotels, National Tourism Organizations/Representatives of NTOs (National & Global), Insurance Companies
- **Allied Associates:** Travel Agencies, Tour Operators, MICE Organizers, Technology Companies, Media, DMCs (National), Educational Institutions, etc.
- **Branch Associates:** (Active & Allied)
- **Overseas Associates:** Overseas located Travel Agencies, Tour Operators, DMCs, CRS, Cruise Companies, Educational Institutions, etc.
- **Government Associates:** Central & State Tourism Departments; Departments of Foreign Governments, similar organizations.

Our online platform supports quicker disposal of membership applications.

Start your membership application by pasting this on the browser:
<https://registration.travelagentsofindia.com/v1/registration>

Or log on to www.taai.in to be guided to the TAAI Online Membership Portal.

For any queries, email membership@taai.in

Germany long-term visa applicants in Bengaluru and Kochi can now get expert guidance to complete their Consular Services Portal submission smoothly and accurately



VFS Global, the world’s leading outsourcing and technology service specialist for governments and diplomatic missions worldwide, has launched its optional CSP Assistance Service for German student and vocational training visa applicants in Bangalore and Kochi to provide seamless support with registration and submission on the Consular Services Portal <https://digital.diplo.de/visa>

Applicants requiring support with the CSP process can book an appointment and visit the centre for step-by-step assistance with registration, help completing the online application form, and guidance on scanning and uploading required documents. VFS Global is the only official and authorised provider of this service.

Yummi Talwar, Chief Operating Officer - South Asia, VFS Global, said, "Many applicants are unfamiliar with online visa application processes and often rely on unauthorised third parties that charge exorbitant fees to complete tasks such as CSP registration, form filling, document scanning, and uploading. To ensure a secure, affordable, and accessible alternative, VFS Global has introduced an optional assistance service at the Visa Application Centre (VAC) designed to assist applicants in navigating the CSP platform with ease."

Four simple steps to complete your CSP process

Step 1 – Book an appointment

Click on <https://digital.diplo.de/visa> to book this service. Once applicants have filled in their details, they will be contacted by a member of VFS Global staff within one working day, except on public holidays.

Step 2 – Confirm appointment

A VFS Global team member will contact applicants to discuss their requirements and document prerequisites. They will then receive confirmation for their appointment.

Step 3 – Visit the Visa Application Centre

At the Visa Application Centre, experienced VFS Global staff will scan all relevant documents and guide applicants through the CSP registration, application form and document upload at a dedicated counter. Applicants will use their own email address and contact details to create an account and set a password. VFS Global staff will not have access to the applicants’ login credentials, ensuring that they retain full ownership of their applications with no risk of unauthorised modifications.

Step 4 – Review the application before submission

Applicants can review their applications, acknowledge all declarations on the CSP, and submit the application

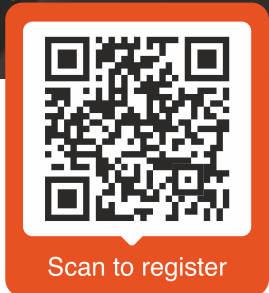
After completing the CSP Assistance service at the centre, the application will be reviewed on the CSP on a first-in, first-out basis. Once the application has been reviewed on the CSP, applicants can book an appointment on the VFS Global website for the biometric submission at the VAC.

The CSP Assistance service is optional and comes at an additional cost. The service has no bearing on expediting applicants’ visa process or favourable decision - making.

For more information, please visit <https://visa.vfsglobal.com/ind/en/deu/>.

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This optional service is known as **On-Demand Mobile Visa (ODMV)** for UK visas, and **Visa At Your Doorstep (VAYD)** for Schengen visas.



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23 Years Since Inception	69 Client Governments	165 Countries of Operation	3,995 Application Centres	Over 499 Million Applications Processed	Over 211 Million Biometric Enrolments	Over 17,800 Employees	165 Nationalities	
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Disclaimer: please note this service is currently offered for select countries. Availability and service charge for above mentioned service may vary depending upon the country/location where it is procured. The choice of location for availing the service may vary depending on the concerned Embassy. The grant or refusal of the visa is at the sole discretion of the Embassy and availing above value-added service will not affect the processing time or decision of your Visa as VFS Global is neither involved in the process nor is liable or responsible in any manner whatsoever for the grant or rejection of the visa application of any customer by the Embassy. For further information on the same, kindly refer to the VFS Global website. The above-mentioned service is optional and will be charged in addition to the visa application fee. The customer hereby accepts and confirms that they, prior to availing the above-mentioned service, have read, understood, and agreed to be bound by, without limitations or qualification, all of the terms and conditions associated with the service. | Statistics as on 30 June 2025.

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- ✓ **Notification Service** for real-time SMS updates
- ✓ **Document Upload Assistance** for speedy scanning preparation to save you time

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