

TAAI's TRAVEL & TOURISM INITIATIVE

NAMASTAAI

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SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF LEGACY, CARRIED FORWARD BY 1,250 MEMBERS

**CELEBRATING
OUR HERITAGE**

**SECURING
OUR FUTURE**



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THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

It is aptly said by Mahatma Gandhi: "A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people." The same holds true for TAAI.

For 75 years, TAAI has been shaped by its members. Our strength, values, reputation, and leadership have been nurtured by generations of professionals who believed in unity, service, and collective progress.

Our heritage gives us roots. Our vision gives us wings. Legacy is the bridge between the two.

We proudly honour members who have journeyed with TAAI for over 10, 25, 40, 50, 60, and even 70 years. Their dedication and belief have helped build one of India's most respected and enduring travel industry institutions. Legacy is not measured by years alone. It is measured by what we build, preserve, and pass on.

Every generation of TAAI leadership has strengthened the Association in its own way. Some built its reputation, others expanded its influence, while many devoted their time and expertise to advancing the interests of the travel and tourism fraternity. Together, they created a foundation strong enough to support the aspirations of future generations.

It is in this spirit that TAAI's acquisition of its new Headquarters

LEGACY IN BRICK AND VISION

**Built on
Heritage.
Driven by Vision.
Dedicated to
the Future.**



in Mumbai becomes one of the most significant milestones of our 75th year.

How excited we are today! A legacy built over 75 years has found a new home - a home that itself becomes a legacy for the future.

Our new Headquarters is far more than a larger and modern office space. It is a symbol of continuity, confidence, and progress. It reflects the strength of an Association that has stood the test of time and continues to invest in generations yet to come.

This is where future leaders will gather, exchange ideas, shape industry policies, build partnerships, engage with members, and help chart new directions for our industry.

The new Headquarters stands as a lasting reminder that the greatest legacy of any institution is not what it achieves for itself, but what it leaves behind for those who follow.

The belief that the best is yet to come has always inspired visionaries to look beyond achievements and pursue greater horizons. As we celebrate our heritage and this remarkable milestone, let us embrace the opportunities ahead. The future belongs to those who dare to imagine it, shape it, and build it together.

We can. We shall. Together, we will.

Sunil Kumar R

President

sunilkindia@gmail.com

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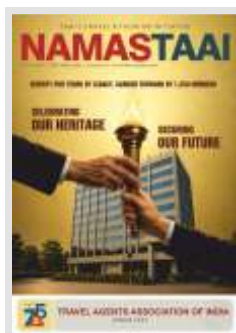
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TAAI TUTELAGE

ABOUT THE COVER

A flame never diminishes by lighting another. This edition's cover captures the essence of TAAI at seventy-five - a living legacy, passed with purpose from one generation to the next. Behind every handover stands a community built across every corner of India's travel and tourism ecosystem: the true keepers of the flame.



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TAAI Office Bearers in Action



Namaskar!
TAAI has seen the highest level of activities in the past few months across its 20

Regions and Chapters. Members have engaged themselves in their respective region and chapter meetings, roadshows, educational sessions. This level of engagement reflects the strength of an Association that remains connected at all levels.

This is happening at a time when the global travel environment continues to shift, whether through operational disruptions, changing traveller behaviour or market uncertainty. In spite of all the challenges, travel and tourism industry continues to move forward though dialogue, collaboration and adaptability.

TAAI marks its 75th Year, since its founding in 1951, this is a timely reminder of the role the Association plays in keeping the industry informed, represented and connected. It is the collective participation of our Regions/Chapters and specially all Members that gives TAAI its strength and keeps our fraternity moving forward with a focused vision and purpose.

Managing Committee of TAAI in whom the Members of reposed their faith, have been working tirelessly to ensure that Members interests are protected. Many new developments are being planned to make this Association stronger, relevant and dynamic in this everchanging world. Let us collectively celebrate our 75th Year!

Regards
Bettaiah Lokesh
Vice President



Travel continues to evolve with today's ever changing environment.

What remains constant is our adaptability and optimism that keeps redefining our industry's way forward.

As TAAI celebrates 75 remarkable years, we look ahead not only with pride in our legacy, but with renewed purpose and confidence in the opportunities before us.

As TAAI, we remain committed to strengthening member engagement, advocating on key industry matters, and creating meaningful platforms for collaboration and growth.

During our ambitious calendar of programmes across India between July and September, we seek higher levels of member engagement.

This milestone year must be both celebratory and purposeful.

Let us continue to move forward together, shaping a stronger and more connected future for the travel industry.

Best Wishes,
Shreeram Patel
Hon Secretary General - TAAI



India's travel sector continues to demonstrate strong momentum,

driven by economic growth, enhanced infrastructure, and increasing demand for travel experiences.

While global travel markets continue to face uncertainties arising from economic pressures and regional conflicts, the demand for international travel remains resilient. As always, the strength of our industry lies in its ability to adapt, evolve, and move forward with confidence.

The first quarter of 2026 has been both active and productive, with several important initiatives undertaken by TAAI, including our landmark 75 Years celebrations, the Joint Bank Guarantee Program supporting over 350 TAAI agencies, Managing Committee Meetings, and strategic partnerships with B2B stakeholders, among others.

Let us continue to work together in strengthening TAAI further — making it larger, more impactful, and increasingly purposeful for the benefit of our members and the Industry at large.

Warm Regards,
Paras Lakhia
Hon. Treasurer
Uniglobe Utopia Travel [om](https://uniglobeutopia.com)

From Heritage To Horizon

Building a Legacy Beyond Generations

TAAI's New Secretariat Premises At Mumbai

Legacy is where gratitude for the past meets responsibility for the future.

It connects the dedication of those who built TAAI, the strength of its 75-year heritage, and a new Headquarters that carries the legacy forward for generations to come.

Every institution experiences defining moments that shape its future. For TAAI, the acquisition of its new Headquarters in Mumbai during its landmark 75th year is one such milestone.

For decades, TAAI has strengthened the travel and tourism fraternity through leadership, advocacy, knowledge-sharing, and industry engagement. Throughout that journey, one principle has remained constant: every generation should leave the Association stronger than it inherited it. The new Headquarters is a reflection of that commitment.

More than a larger office, it is a permanent asset for TAAI - a strategic investment that will support members for decades to come. It reflects confidence in the future, faith in the enduring relevance of our Association, and a commitment to supporting the next generation of leaders as they guide TAAI forward.

Strategically located near Mumbai's international airport, the new Headquarters has been envisioned as a hub for collaboration, dialogue, learning, and leadership. It is a space where ideas will be exchanged, partnerships strengthened, and new opportunities created. Most importantly, it is an asset that belongs to every member of TAAI - present and future.



As we celebrate 75 years of achievement, we are equally mindful of our responsibility to prepare TAAI for the years ahead. This milestone is not merely about acquiring a building. It is about stewardship - preserving institutional strength, enhancing capability and creating opportunities for future generations.

Those before us laid the foundation upon which TAAI stands today. It is now our privilege to contribute to that continuing journey.

As we look ahead with confidence and purpose, our new Headquarters stands as a visible reminder that the most meaningful legacies are not simply inherited; they are consciously built and carefully passed forward.

Congratulations to all TAAI Members. We now have a new home. A lasting edifice. A legacy beyond generations.

Legacy Beyond Numbers

Built On Trust. Carried Across Generations.

In this cover story President Sunil Kumar shares his belief that a true legacy is built through quality leadership and values such as humility, compassion, responsibility, and respect being carried forward across generations.

NAMASTAAI must meaningfully add value to our members and their teams. We must collectively and consistently position TAAI beyond numbers, benefits, and competition - is what he maintains. TAAI represents a culture and shared responsibility that should positively influence the way we think, lead, and conduct our businesses with purpose, credibility, and commitment.

Legacy is not what we leave behind for people.

Legacy is what we leave behind in people

Legacy is not merely inheritance. It is the continuation of values, trust, culture, reputation, relationships and contributions across generations.

In a rapidly changing world, marked by differing opinions, independent positions, and evolving perspectives, legacy becomes even more meaningful. It creates continuity amidst change, preserves values amidst uncertainty, and builds respect beyond differences.

A true legacy is not created overnight. It is earned across generations:

- When values are protected without compromise.
- When trust is strengthened through decades of credibility.
- When traditions continue to guide progress.
- When leadership inspires confidence, respect, and continuity.
- When future generations proudly choose to carry the journey forward.

For TAAI, legacy is not merely about longevity.

As the Association marks its 75th year, the focus is not simply on the passage of time. It is reflected in the quality of leadership demonstrated, the strength of representation upheld, and the trust earned across generations.

TAAI's greatest pride lies in its members.

A deeper reflection within ourselves can perhaps inspire us to invest even more meaningfully in our businesses, our families, and the values we wish to carry forward.



Legacy is not measured merely by the number of years a business survives. *Legacy is measured by the values that survive through generations.*

Many who began their journeys decades ago are today far more than companies or travel agencies. Through goodwill, credibility, consistency and service, they have evolved into respected institutions built on trust, relationships and reputation. This is true wealth.

Today, TAAI is privileged to count more than 1,250 Heritage Members among its ranks. Five members have completed over 70 years of association, seventeen have crossed the 60-year milestone, and around fifty have completed more than 50 years. A further 1,100 members fall within the 40+, 25+ and 10+ year categories.

These milestones represent far more than years of membership. They reflect enduring commitment, resilience, credibility and relationships nurtured over decades.

As Benjamin Franklin famously observed, "If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth writing."

True legacy is created through meaningful contributions, purposeful actions and the lives we positively influence - not merely through what we leave behind materially.

This cover story is dedicated to TAAI's Milestone Achievers. Members who have journeyed with the Association for over 70, 60, 50, 40, 25 and 10 years represent the enduring strength, commitment and culture that have shaped TAAI across generations. Their journeys form an important part of the Association's continuing legacy.

Voices of Legacy

Reflections from TAAI's Heritage Members

The TAAI was founded by a small group of like-minded Agents in 1951 under the aegis of my late father Nariman Katgara who was the Founder President. In 2001 being TAAI's Golden Jubilee, I was honoured to have been elected as its President.

Ever since its inception and more so, today, TAAI has played a most significant role in protecting the interest of Indian Travel Agents and Tour Operators. Whether it is the airlines, hotels, Government Departments, Chambers of Commerce, etc., the views of TAAI are always requested for and well respected, and TAAI is always represented on these bodies by their senior representatives.

~ **Jehangir Nariman Katgara**

Past President – TAAI
TBI – Chairman & Managing Director

Trade Wings Limited is one of India's oldest and largest travel and tourism conglomerates, having evolved from a pioneering 1949 travel agency into a diversified corporation. We are a long-standing active member of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI).

As the country's premier trade association TAAI has strong business principles. TAAI's main aim is the development of the travel and tourism industry in India. They arrange tour programmes, seminars and conventions to educate members to face challenges.

We at Trade Wings are very proud to be associated with TAAI over decades and truly appreciate their continued support to all TAAI members.

~ **Dr Shailendra P. Mittal**

Chairman & MD
Trade Wings Ltd, Mumbai (1957 – 70th Year)

We are a fourth generation company, which started its business 98 years ago during 1928.

Heartiest congratulations to the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) on the remarkable milestone of completing 75 glorious years of dedicated service to the travel and tourism industry. TAAI's unwavering commitment, leadership, and contribution towards strengthening the travel fraternity have played a pivotal role in shaping the growth of tourism in India and across the globe.

Over these seven and a half decades, TAAI has stood as a pillar of trust, unity, professionalism, and excellence for travel agents and the entire tourism ecosystem.

~ **Rakesh Ramnani**

Director, Sales & Leisure
Vensimal World Travel Agents Pvt. Ltd
(1962 – 65th Year)

A third generation travel company, we are incredibly proud of our 60+ year association with TAAI. Witnessing and contributing to TAAI's remarkable 75-year journey has been an absolute honour for our organization. TAAI has truly been a cornerstone of the travel and tourism industry, guiding us all through changing generations and shifting landscapes.

The theme of 'Legacy' for this edition of NAMASTAAI is incredibly fitting. Our long-standing bond with TAAI is a testament to shared values, resilience, and growth, and we look forward to carrying this legacy forward into the future.

Congratulations to the entire TAAI leadership and team on reaching this glorious 75-year milestone! We look forward to many more years of successful collaboration.

~ **K.C. Chandrahasan**

Vice Chairman
Kerala Travels Interserve, Trivandrum
(1961 – 66th Year)
Past Chairperson, Kerala Chapter

For three generations Bathija Travels has grown alongside TAAI whose leadership, industry collaboration and commitment to professionalism have played a meaningful role in shaping our journey and values as a trusted travel organization.

~ **Anoop Kanuga**

Managing Director
Bathija Travels Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai
(1968 – 59th Year)
Past MC Member, TAAI

As the voice of India's travel industry, TAAI has consistently championed excellence, unity, and progress. Our association with TAAI has significantly contributed to our institution's growth, strengthening our capabilities, credibility, and industry relationships.

~ **Mrs. Neelam Bodh**

Govan Travels, New Delhi
(1971 – 56th Year)

TAAI has been integral to Forvol's journey by shaping our standards, strengthening industry bonds, and reinforcing our commitment to excellence. For Forvol, this milestone holds special significance. Our association with TAAI spans over five decades, and through every chapter of our growth across changing times, markets, and generations, TAAI has remained a constant source of strength, guidance, and community. We are honoured to have been part of this journey and proud to call ourselves long-standing members of this distinguished institution. Fifty years of partnership is a testament to shared values, shared purpose, and a shared future.

~ **Aashutosh Akshikar**

Managing Director & CEO
Forvol International Services Ltd, Mumbai
(1970 – 57th Year)

I am currently the third generation of our organisation to be associated with TAAI.

We are indeed very proud of our long and fruitful association with TAAI over the past many years. We have greatly benefited with this association through enhanced credibility, wider industry networking, improved market visibility, collaborative promotions, and sustained business growth, enabling us to deliver better travel experiences to customers worldwide. In fact, my late father and past CMD of our company Mr Kanti Poddar, has had the honour of being a Past President of TAAI as well. We greatly value this association and may it continue for many years to come.

~ **Pragun Poddar**

CEO
Orient Express Pvt Ltd, New Delhi
(1972 – 55th Year)

Celebrating Our Heritage Members A Legacy We Are Proud Of

For 50, 60 and 70 years, these esteemed organisations have stood alongside TAAI, contributing to the growth, resilience and evolution of the travel industry.



CWT India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Hind Musafir Agency Ltd., Mumbai
Mercury Travels Ltd., Kolkata
TC Tours Ltd., Mumbai
West End Hotel, Mumbai



Aero Agencies Private Ltd, Mumbai
Ashok Travels Private Ltd, Coimbatore
Everett Travel Service, New Delhi
Freight Carriers Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Hotel Clarks Shiraz, Agra
Hotel Clarks Varanasi, Varanasi
Hotel Ritz Plaza, Amritsar

Kerala Travels Interserve Ltd., Trivandrum
Mercury Travels Ltd., Mumbai
Oriental Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
SOTC Travel Services Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
SOTC Travel Services Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi
Speedways International (P) Ltd., Kolkata
The Lake Shore Palace Hotel Pvt. Ltd., Udaipur
Trade Wings Ltd., Chennai
Trade Wings Ltd., Mumbai
Vensimal World Travel Agents P. Ltd., Kolkata



Aero Mundial, Goa
Bathija Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Comfort Inn Heritage, Mumbai
CWT India Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
Forvol International Services Ltd., Mumbai
Eastern Travels Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur
General Travel Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
Govan Travels, Chennai
Govan Travels, Mumbai
Govan Travels, New Delhi

Hermes International Ltd., Colombo
Hermes Travel & Cargo Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai
ITC Limited - Hotel Division, Gurgaon
Johansen Travel Agency, Srinagar
Kerala Travels Interserve Ltd., Kochi
Khajuraho Tours, Khajuraho
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, New Delhi
Mayur Travels (Rajasthan) Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur
Mercury Travels Ltd., Chennai
Orient Express Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
Rajasthan Tours Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur
Royal Orchid Hotels, Bangalore
Shiraz Travels, Srinagar
Singapore Airlines Ltd., Mumbai
SOTC Travel Services Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corp Ltd., Chennai
TC Tours Ltd., Bangalore
TC Tours Ltd., Gurgaon
TC Tours Ltd., Pune
The Kenilworth, Kolkata
The Savera, Chennai
Trade Wings Ltd., Hyderabad
Trade Wings Ltd., Nagpur
Travelera Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
V. S. Dempo Holdings Pvt. Ltd., Goa
Walkers Tours Ltd., Colombo
Yeti Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kathmandu



Air Mauritius Ltd., Mumbai
Aitken Spence Travels Pvt Ltd., Colombo
Ambassador Express Holidays Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Amsham Travels, Pondicher
Apex Travels & Tours (P) Ltd., Mumbai
Arcadia Travels Pvt Ltd., Mumbai
Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., New Delhi
Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., Chennai
Bhatt Travels (Overseas) Pvt Ltd., Navsari
Blaze Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Bogmallo Beach Resort, Goa
Bonny Air Travel & Tours Ltd, Mauritius
Caravan Travels, Kolkata
Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., Mumbai
Century Travels, Kottayam
Clubside Tours & Travels Pvt Ltd., Darjeeling
Continental Carriers, New Delhi

Diplomatic Travel Point (P) Ltd., New Delhi
Dolphin Hotels Pvt. Ltd., Visakhapatnam
Eastern International Hotels Ltd, Mumba
Eastern Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
Emirates, Mumbai
Ethiopian Airlines Group, Mumbai
Everest Express Tours & Travels (P) Ltd., Kathmandu
Everest Travel Service Pvt. Ltd., Kathmandu
Globe All India Services Ltd., Kolkata
Gulf Air B.S.C, Mumbai
Holiday Travels Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore
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Hotel De L'Annapurna Pvt. Ltd., Kathmandu
Hotel Diplomat, Mumbai
Hotel Madhuban, Dehradun
IITM, Gwalior
Indica Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
International Travel Agency, Navsari
International Travel House Ltd., New Delhi
Jungle Lodges & Resorts Ltd., Bangalore
Kenya Airways Ltd., Mumbai
Le Meridien, New Delhi

Lionel India Ltd., Kolkata
M. Chunibhai Patel & Co, Mumbai
Maurya-Patna, Patna
Mercury Travels Ltd., Secunderabad
Parag Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bhavnagar
Parry Travels, Chennai
Perfect Travels and Tours Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
Princy Travels, Kochi
Quick Travels, Vadodara
Rambagh Palace, Jaipur
Ras Resorts & Apart Hotels Ltd., Mumbai
Reshu Boktoo & Sons, Srinagar
Sangam Hotels, Tiruchirappalli
Saudi Arabian Airlines, Mumbai
Shah Travels Pvt. Ltd, Srinagar
Shikarbadi Hotel Pvt. Ltd., Udaipur
SOTC Travel Services Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
South Wind Travel Agents (P) Ltd., Kolkata
Telstar Travels (P) Ltd., Mumbai
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Honouring the Past. Celebrating the Present. Inspiring the Future.
Thank You For Being Part of Our Journey.



Celebrating Commitment, Partnership, Trust, Legacy

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 Abercrombie & Kent India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 ABM Travels & Tours (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 Acharya Travel Agency, Ahmedabad
 Acma Travel Tours Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Adyar Travel Bureau Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Aerosonic Travel & Cargo Agency Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad
 Afimac Associates P. Ltd., New Delhi
 Ahmed World Travels Tours & Cargo Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Air Club Travel Services, Mumbai
 Airborne Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 AirCruise Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Airsonic Travels (P) Ltd., Goa
 Airtravel Enterprises India Ltd., Trivandrum
 Airtravel Enterprises India Ltd., Kochi
 Airtravel Enterprises India Ltd., Calicut
 AK Tours Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Akshar World Travels, Gandhinagar
 Akshaya India Tours & Travels (P) Ltd., Chennai
 Al-Awhad Travels (P) Ltd., Chennai
 All Four Season Travels, Ahmedabad
 Alliance Air A United of Airline, New Delhi
 Aloha Tours & Travels (India) Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore
 Aman Travels Ltd., New Delhi
 Ambe World Travels, New Delhi
 Amber Tours Private Ltd., New Delhi
 Anna Maria Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Kochi
 Apex Travel and Tours, New Delhi
 Apollo Voyages Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Arika Tour & Travels (P) Ltd., Mumbai
 Arjun Tours & Travels (P) Ltd, Bangalore
 Around the World Travel & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Ashlin Travels (P) Ltd, New Delhi
 Athena Travels (India) P. Ltd., Kochi
 Auromatrix Hotels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Aviana Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
 Baboo Travels, Pune
 Baywatch Travels (P) Ltd., Chennai
 BCD Travel India Private Ltd., Mumbai
 Beacon Travels Pvt Ltd, New Delhi
 Beckon Tours Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Beleast Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Best Tours and Forex Pvt. Ltd., Rajkot
 Best West Travels, Kochi
 Bharath International Travels, Mysore
 Bhavi Tours & Travels, Ahmedabad
 Blue Star Air Travel Services (I) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 BNG Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 BOC Travel Advisors, Jalandhar
 C.R. Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Caair Travels Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
 Camus Air Travel Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Casino Hotel, Kochi
 Casio Air Travels (P) Ltd., Chennai
 Century Travels (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 Champion Travel & Tour Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

Chennai Metro Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Chetak Travels Pvt. Ltd., Pondicherry
 Chopra Foreign Travels, Jalandhar
 Cinderella Travels, Vadodara
 Civica Travels Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow
 Club 7 Holidays Ltd., Kolkata
 Corporate Flyers (P) Ltd., Gurgaon
 Corporate Travel (P) Ltd, New Delhi
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 Deccan Air Services (P) Ltd., Chennai
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 Deepa Travels Madras Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
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 Diana World Travel Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Discover Culture India, Srinagar
 Discovery Travels & Tours, Kolkata
 Disha Travel, Mumbai
 East West Travel & Tours LLP, Mumbai
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 Enkay Travels, New Delhi
 Eternity Travel & Tour P. Ltd., Gurgaon
 Excelsior Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Express Travels, Ahmedabad
 Fairfest Media Ltd., Kolkata
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 Global e Travel Solutions Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Global Travels, Hyderabad
 Globe Trotter Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Government of Dubai, Mumbai
 Grandslam Overseas Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Gujral Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Gupta Travels, Mumbai
 Gurkha Travel Division, Srinagar
 H.I.P Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Hammock Leisure Holidays Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru
 Hasumukh Travel Agent (Pune) Pvt. Ltd., Pune
 Hill Tours, Srinagar

Himalayan Run & Trek Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Hind Musafir Agency Ltd., Pune
 Holiday Inn Resort, Goa
 HOPCO Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 HOPP Worldwide Excursions Ltd., New Delhi
 Hotel Akbar, Srinagar
 Hotel Ambica Empire, Chennai
 Hotel Diplomat, New Delhi
 Hotel Holiday Resort, Puri
 Hotel La Paz Gardens, Goa
 Hotel Marine Plaza, Mumbai
 Hotel Mohit Pvt. Ltd., Darjeeling
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 Hotel Shradha, Mumbai
 Hotel Yuvraj Palace, Ranchi
 India Travel Bureau Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad
 IITM, Bhubaneswar
 International Travel House Ltd., Chennai
 International Travel House Ltd., Kolkata
 International Travel House Ltd., Bangalore
 ITL Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 J M Mehta Travel & Tour Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 J.V. Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Jagadish Air Travels (P) Ltd., Bangalore
 Jagsons Travels Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur
 Jasbhag Tours & Travels, Jaipur
 Jaya Travel & Tours, Mumbai
 Jaypee Palace Hotel & Convn. Centre, Agra
 Jehan Numa Palace Hotel Pvt. Ltd., Bhopal
 Jet International Travels & Tours, Goa
 Jetways Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Jose Travels, Indore
 Kanadian Travels, Hoshiarpur
 Kerala Institute of Tourism & Travel Studies, Trivandrum
 Kesari Tours Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Khanna Enterprises, Jalandhar
 Khazir Travels & Metro Hotel Pvt. Ltd., Srinagar
 Kulin Kumar Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Lakshmi Travel Agency Pvt. Ltd., Trichy
 Leo Travels, Mumbai
 Lords Travel Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Lotus Trans Travel Private Ltd., New Delhi
 Lovely Air Travels, Ahmedabad
 M.I.P. Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar
 Madura Travel Service (P) Ltd., Chennai
 Magellan Travel Services (P) Ltd., Chennai
 Malaysia Airlines, New Delhi
 Mamata Airwings, Ahmedabad
 Marco Polo Travels Private Ltd., Bangalore
 Mebhav Investment Pvt. Ltd., Bhavnagar
 Meena Travels Pvt. Ltd., Srinagar
 Meghapriya Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Mera Travels (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 Metro Air Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Minar Travels (India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

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Celebrating Commitment, Partnership, Trust, Legacy

Mubeen Air Travels, Goa
 My Travel Agent Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Namms Tours & Travels, New Delhi
 Nandinee Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kolhapur
 Naveen Air Travels (P) Ltd., Trichy
 NCS Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
 New Airways Travels (Delhi) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Nikki Travel & Trade Link, Rajkot
 Nitco World Travels, New Delhi
 Nitco World Travels, Kolkata
 Nutan Travels, Ahmedabad
 Odyssey Tours & Travels, Pune
 Odyssey Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Goa
 OM Tours & Travels, Hyderabad
 Orchid Voyages Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Orient Travels & Tours, Nagpur
 Orissa Tourism Dev. Corp. Ltd., Bhubaneswar
 Padmaja Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Palm Grove Beach Hotels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Paradise Tour Company (I) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Paramount Travels, Goa
 Park Inn by Radisson, New Delhi
 Peekay Tours & Travels, Chennai
 Pegasus Travels & Tours Pvt Ltd, Chennai
 Penta Travels (India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Pioneer Aero Travels (Madras) P. Ltd., Chennai
 Pioneer Personalized Holidays Pvt. Ltd., Kochi
 Pishu Travels & Tours, Mumbai
 Plan Your Holiday, New Delhi
 Planets Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad
 Popular Travels Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad
 Pranam Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Prime Air Global Ltd., New Delhi
 Prince Tours, Srinagar
 Punit Travels, Vadodara
 Punja Sahib Transport Company, New Delhi
 Pyramid Tours & Allied Services P. Ltd., Mumbai
 Qatar Airways, Mumbai
 Quantum Travels Pvt. Ltd., Pune
 Rainbow Travels (I) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Razdan Holidays, New Delhi
 Razzak Enterprises, Hyderabad
 Regent Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Registhan Tours Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur
 Resorts World Travel Services Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Ritco Travels And Tours Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur
 Riya Travel & Tours (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 RNK-Ramniranjan Kedia Tours & Travels Pvt Ltd, Mumbai
 Royal Tours & Travels, Srinagar
 Ruby Holidays (Gurgaon) Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
 S.R.S. Travels, Bangalore
 S.S. Annamalai Travel Agency, Chennai
 Safeway Leisure Holidays Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
 Saggersons (India) Regd., Ludhiana
 Sahajanand World Travels, Ahmedabad

Sameera Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad
 Sahajanand World Travels, Ahmedabad
 Sameera Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad
 Sangam Travels, Tiruchirappalli
 Satellite Travels, Hyderabad
 Saurashtra International Travel Corp., Ahmedabad
 Savani Travel Hub, Mumbai
 Savetime Travel (Jam.) P. Ltd., Jamnagar
 Sawera Travels Pvt. Ltd., Amritsar
 Sea & Sky Travel (I) Pvt. Ltd., Srinagar
 Select Holiday Resorts Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Senator Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Services International Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Sethi Bros Private Ltd., New Delhi
 Shakthi Tours & Travels, Chennai
 Shalimar Travels, Srinagar
 Shangloo Travels Pvt. Ltd., Srinagar
 Shankus Water Park & Resort, Mehsana
 Sharma Travels, Jalandhar
 Sharp Travels (India) Ltd., New Delhi
 Shashi Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Gaya
 Sherif Express Travels & Cargo Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
 Sherif Express Travels & Cargo Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad
 Shikhar Travels (I) Pvt Ltd, New Delhi
 Shresth Udan Travels Ltd., Ahmedabad
 Silver Wings, Kolkata
 Skylink Travel Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Smita World Travels, Vijayawada
 Sondhi Travels, Jalandhar
 Spencer's Travel Services Ltd., Chennai
 Sri Sathya Sai Tourists (R), Bangalore
 Starline Travels Limited, Pune
 State Express, New Delhi
 Stop N Shop Travel & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Sugir Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Sun Tours Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Sun Village, Goa
 Sunny International Travels, Rajkot
 Super International Travels, Amritsar
 Swagatam Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Swifttravel International (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 Swosti Travels, Bhubaneswar
 Syrisa Travels Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur
 The Carlton, Kodaikanal
 The International Hotel, Kochi
 The Lake Palace Trade & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Udaipur
 The Manali Inn, New Delhi
 The Monarch, Ooty
 The Park, New Delhi
 The Travel Centre, Ahmedabad
 Tinku Travels, Salem
 TIRUN Travel Marketing, New Delhi
 Tirupur Travels Pvt Ltd, Coimbatore
 Top Travel & Tours (P) Ltd., New Delhi
 Toshali Group (TK International Ltd), Bhubaneswar
 Tourism Authority of Thailand, New Delhi

Trac Representations (India) P. Ltd., New Delhi
 Trade Wings Institute of Management, Mumbai
 Trans Globe Travels Pvt Ltd, Rajkot
 Trans India Holidays Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Trans International, New Delhi
 Trans Travels, Ahmedabad
 Transworld Travel Service, Hyderabad
 Travel 'N' Ease Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad
 Travel Air (Madras) Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Travel Centre, Srinagar
 Travel Connection, Srinagar
 Travel Exchange India Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Travel Experts, New Delhi
 Travel Masters (Mumbai) Pvt. Ltd., Pune
 Travel Point, New Delhi
 Travel Point (India) Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Travel Services, Chennai
 Travel Span, New Delhi
 Travel Spirit International Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Travel Systems Ltd., Kolkata
 Travel World, Secunderabad
 Travelmate Indi, New Delhi
 Travels & Rentals Ltd., Kolkata
 Travelvoyages India Pvt. Ltd., Pune
 Treasure Tourism Corporation Ltd., Mumbai
 Trichy Airshine Tours & Travels P.Ltd., Trichy
 Triton Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Triway Travels Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Tsunami Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad
 Tusker Travels Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
 Uni Crystal Holidays Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Uniexpress Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Uniglobe MOD Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Unique Air Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
 Unique Travels, Hyderabad
 United Airlines, New Delhi
 United Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., Trivandrum
 Universal Travels, Jalandhar
 Vaghji Virji Travels, Bhuj
 Vaigai Wings, Chennai
 Vasco Travel Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 VC Global Tours Pvt. Ltd., Anand
 Ventours International Travel Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
 Vexplore India, Mumbai
 Victoria Travels Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
 Viking Tours & Travel, Chennai
 Visa Consultancy Services, Mumbai
 Vishwakamal Travels, Goa
 Vision Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
 Visit Britain, Gurgaon
 Voltamp Travels, Mumbai
 Whale Travels & Tour Operators, Srinagar
 World Travels Regd., Jalandhar
 Yatrik Network Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
 Yesh Travel International, Rajkot

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TAAI Managing Committee Meeting

15th Managing Committee Meeting At Tadoba
Driving Action, Delivering Progress



The two-day Managing Committee format has once again proven its value. When members come together over a couple of days to review, plan, and deliberate on matters shaping the future of TAAI, amidst an atmosphere of bonding and fellowship, the outcomes are far more meaningful and impactful.

Held from April 21-23, 2026 at WelcomHeritage Vanya Vilas Resort & Spa, the meeting was both productive and memorable. It opened up new perspectives and helped shape key programs for TAAI at both the National level and across TAAI's 20 Regions & Chapters.

The central focus of discussions was TAAI's landmark 75-year celebrations. Detailed deliberations have now culminated in a nationwide rollout planned between June and September, aimed at enhancing visibility and fostering deeper engagement across the country.

In line with these celebrations, the launch of the TAAI commemorative pin for all members, along with the much-awaited TAAI 75 Years Directory and member ID cards, is being eagerly anticipated by the fraternity.





Presentations by Regions and Chapters reflected remarkable activity levels. During the current term, over 200 meetings and engagements have been conducted, with more than 140 dedicated specifically to member interactions. These efforts underline the strong momentum and commitment to keeping members actively involved and informed.



Membership growth and development were also reviewed, alongside important updates on IATA matters. Of particular significance was the discussion around the global alignment of remittance periods proposed by IATA, effective June 1, 2026. TAAI's earlier objection at the APJC meeting in January 2026 was noted, and it was encouraging that a majority of APJC members have supported a one-year deferment, now subject to PA Conference mail voting.



A landmark decision emerged from the meeting to acquire a larger property for TAAI's Headquarters Office, closer to airports, to support its expanding vision and also house the AOP office.

Financial matters, including the launch of the 2026–2027 Joint Bank Guarantee Program, were also reviewed and concluded.



Extensive discussions were held on proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles, including E-voting, membership fee revisions, and creating more opportunities for emerging leaders. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EOGM) will soon be convened to consider these proposals.

While the business sessions were intensive, the evenings provided a perfect balance, offering time for camaraderie, celebration, and strengthening team spirit. The hospitality extended by the resort was exceptional. Special thanks to Director Mr. Hrishikesh Wachasunder and his team for their gracious hosting and for curating memorable evenings filled with warmth, music, and fellowship.

Adding to the experience, the TAAI team also participated in wildlife safaris at Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, making the gathering not just productive but truly experiential.

Special appreciation goes to Irshad Mehdi for his initiative in coordinating the meeting, and to Chairperson Alok Vaidya and the team of the TAAI Vidarbha Chapter for their valuable support and hospitality. TAAI Vidarbha Chapter and its team welcomed Team TAAI at the Airport, hosted an excellent breakfast at Centrepont, Nagpur and gifted a memorable experience to the participants attending the MC meeting at Tadoba.

Indeed, moments like these are rare, where purpose, progress, and partnership come together so seamlessly.



VFS Global enhances UK visa submission experience with 12 Premium Application Centres across India

With demand for travel from India to the UK continuing to grow, VFS Global now operates a network of 12 Premium Application Centres (PACs) for UK visa customers across India, offering a more comfortable visa submission experience.

The Premium Application Centres are designed for customers who value convenience, privacy and time efficiency, including business travellers, families, senior citizens and professionals with demanding schedules. Located across key cities, these centres provide a premium environment while fully adhering to the processes and guidelines set by UKVisas and Immigration (UKVI).

To book an appointment for these Premium Application Centres, customers need to select their centre of choice while applying for their UK visa online.

Why choose a Premium Application Centre?

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of complementary added-value services offered by VFS Global which provide enhanced support such as UKVI account creation assistance.

Please note that the UK visa Premium Application Centres are optional and come at an extra cost. Opting for our Premium Application Centre does not have any bearing on the outcome of a visa application, which is the sole prerogative of the UK Visas and Immigration. Customers who do not wish to opt for a Premium Application Centre can still book an appointment at our standard UK Visa

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2. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
3. Bhubaneswar, Odisha
4. Calicut, Kerala
5. Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
6. Guwahati, Assam
7. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
8. Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
9. Ludhiana, Punjab
10. Mangalore, Karnataka
11. Noida, Uttar Pradesh
12. Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

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The 13th TAAI Managing Committee Meeting at Mumbai Steering the Future



An excellent occasion it was, for the TAAI Managing Committee meeting to have held its 13th Managing Committee meeting on February 6, 2025, at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai. The event was held during the OTM 2026 to take advantage of the global travel fraternity converging in Mumbai for what has become the leading Travel Trade Show in India and Asia.

TAAI seized this opportunity to bring its leadership together at the very heart of the industry. This MC meeting was special, evolving into a meaningful platform for collaboration and forward planning at a time when the Association prepares to celebrate its landmark 75th year.

With the entire travel ecosystem present under one roof, airlines, tourism boards, hospitality partners, and travel professionals from across the world, the meeting offered a rare and valuable setting for direct engagement. Members of the TAAI Managing Committee and international tourism stakeholders came together to exchange ideas, and strengthen partnerships to promote the cause.

President Sunil Kumar delivered a detailed presentation on TAAI's updates, achievements, and plans for the future. His presentation provoked meaningful deliberations, inspired thought leadership, and encouraged a more pragmatic vision for TAAI as it approaches its 75-year celebrations.





TAAI's commemorative NAMASTAAI and its distinctive features were also showcased and received wide appreciation, as this special edition successfully captured the vast landscape of TAAI's vibrant journey and its historic industry leadership spanning 75 remarkable years.

As TAAI steps into its 75th year, the conversations carried a strong sense of focus on building stronger global collaborations, creating meaningful member initiatives, and ensuring that the momentum of India's travel trade continues to grow.

Updates on various matters were presented. These included TAAI's active participation at the industry meeting organised in New Delhi; the presence of TAAI President Sunil Kumar and Rajan Sehgal at the Board of Governors meeting at IITM - Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Tourism Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Board Meeting of FAITH, the apex body of the Tourism & Hospitality Industry. President Sunil Kumar has been appointed as the Vice Chairperson of FAITH.

Conversations Around a Landmark Year

With TAAI stepping into its 75th year, the committee spent time discussing how the milestone should be celebrated across the country. The focus was clear: the year should go beyond ceremonial celebrations and bring members together through meaningful engagement.

Ideas included nationwide activities, member-driven initiatives, and closer collaboration with tourism boards, airlines, and industry partners. The aim is to ensure the celebrations reflect the strength of the travel fraternity that has supported the Association since 1951.

Members also emphasised the importance of keeping TAAI's voice strong and proactive as the travel industry continues to evolve.

Reports by Managing Committee – Regions/Chapters

A key agenda of the TAAI Managing Committee Meeting was the transaction of business, including a comprehensive review of member engagement and the events organized across TAAI's 20 Regions and Chapters, which were presented effectively.

Members of the Managing Committee, who also hold significant leadership responsibilities across various industry verticals, presented their reports and engaged in meaningful deliberations to conclude on several important matters

TAAI Continues Newer Initiatives

The TAAI 75 Years Magnetic Pin for all, the most unique TAAI Directory of 75 Years, the TAAI ID Cards, events across India and more matters were also presented. Address by Mr. Ashwini Kakkar, Past President of TAAI



An incredible and thought-provoking presentation by Mr. Ashwini Kakkar, Past President of TAAI and a respected industry thought leader, was a huge value add to the MC meeting. His address brought valuable perspective as he reflected on how the travel industry has transformed over the decades.

He spoke about the importance of continuity in leadership, adapting to new technology, and building stronger global partnerships. Drawing on his experience, Mr. Kakkar encouraged the committee to balance innovation with the legacy and values that have guided TAAI for generations.

Members appreciated his insights and expressed gratitude for the continued guidance of past leadership.

Managing Committee interacts with Industry Leaders

One of the most vibrant aspects of the MC meeting was the interaction with several international tourism boards and airline partners, who briefly addressed the Managing Committee during the session.



Taiwan Tourism led by Mr Paul Shih.

Representatives from Taiwan Tourism, led by Mr. Paul Shih, shared insights into Taiwan's growing focus on the Indian outbound market. Discussions centred on strengthening trade engagement, destination promotion, and collaborative initiatives that could encourage more Indian travellers to explore Taiwan.

Mauritius Tourism & TAAI Managing Committee – Strengthening Bonds, Fostering New Horizons

Mr. Dinesh Burrenchobay, Chairman, and Mr. Benoit Harter, Director, Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA), interacted with the TAAI Managing Committee, reaffirming the strong tourism ties between India and Mauritius. They highlighted Mauritius as a diverse, all-season destination offering beaches, temples, golf resorts, UNESCO World Heritage sites, and experiences suited to every segment of travellers. Emphasising the importance of the Indian market, they expressed MTPA's commitment to strengthening collaboration with TAAI and further deepening tourism partnerships between the two nations.

An award of excellence for the Hon. Minister for Tourism, Mr Richard Duval, Mauritius was presented to Mr Dinesh. Other awards were presented to Mr Benoit Harter, Director, MTPA and Mr Dinesh Churrenchobay, Chairman MTPA.



Philippines Tourism Team led by Ms. Janice, Under Secretary

Ms. Janice E. Maldonado, Under Secretary, Department of Tourism, Philippines, and Ms. Zeny C. Pallugna, Director of Marketing, interacted with the TAAI Managing Committee to discuss strengthening India - Philippines tourism through enhanced connectivity and trade partnerships. The delegation appreciated the opportunity to engage with TAAI leadership and explore deeper collaboration with the Indian travel trade.



Cambodia Tourism Association led by the President

TAAI was honoured to have Her Excellency Oknha Chhay Sivlin, President of the Cambodia Tourism Association, address the Managing Committee. She reaffirmed Cambodia Tourism's strong partnership with TAAI and encouraged greater promotion of Cambodia as a diverse holiday destination for Indian travellers. The interaction concluded with plans to further strengthen cooperation, including the possibility of signing an MoU in the near future.



Air India Team led by Head of Global Sales - Strengthening Airline Partnerships

It was a great pleasure to have Mr Manish Puri, Head of Global Sales, Air India, address the Managing Committee. His interaction focused on strengthening engagement between the national carrier and the travel agent community, particularly at a time when Air India is undergoing a significant transformation in its operations and global network expansion.

Mr. Puri acknowledged the critical role played by travel agents in supporting airline distribution and emphasised the importance of continued dialogue and cooperation with TAAI members. He was very kind to have announced valuable support to the TAAI 75 year celebrations.

His remarks were welcomed by the committee, reinforcing the long-standing relationship between airlines and the travel trade.

It was business, relationship-building with several interactions and an educational experience for the members of TAAI Managing Committee. TAAI is known for its most deliberative meetings and this was a great way to keep TAAI on the move.

On behalf of Singapore Airlines, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Travel Agents Association of India on this remarkable 75th anniversary milestone. Your leadership and commitment to the industry have played a significant role in shaping India's travel landscape. We wish TAAI continued success and many more achievements in the years to come.

~ Mr. Sy Yen Chen
General Manager India
Singapore Airlines

TAAI at OTM 2026, Mumbai

Engaging at the Centre of Industry Dialogue



Heartiest congratulations to the organizers of OTM Mumbai for yet another outstanding and superlative performance during 2026. The event once again reflected remarkable professionalism, strong international participation, meaningful B2B engagement, and the growing importance of India as one of the world's most significant travel markets. OTM continues to play a pivotal role in bringing together global tourism stakeholders and strengthening the travel and tourism industry. Bringing together over 2,200 exhibitors from more than 60 countries, along with participation from 45+ National Tourism Organisations is commendable.

TAAI's active partnership with OTM continued with success. Within this dynamic environment, TAAI's presence was defined not by a physical space, but by its active participation across conversations, meetings and leadership engagement. For TAAI members, this translated into relevant and productive engagement across destinations and partners, reflecting the Association's continued strength within the global travel ecosystem.

A key highlight during OTM was the coming together of the TAAI Managing Committee, with senior leadership led by TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar. The platform enabled alignment on key focus areas including membership growth, strengthening DMC connect, expanding global collaborations and enhancing policy engagement.

Adding to the significance of the occasion was the launch of the **TAAI 75th Year Commemorative NAMASTAAI** Magazine at OTM, marking an important milestone in the Association's Double Diamond Jubilee year. The launch, in the presence of industry stakeholders, reflected TAAI's continued commitment to representing its members and documenting the evolving narrative of the travel trade.



Expanding Global Connect: MoUs and Partnerships

OTM served as a platform for strengthening international relationships. TAAI was actively engaged in discussions and signing MoUs with various top Tourism Destinations of the world. These collaborations further reinforce TAAI's role in building stronger global linkages and creating new avenues of opportunity for its members.

A consistent theme across OTM 2026 was the increasing importance of the Indian outbound traveller. Destinations are now engaging with India as a priority market, with a visible shift towards premium, experience-led travel.

As the travel landscape evolves, TAAI's role remains clear: to represent, to connect, and to lead with relevance. OTM Mumbai 2026 once again highlighted the momentum of the travel industry, with India firmly positioned at the centre of global tourism strategy.

Through leadership presence, strategic engagement and key milestones, TAAI remained closely aligned with these developments, continuing to play its role at the heart of the travel trade.



TAAI Leadership Team with Representatives from Oman Airways (Top) and with the Assistant Director, Indonesian Team at OTM 2026 (Bottom)

TAAI and Qatar Tourism – An MOU that promotes India's relationship with Qatar

The Travel Agents Association of India and Qatar Tourism signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during the OTM held in Mumbai in February 2026. This marks a significant step towards strengthening tourism cooperation and enhancing bilateral travel opportunities between India and Qatar.

The MoU reflects a shared commitment to promoting tourism growth, fostering closer engagement with the travel trade, and creating new avenues for collaboration in areas including destination promotion, trade education, business exchanges, and tourism development initiatives. The partnership is expected to further enhance connectivity between the two markets while opening greater opportunities for travel professionals and tourism stakeholders.

The signing at SATTE 2026 also underlined the importance of global industry platforms in building strategic international partnerships and advancing the collective interests of the travel and tourism industry.

NAMASTAAI - The Voice, Vision & Vanguard of TAAI at 75 Celebrating Heritage, Inspiring Tomorrow



Issue after issue, NAMASTAAI has emerged as one of the most eagerly awaited publications among TAAI members and industry leaders alike. Widely circulated in both hard copy (3000 copies) and many more in digital formats, NAMASTAAI has earned exceptional credibility, growing popularity, and a distinguished place as a trusted voice within the Travel, Tourism & Hospitality industry.

More than just a magazine about TAAI, it serves as a vibrant platform that highlights industry matters, key updates,

and fosters awareness of the many developments shaping both TAAI and the larger Travel, Tourism & Hospitality ecosystem.

With 20 Regions and Chapters actively engaging members through dynamic initiatives, over 200 events have already been conducted during the 2024–2026 term. NAMASTAAI has successfully captured the spirit of these engagements, recognized the invaluable contributions of members, and consistently showcased TAAI's presence within this vast and growing industry - an industry in which TAAI has proudly led for 75 remarkable years.

During 2024–2026, seven issues of NAMASTAAI have already been released, with many more to come. Among these, the special commemorative edition unveiled on 5th February 2026 at OTM Mumbai stands as a signature milestone - offering a bird's-eye view of TAAI's immense contributions, achievements, and the rich chronicles of its distinguished leadership.





This edition is not merely rare; it is exceptionally crafted to capture the true essence of TAAI's extraordinary 75-year journey.

As future editions continue to unfold, NAMASTAAI will remain steadfast in spotlighting this enduring legacy of leadership that TAAI has gifted to one of the world's most vibrant industries.



TAAI & SATTE: A relationship beyond times. A Long-Standing Partnership – Promoting the B2B Cause



Mr Sunil Kumar
at the Media Briefing

For decades, the relationship between the Travel Agents Association of India and South Asia's Travel & Tourism Exchange has stood as a remarkable example of industry collaboration, continuity, and shared vision.

TAAI had once again partnered with SATTE 2026, held from February 25 to 27, 2026 at the Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in Dwarka, New Delhi. The event brought together more than 45,000 travel professionals, over 2,200 exhibitors, and participants from upwards of 60 countries, creating a dynamic platform for global tourism partnerships, business exchange, and industry engagement.

The TAAI delegation included all the office bearers of TAAI – President Sunil Kumar; Vice President Lokesh Bettaiah; Hon. Secretary General Shreeram Patel, Hon. Treasurer Paras Lakhia, Members of Managing Committee Rajan Sehgal and Manav Soni. With several engagements at SATTE including appointed visits to Tourism Boards, the experience of SATTE 2026 continued to be outstanding. Earlier Mr. Sunil Kumar had joined the Media Briefing as well.

The growth of the travel and tourism industry has always depended upon strong partnerships, meaningful networking, and platforms that create opportunities for businesses to connect, collaborate, and grow. In this journey, the association between TAAI and SATTE has remained one of the most enduring and impactful partnerships.

What binds TAAI and SATTE together is a common objective. Promoting the B2B cause and creating value for the travel trade ecosystem. The synergy between both organizations reflects a strong spirit of collaboration.



With the Egyptian
Tourism Authority
at their Stall.

President Sunil Kumar Adds Value to the Panel Discussion on LCCs as Game Changers for New Growth Markets

President Sunil Kumar addressed the delegates during an important panel discussion on one of the most relevant and contemporary topics in the aviation sector, highlighting how Low-Cost Carriers (LCCs) have significantly transformed and accelerated growth within the aviation industry. The discussion focused on the evolving market dynamics, increased accessibility to air travel, expansion of regional connectivity, and the pivotal role played by LCCs in reshaping travel patterns and driving tourism growth globally. Led by Moderator Mr. Anil Parashar, the Executive Director at ITQ Technologies Private Limited (Official Partner of Travelport in India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Bhutan), the panel comprised of TAAI President Mr Sunil Kumar, Mr Anshul Sethi, Head of Sales – India at IndiGo, and Mr Subhash Goyal, Chairman of STIC Travel & Air Charter Group.



President Sunil Kumar Participating in the Panel Discussion



TAAI Stall at SATTE 2026

The Travel Agents Association of India had a prominent presence at South Asia's Travel & Tourism Exchange 2026 through its dedicated stall, which served as an active platform to promote the association and engage with travel trade stakeholders.

The TAAI stall witnessed an impressive footfall throughout the exhibition, with a large number of delegates visiting and expressing strong interest in becoming part of the association. The enthusiastic response reflected the growing recognition of TAAI's leadership role and its continued contribution towards strengthening the travel and tourism industry.

The stall also offered visitors a comprehensive overview of TAAI's extensive industry engagement, highlighting its active involvement and consistent support towards various tourism initiatives and trade causes over the decades. Special emphasis was laid on promoting TAAI's landmark milestone year, '75 Years of TAAI' in 2026, celebrating the association's rich legacy, achievements, and enduring commitment to the travel fraternity

TAAI Office Bearers
at the TAAI Stall at
SATTE 2026



Meeting with
Uzbekistan Tourism
Leaders



With Uzbekistan
Tourism Leaders
at their Stall



SATTE Overview



UFTAA & TAAI AT SATTE

UFTAA Congratulates South Asia's Travel & Tourism Exchange for successfully Hosting an Outstanding B2B Travel & Tourism Exhibition in 2026



The United Federation of Travel Agents Associations (UFTAA), a globally acknowledged federation of Travel Agents and Tourism Associations, of which the Travel Agents Association of India is an active member and one of its founders, has consistently extended strong support to SATTE, year on year.



SATTE 2026 once again proved to be a highly productive global platform for networking, partnerships, and business growth, bringing together tourism stakeholders from across the world. UFTAA appreciates SATTE's continued commitment towards strengthening the travel and tourism industry, and promoting meaningful B2B engagement.

UFTAA has played an important role in promoting SATTE internationally and has significantly contributed towards encouraging greater global participation at the exhibition. UFTAA Delegates from countries including Turkey, the Philippines, Canada, Switzerland, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Mauritius participated in the event, despite a few last-minute cancellations arising out of prevailing geopolitical situations.

The UFTAA delegation was led by its President, Mr. Sunil Kumar, further reinforcing the federation's close association and enduring relationship with SATTE.





Reciprocating this strong partnership, UFTAA delegates actively participated in the prestigious 'Atithi' Buyer-Seller Meet, where international buyers engaged in focused B2B interactions with exhibitors, tourism boards, and travel trade stakeholders. These meetings created meaningful opportunities for networking, collaboration, and business development within the global tourism ecosystem.

UFTAA continues to remain firmly committed towards supporting SATTE and contributing to its growth as one of the leading international B2B travel and tourism platforms in Asia.



UFTAA Board Meeting at New Delhi, during SATTE 2026

UFTAA held its third Board Meeting for the year 2025–2026 in New Delhi. Owing to prevailing geopolitical challenges, the meeting was conducted in a hybrid format.

The Board's discussions centred on the forthcoming Annual General Assembly scheduled for March 2026, preparations for the 57th PAPGJC (Passenger Agency Program Global Joint Council) meeting to be held in Madrid in March, along with other key matters.

Board members also deliberated on the way forward for 2026, a landmark year for UFTAA. Established in 1966, UFTAA is set to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee, marking 60 years of its journey and achievements.



UFTAA AT THE 57TH PAPGJC MEETING IN MADRID PRESIDENT SUNIL KUMAR LEADS UFTAA DELEGATION



The International Air Transport Association PAPGJC (Passenger Agency Programme Global Joint Council), formally constituted around 2012–2013 under Resolution 860a of the IATA Passenger Agency Conference, serves as the primary global advisory body enabling collaboration between airlines and travel agents on matters concerning the Passenger Agency Programme.

The United Federation of Travel Agents Associations delegation, led by its President Sunil Kumar, participated in the 57th PAPGJC meeting held on March 23 and 24, 2026 at the International Air Transport Association office in Madrid. The extensive agenda covering important global agency and airline matters was actively deliberated during the meeting.

Presentations from IATA on several subjects supported learning from these updates on a wide variety of industry matters.

Significantly, after a considerable period of time, the PAPGJC once again elected a Chairperson to the Council from among the travel agency representatives, marking an important development in strengthening agency participation within the global governance framework.

UFTAA Felicitates Ms Pattie George, Chairperson, PAPGJC

At the 57th PAPGJC Meeting held in Madrid, the proceedings were marked by a moment of warmth and emotion. Ms. Pattie George, who had served as Chairperson of the IATA PAPGJC for many years, retired from her role. To acknowledge her longstanding contribution to this important Joint Council, IATA prepared a special presentation in her honour.

On behalf of UFTAA, President Mr. Sunil Kumar presented her with the UFTAA Special Award in recognition of her outstanding leadership and invaluable contribution as Chairperson of this important IATA Joint Council of Airlines and Agencies.



UFTAA at the Diamond Jubilee Milestone 12 Nationalities Form UFTAA's New Board



United Federation of Travel Agents Associations (UFTAA), founded in Rome in 1966, continues to strengthen its position as a leading global non-profit confederation representing the travel agency and tourism industry worldwide. UFTAA actively advocates for the interests of travel agents and tour operators while promoting global collaboration within the tourism ecosystem.

As UFTAA moves towards its landmark 60th Year, the Diamond Jubilee milestone, the federation constituted its new Board during the Annual General Assembly (AGA) held on March 31, 2026.

Once again, Sunil Kumar was elected to lead the federation as President, reaffirming the confidence and trust reposed in his leadership by the global travel fraternity.

UFTAA also continues to remain actively engaged with the International Air Transport Association through the PAPGJC (Passenger Agency Program Global Joint Council), where the federation works closely with airlines and IATA on matters relating to industry governance, aviation development updates, passenger agency programs, and travel trade concerns.

The newly constituted UFTAA Board reflects strong international representation, comprising members from 12 nationalities:



Sunil Kumar
President (India)



Yossef Fatael
Vice President,
IATA & Aviation Matters (Israel)



Cetin Gurcun
Vice President, Tourism
(Turkey))



William D'Souza
Vice President, Finance
(Canada)



Varsha Ramchurn
Director (Mauritius)



Josep Kithitu
Director (Kenya)



Joe Olivier Borg
Director (Malta)



Duminda Kuruwitaarachchi
Director (Sri Lanka)



Evangeline Manotok
Director (Philippines)



Moustafa H Khataw
Director (Tanzania)



Kumar Mani Thapaliya
Director (Nepal)



Bernard Edouard Borry
Director (Switzerland)

The Travel Agents Association of India and UFTAA continue to work closely together, with TAAI maintaining its strong support, active engagement, and contribution towards strengthening UFTAA's global mission and initiatives.

President Sunil Kumar's Keynote Address at the Golden Jubilee AGM of NANTA, Nigeria



Through a powerful and well-structured presentation, Mr. Sunil Kumar emphasized the importance of Travel Industry Leaders remaining relevant, continuously updated, and professionally empowered in their evolving role as Global Travel Ambassadors. His address highlighted the growing need for transformation, adaptability, knowledge enhancement, and global collaboration within the tourism ecosystem.



In their feedback to the Keynote Address by Mr. Sunil Kumar, the leadership team of NANTA noted: **"Your reflections during the AGM strongly resonated with the aspirations of our members, particularly regarding professionalism, international cooperation, travel trade sustainability, capacity development, and the evolving role of travel agencies within a rapidly transforming global marketplace. Your contribution reinforced the importance of stronger global alignment, innovation, and institutional partnerships in shaping the future of travel and tourism."**

The 50th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the National Association of Nigeria Travel Agencies (NANTA) was held from April 14 to 18, 2026 at the International Conference Centre in Ibadan, Nigeria, marking a landmark Golden Jubilee celebration for Nigeria's travel trade fraternity.

The prestigious gathering brought together key tourism stakeholders, industry leaders, government representatives, and international delegates to deliberate on a progressive and forward-looking roadmap for the future of Nigeria's travel and tourism industry.



Held under the theme, 'Embracing Our Diverse Cultural Heritage from the City of Firsts: Redefining Our Role as Global Travel Ambassadors,' Mr. Sunil Kumar, President of the United Federation of Travel Agents Associations and the Travel Agents Association of India, served as the Keynote Speaker.

Dr Joseph Kithutu, UFTAA Board Member and President of KATA - Kenya Association of Travel Agents had also joined.

The event was attended by several distinguished dignitaries including Hannatu Musa Musawa, Minister of Art, Culture, Tourism and the Creative Economy; Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chairman of the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM); and Adedotun Aremu Gbadebo, the Alake of Egbaland.

IT'S TIME FOR TAAI WoW AWARDS YET AGAIN!



Building on the spirit of the WoW (Women of Wonder) initiative launched last year, TAAI continued its recognition of exceptional women leaders across the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality fraternity. While the celebrations took a quieter form this year, the purpose remained unchanged — to acknowledge women whose leadership, commitment and contributions continue to shape the industry in meaningful ways. Presented below is the list of awardees, each with their own story of excellence and impact.

TAAI WoW LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026



J. Innocent Divya, IAS
Tourism Commissioner
Government of Tamil Nadu Chennai
Southern Region



S. Lakshmi Priya
DRO & General Manager
Tamil Nadu Tourism Development
Corporation Chennai
Southern Region



Kusum Yadav
Hon'ble Mayor
Jaipur Municipal Corporation (Heritage)
Rajasthan
Rajasthan Chapter



Poonam Sharma
Deputy General Manager (Joint Collector)
Chhattisgarh Tourism Board
Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter



Shreya Singhal, IAS
Managing Director
J&K Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.
(JKTDC) Srinagar
Jammu & Kashmir Chapter



Egna Cleetus IAS
Collector & Dist. Magistrate - South Goa
Government of Goa, Goa
Goa Chapter



Mary Joji
Reservation Manager
Translanka Air Travels (P) Ltd.,
GSA Srilankan Airlines, Trichy
South Tamil Nadu Chapter



Sabitha Raj
Station Manager
AirAsia Berhad
Trichy
South Tamil Nadu Chapter



Neha Singh
Managing Director
Har Shikhar Hotel
Bhimtal, Uttarakhand
Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter



Sheetal Singh
Cluster GM - Operations, South Goa
and General Manager
Taj Exotica Resort and Spa, Goa
Goa Chapter



Ritu Varma
Country Head, India
Visit Britain
Mumbai
Western Region



Beena Menon
Partner
Beautiful Planet
Mumbai
Western Region



Nibedita Roy
Manager, Delhi Office
Japan National Tourism Organization
New Delhi
Northern Region



Smt. N Pushpa
Joint Secretary to Government
Department of Tourism
Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Chapter

TAAI WoW MEMBER EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026



Sujatha Cecilia
Director
Across The Monde Travel & Tours Pvt. Ltd.
Hyderabad
Andhra Pradesh & Telangana State Chapter



Bobbita Das
Proprietor
R. G. Travels
Kolkata
Eastern Region



Maryrose Sequeira
Managing Director
Libra Worldwide Travel and Tours
Goa
Goa Chapter



Sadhana Dipak Shah
Director
Planets Aviation Pvt. Ltd.
Ahmedabad
Gujarat Chapter



Aabroo Ratta
Director
Honey Gold India Tours & Travels
Srinagar
Jammu & Kashmir Chapter



Sanjeevi Singh
Founder
IVS Holidays
Bangalore
Karnataka Chapter



Bhavna Jadon
Owner / Proprietor
Overseas Travels
Indore
Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter



Jasmeet Kaur
Director
My Kind Vacations Pvt. Ltd.
Noida
Northern Region



Ranjita Sabrol
Founder
Ved Mantra
Jalandhar
Punjab Chapter



Beena Rathore
Director
Holiday And Business Travels Pvt. Ltd.
Jaipur
Rajasthan Chapter



Shivani Karia
Proprietor
Vacation Vibes
Rajkot
Saurashtra Kutch Chapter



Tasneem Murtuza
Head - Tours - Domestic & International
Globetrotters Tours & Travels
Chennai
Southern Region



Pushpa Khubchandani
Director
Uniglobe Pawansut Travels Pvt. Ltd.
Nagpur
Vidarbha Chapter



K. Sheela
Proprietor
Sheela Priya Travels
Madurai
South Tamil Nadu Chapter



Farheen Fatma Farooqui
Proprietor
Travel Around The World
Lucknow
Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter



Aparna Thakurdas
Proprietor
Odyssey Tours & Travels
Pune
Central & South Maharashtra Chapter



Aarati Shah
Managing Director
Aabha Holidays
Vadodara
South Gujarat Chapter



Hutokshi Marker
Chief Operating Officer
Trail Blazer Tours (I) Pvt. Ltd.
Mumbai
Western Region



Saju Premjith
Managing Director
Sana Destino Pvt. Ltd.
Kozhikode
Kerala Chapter

TAAI's Growing Visibility. Active Industry Engagement

As the Travel Agents Association of India continues to be recognised for its leadership to the Indian travel and tourism industry spanning over 75 years, TAAI remains highly active and visible across major industry events held throughout India. TAAI's presence reflects its continued commitment towards supporting the growth, progress, and development of the travel and tourism industry.

Hon'ble Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Chairs the Joint Consultative Meeting of FAITH Member Associations



Thanks to the initiative of the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality (FAITH), an important interaction session was held with Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism; Suresh Gopi, Hon'ble Minister of State; Srivatsa Krishna IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism; Mr. Suman Billa IAS, Additional Secretary & Director General, Department of Tourism, Ministry of Tourism.

The joint consultative meeting, chaired by Hon'ble Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, was attended by all member associations of FAITH and held at Bharat Mandapam on February 24, 2026. The discussions focused on resolving industry bottlenecks, improving 'Ease of Doing Business', and identifying actionable strategies for long-term tourism growth.

The session provided an important platform for tourism associations to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Ministry on matters of mutual interest while also highlighting key industry concerns and pending issues requiring attention from the Government of India.

Puneet Chhatwal, Chairman of FAITH, thanked the Hon'ble Ministers and the high-powered delegation from the Ministry for granting the audience and providing the opportunity to share the industry's views, comments, and concerns.

During the discussions, Sunil Kumar, President of the Travel Agents Association of India, pointed out that a large number of leading travel companies are not registered with the Department of Tourism, Government of India. He emphasized the need to encourage greater recognition of top travel companies and suggested that the existing criteria for recognition be reviewed and simplified, especially where companies are accredited by IATA and TAAI. He added that more number of recognized travel companies by DOT, will inspire them towards enhanced promotion of Domestic and Inbound Tourism. Additional concerns raised included the substantial licence fees levied for music and entertainment permissions during events, which, on several occasions, exceeded the actual cost of organising the event itself. The long-standing taxi-related challenges in Goa were also brought to the attention of the Hon'ble Minister.

The Hon'ble Minister responded positively and receptively to the suggestions and concerns presented during the interaction.



TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar, Hon. Secretary General Mr Shreeram Patel and Managing Committee Member Mr Rajan Sehgal, with Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism, Mr Suresh Gopi, at Bharat Mandapam on February 24, 2026.

Mr Rajan Sehgal, heading TAAI's Public Relations Council, presents a series of his active participation in several events that are held. This strengthens the Association's visibility and influence through a series of impactful interactions and collaborations.



Interacted with Shri Kapil Bhatia, Executive Chairman, InterGlobe Enterprises, alongside Mr. Hans-Joerg Hoertnagl, Austrian Trade Commissioner to India, reinforcing international collaboration and industry alignment.



Facilitated a strategic meeting between the Egypt Film Corporation and an Indian film production house, with participation from EgyptAir, exploring opportunities in film tourism and cross-border collaboration.



Attended the prestigious 'Taste of Iceland' event on March 5, 2026 at The Roseate, hosted by the Ambassador of Iceland, in the presence of Smt. Radha Bhatia, Chairman, Bird Group, and renowned Chef Manjit Gill.



Honoured to meet and interact with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, marking a moment of inspiration and shared vision.



Participated in an exclusive Austrian Embassy interaction on March 29, 2026, featuring over 30 Austrian wine companies, highlighting India's growing potential in wine tourism.



Keynote Speaker at 'Arambh - Change Begins With Us' on March 12, 2026 at Amity University, Noida, addressing future leaders of the industry.



Speaker at the India-Africa Summit on February 11, 2026 in New Delhi, contributing to strengthening international tourism relations.



Through consistent participation across high-level forums, diplomatic events and industry platforms, Mr. Rajan Sehgal continues to position TAAI prominently on the global tourism landscape.



Engaged with Hon'ble Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, alongside Mr. Kapil Dev and Mr. Amandeep Johl, discussing opportunities to promote Golf Tourism in India.



Speaker at the Aviation & Tourism Summit on March 26, 2026 at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi, contributing to key industry discussions.



Represented TAAI at Great India Travel Bazaar (GITB), Jaipur from April 26–28, 2026, in the presence of Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Smt. Diya Kumari, Mr. V. Srinivas (Chief Secretary, Rajasthan), ambassadors, diplomats, Dr. Jyotsna Suri (CMD, Lalit Hospitality) and Maharaj Pushparaj Singh of Rewa, along with various State Tourism Boards.

TAAI at 75 reflects the strength of India's travel trade community and decades of trusted collaboration across airlines, agents and partners. For Akasa Air, this ecosystem is integral to our growth journey as we build deeper market connections and meaningful partnerships. We look forward to supporting the industry's next phase of progress together.

~ Sagar Naik

Vice President - Commercial & Sales
Akasa Air

TAAI Northern Region

Large membership turnout at the TAAI Meeting,
Northern Region's Industry Participation continues



A Landmark Gathering: 75th Year Members' Meet, New Delhi

The TAAI Northern Region 75th Year Members' Meet was held on April 24, 2026 at Le Meridien, New Delhi, witnessing an exceptional turnout of over 110 members and industry stakeholders, reflecting strong unity within the fraternity. The event reinforced TAAI's continued commitment to advocacy, collaboration, and strengthening the travel trade community.

The meeting drew participation from leading airline representatives and the Japan National Tourism Organisation (JNTO), along with a notable presence from travel media, reinforcing the significance of the gathering.

Key updates from the Managing Committee Meeting held at Chandrapur on April 21 and 22, 2026, were shared with members.

Members were also briefed on the IATA staff qualification norms, particularly in cases where a Notice of Change is filed. The GDS-based certifications will help fulfil the compliance requirements.





A crucial clarification was highlighted regarding debit notes, which cannot be raised beyond nine months of travel completion, strengthening agent safeguards. Additionally, it was announced that the TAAI Joint Bank Guarantee Programme 2026 is now open for renewal beyond July 1, 2026, up to June 30, 2027 and also for New Members fulfilling the compliance required.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The evening also celebrated excellence with the presentation of the WoW Awards, honouring outstanding women in the industry. The awards were presented to:

- **Ms. Nivedita Roy**, Manager – Delhi Office, Japan National Tourism Organization
- **Ms. Jasmeet Kaur**, Director, My Kind Vacation, Noida



Korea Roadshow 2026 – Strengthening Premium Travel Connect

The Korea Tourism Organisation, in association with TAAI Northern Region, hosted the Korea Premium Travel Consultant Program on March 12, 2026, at The Imperial, New Delhi.

The invite-only event brought together leading travel professionals, with Korean partners showcasing premium experiences and strengthening destination engagement with the Indian market.



VFS Global 'Beat the Peak' – Recognizing Industry Partnership

The Northern Region Office Bearers of TAAI were felicitated by VFS Global at the 'Beat the Peak 2026' roadshow held on March 19, 2026, at Sheraton New Delhi Hotel, Saket.

The event brought together key travel trade stakeholders ahead of the peak season, highlighting strong collaboration and continued industry alignment.

TAAI Eastern Region

Continues its thoughtfully created initiatives – Innovative and Engaging

A Night at the Movies, the TAAI Way of Exclusivity!

Here's a unique way to support member bonding and encouraging active participation in Region events. TAAI Eastern Region organized an exclusive screening of 'Dhurandhar – The Revenge' on March 22, 2026 at PVR Inox, Quest Mall, with the entire auditorium reserved for members.



The creative initiative brought members together in a relaxed setting, with popcorn and refreshments adding to the experience, making it a well-received and engaging evening.



Celebrating the Women Who Power the Industry

TAAI Eastern Region marked Women's Day on March 8, 2026 at The Park, Kolkata, hosting a well-attended brunch attended by around 70 members and industry professionals. This event was another expression of bringing industry leaders together, achieving higher visibility for TAAI, and fostering active member engagement.

At this very special event, the TAAI's WoW (Women of Wonder) Awards for the outstanding contributions made by women leaders in the Travel & Tourism Sector were presented to **Ms. Bobbita Das**, Proprietor, RG Travels, Kolkata.

This TAAI Initiative has created a warm and meaningful platform for appreciation and interaction.



Bengali New Year Day, the TAAI Way: Full of Colour and Connect

TAAI Eastern Region celebrated Poila Baisakh, the Bengali New Year Day, on April 12, 2026 at Hotel Hindustan International, Kolkata, with a vibrant gathering of members, industry stakeholders and dignitaries.

With traditional Bengali cuisine, cultural ambience and a live performance by a renowned Bengali singer, the event brought together close to 90–95 attendees, reflecting strong participation and festive spirit.

This is yet another meaningful initiative the TAAI Eastern Region has launched to encourage members to celebrate TAAI and togetherness.



As TAAI marks 75 years of service to the travel and tourism industry, it stands as a beacon of unity, resilience, and progress. Over the decades, TAAI has shaped professional standards, fostered collaboration, and represented the collective voice of the industry. Its enduring commitment to excellence continues to inspire confidence, innovation, and responsible growth.

~ Prem Sagar

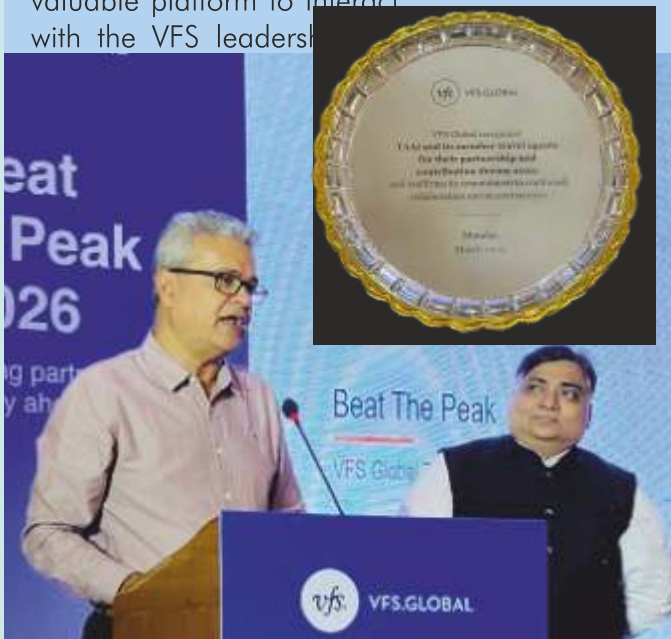
GM – Marketing, Travel and Hospitality (TnH)
Swift Media International

TAAI Western Region

Continued Active Association With Industry Opportunities

TAAI at VFS Global Event - Beat the Peak2026

TAAI Western Region was actively associated with the VFS Global 'Beat the Peak 2026' trade event. Strong industry presence and member engagement was witnessed. The event provided a valuable platform to interact with the VFS leaders.



Strengthening Cultural Connect Through Meaningful Dialogue

Members of the TAAI Western Region attended a closed-door meeting with the Honourable Consul for Social and Cultural Affairs of the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Mumbai. The discussion focused on strengthening cultural ties and collaborative opportunities. It also highlighted the importance of deeper engagement between tourism and cultural exchange, opening avenues for future partnerships.



TAAI at the Table for Mumbai's Tourism Future
Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) invited the TAAI Western Region to participate in a stakeholder consultation on the Mumbai Economic Master Plan on March 4, 2026.

The interaction provided an opportunity to present inputs from the hospitality and tourism sector, with discussions centred on strengthening Mumbai's tourism ecosystem and identifying avenues for sustainable growth.

TAAI Western Region Team at Sri Lankan Tourism Evening

The TAAI Western Region team was invited to attend the Sri Lankan Tourism Evening, organized by the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau. The event brought together travel trade professionals, tourism partners, and industry leaders to strengthen tourism ties between India and Sri Lanka.

The evening showcased Sri Lanka's diverse tourism offerings, emerging travel experiences, and new opportunities for collaboration with the Indian travel industry.

TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Award for Member Excellence was presented to **Ms. Hutokshi Marker**, Chief Operating Officer, Trail Blazer Tours (I) Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai



TAAI Southern Region

Activities Galore, Members Meeting, Partnerships for Progress

Across February and April 2026, the TAAI Southern Region demonstrated strong momentum through global engagement, member-led initiatives and cross-industry collaborations, reflecting both scale and diversity of activity.



At the Heart of Tamil Nadu's Tourism Momentum

TAAI Southern Region marked its presence at the Tamil Nadu Global Tourism Summit inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru M.K. Stalin on February 2, 2026 in Chennai, engaging with global stakeholders and reinforcing the state's positioning as a key tourism hub.



Opening Doors to Indonesia's Premium Travel Story

The Region participated in the "Wonderful Indonesia" Sales Mission on February 3, 2026, at Radisson Blu, Chennai, enabling direct interaction with international partners and expanding destination knowledge for members. Mr. Eddy

Wardoyo, Hon. Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, Mumbai, attended as the chief Guest.

Camaraderie on the Field: Cricket Tournament

The Region actively participated in the Emirates Travel Agency Cricket Tournament held from February 7 to 8 2026, Chennai. The TAAI Southern Region's team was rightfully named TAAI-SR Super Kings fostering strong bonding across the travel fraternity.





Taking the Game Forward - Women in Action

A dedicated Women's Cricket Match on February 8, 2026 saw enthusiastic participation, with TAAI SR Victory Queens emerging as champions, highlighting growing inclusivity within the industry.



Beyond Business: ICC T20 World Cup Experience

Members were extended VIP access to the ICC T20 World Cup on February 10, 2026, adding a unique experiential dimension to member engagement.



Focused Networking: Melange Select, Chennai

Participation in Melange Select on February 11, 2026 at ITC Grand Chola provided members with a curated environment for B2B engagement and new business opportunities.



Policy and Collaboration Dialogue: Singapore Interaction

An interaction with Singapore Vice Consul General Mr. Tan Yi Hao on March 17, 2026 focused on tourism collaboration and key industry matters.



Exploring New Destinations: Alaska Tourism Session

The Region participated in an Alaska-focused session on March 19 2026, hosted by the U.S. Consulate, highlighting emerging destination opportunities. The session presided over by Commercial Officer Ms. Carey highlighted Alaska's unique tourism offerings and collaboration opportunities.

Bringing the Region to the Same Table - Management Meeting

The 6th Southern Region Meeting held on February 21, 2026 at The Residency Towers, Chennai, brought members together for discussions on industry developments and regional priorities.

Reimagining Chennai Through New Tourism Lenses

As part of the engagement on February 21, 2026, members experienced the Tamil Nadu Tourism double-decker FAM and the TTDC AC Double Decker Bus, offering insight into evolving urban tourism experiences.



Strengthening Diplomatic Connect: Sri Lanka Engagement

TAAI Southern Region attended the Sri Lanka National Day celebrations on February 23, 2026, upon the invitation of the Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Geathiswaran Ganesanathan strengthening ties through diplomatic and cultural engagement.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

On March 23, 2026 TAAI Southern Region presented the TAAI WoW Leadership Excellence Award to **Smt. J. Innocent Divya**, IAS, in recognition of her contribution to tourism development.

The Member Excellence Award for the TAAI Southern Region was conferred on **Ms. Tasneem Murtuza** of Globetrotters Tours & Travels, Chennai.



Strengthening Malaysia Connect: Tourism Malaysia Seminar, Chennai

TAAI Southern Region participated in the Tourism Malaysia Product Presentation Seminar (VMY 2026) on April 16, 2026 at The Leela Palace, Chennai, engaging with key stakeholders from Malaysia's tourism sector.

The evening was graced by Mr. K. Saravanakumar, Consul General of Malaysia in Chennai, along with Mr. Hishamuddin Mustafa, Director of Tourism Malaysia (South India & Sri Lanka), highlighting strong bilateral tourism ties between India and Malaysia.

The seminar featured leading Malaysian partners, offering valuable insights into destination offerings while enabling meaningful networking and business opportunities for members.



I am extremely delighted to express my thoughts on the 75th year of TAAI. This is a resounding testament to the unparalleled achievement of a prestigious association, which simply reflects dedication and integrity. An occasion for celebration and also to maintain a strong connect with members. This will create newer opportunities for business growth. TAAI is surely able to chart a path of sanity, unity and goodwill.

~ **Sanjay Pahwa**

Editor-in-Chief

The Voice of Chandigarh & The Voice of Canada Newspapers



TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter

Members' Interaction with TAAI Office Bearers and MC Members, WoW Awards and Consistent Member Engagement



Seventh Chapter Meeting – Presentations on Digitisation and Uzbekistan.

The seventh Chapter Meeting was held on February 10, 2026, at Hotel Golkonda, Hyderabad. Members were briefed on industry updates and the TAAI MC meeting held on February 4, 2026, in Mumbai.

Appreciation was recorded to the TAAI Managing Committee for their persistent efforts in representing Industry concerns and promoting the reduction in TCS, which is now announced at 2%, flat. The Chairperson also shared details and experiences from the Lakshadweep FAM Tour and conveyed gratitude to the hosts M/s. Praveg Resorts for their support and hospitality, and to TAAI for this opportunity.

TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar, who regularly attends the meetings of the TAAI AP & TS Chapter, briefed the members on various matters, which included the following:

- The recent release of the commemorative issue of NAMASTAAI highlighting the 75 years of TAAI
- Plans on the 75 Years of TAAI Program
- Ongoing representations to DGCA on member grievances related to "benefits for travellers on direct booking on the airline's websites"
- TAAI's objection on the global alignment of BSP Payments that would impact our members' credit period by a few days or more



The President said TAAI is pleased to offer the very special 75 Years magnetic pin to members and encouraged them to wear it proudly. He added that the special commemorative Directory and Membership ID Cards will soon be initiated.

The Chapter Meeting was followed by an Educational Talk by Mr. Sudheer Reddy, Director, ISeen Software Solutions, on the topic: "It's Time for Digitalization – Are You Ready?"

There was also a face-to-face interactive session with the Uzbekistan Airlines team from Delhi.





Eighth Members Meeting and a Celebration of the Women Shaping Hospitality (WoW Awards)

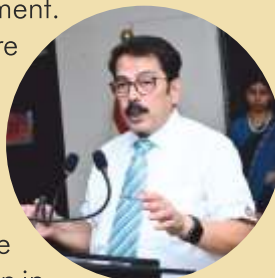
The Chapter marked Women's Day at the Institute of Hotel Management. It was a proud and inspiring occasion as TAAI members gathered at the prestigious Institute of Hotel Management, Hyderabad, to celebrate Women's Day and honour the dedicated women faculty and staff of this esteemed institution in tourism and hospitality.



The campus reflects true professionalism and a strong corporate culture under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Sanjay Thakur, an exemplary administrator, and

Mr. Punit, Head of the Department. Heartfelt appreciation to the entire IHM team for making their excellent work.

The event was exceptionally well-organised and graciously hosted, displaying remarkable acumen, precision, and perfection in every detail.



Ninth Members Meet - Where Ideas, Industry and Opportunity Converged

TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter has been most active with regular member meetings that support excellent interaction, education and updates on various industry matters. Their ninth Chapter Meeting was held on March 30, 2026, at Hotel Mercure, Hyderabad.

The highlight of this meeting was the interaction the Chapter members had with the two National Office Bearers and two MC members of TAAI – Mr. Lokesh Bettaiah, Vice President and Mr. Shreeram Patel, Hon. Secretary General. Joining this interaction were Mr. Samer Karnani, Chairperson of the TAAI Airlines Council and Mr. Amish Desai, Chairperson of Allied Services. Indeed, this was a very special occasion.



The interactive session witnessed active participation from members, with discussions covering key industry developments and ongoing engagement with the Ministry of Civil Aviation on sector-related matters.

The other agenda item of the meeting was the destination presentation on Bali by Mr. Dheeraj, Co-founder, Bali Wister.



An event with officials of Tourism, Government of J&K

On April 24, 2026, Chairperson Mr. Nagesh Pampati, addressed the Tourism Officials of Jammu & Kashmir in the presence of Advisor to Chief Minister J&K and suggested enhanced tourism to the region with newer initiatives. These included direct flights, more accessible South Indian cuisine, promotions for family and group travel, civic amenities especially near Dal Lake, easier availability of gondola tickets, safety and trust, and more film shootings of Tollywood. This aimed to strengthen tourism ties between the southern region of India and Jammu & Kashmir.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to **Ms. Sujatha Cecilia**, Director of Across the Monde Travel and Tours Private Limited, Hyderabad.





TAAI TALK

NEWS FROM REGIONS & CHAPTERS

TAAI Chandigarh Chapter

Strengthening Industry Connections



Czech Republic Tourism Board Workshop

TAAI Chandigarh Chapter members actively participated in the Czech Republic Tourism Board Workshop held on March 10, 2026, at Lemon Tree Hotel, Chandigarh.

The workshop provided an excellent platform for interaction between travel trade professionals and representatives of the Czech Republic Tourism Board. Members engaged in productive discussions regarding tourism opportunities, destination highlights, travel products, and future collaboration prospects. The event facilitated valuable networking and knowledge-sharing among all participants.



VFS Global Trade Interaction

TAAI Chandigarh Chapter office bearers and members participated in an event organized by VFS Global on March 18, 2026, at Hyatt Centric, Chandigarh.

The gathering served as an important platform for strengthening ties between the travel fraternity and VFS Global. During the event, the TAAI office bearers were honored with mementos by the VFS Global team as a gesture of appreciation and thanksgiving for their continued support and association. The event concluded with meaningful discussions and networking among industry stakeholders.



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**

TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter

Launch of 75 Years of TAAI Celebrations, Chapter Meeting, Leadership Visits

TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter started off with the launch of 75 years of TAAI and its regular events and activities continue to keep members actively involved.

Tenth Chapter Meeting - Where the Industry Came Together to Align and Act

The tenth Meeting of the TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter was held on February 14, 2026, at Kings Restaurant, Pune.

Planning TAAI's 75th year, outlining key achievements, current priorities and the road ahead were discussed at length while planning chapter activities for the coming financial year.

The session also covered important industry



updates, including GST and TCS developments, visa-related interactions with VFS, tourism policy discussions, airline-related matters, and updates on the TAAI Directory, ID Card initiative and ongoing 75th year celebrations, providing members with a comprehensive perspective on current developments.



A Legacy of Cricket, Camaraderie and Connection

The Chapter also successfully hosted the 17th TAAI CSM Cricket Tournament, held from January 17 to February 1, 2026, in Pune, continuing a long-standing tradition within the travel fraternity.

The tournament saw participation from 16 teams, with the final played between Thomas Cook and Akbar Travels of India. Thomas Cook emerged as champions, securing the title for the third consecutive year.

The event was graced by Mrs. Subhada Joshi (Past Vice President, TAAI), along with senior members including Mr. Noshir Irani, Mr. Bahram P. Zadeh and Mr. Krishna Gopalan, among others. Initiated in 2006, the tournament remains a key platform that brings together the travel and airline community, fostering camaraderie and long-standing industry relationships.





TAAI TALK

NEWS FROM REGIONS & CHAPTERS

The TAAI 75 Years Take Off – A Milestone to Remember TAAI President & Vice President Join the Event



On April 18, 2026, members of the TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter came together to commemorate a historic milestone – the 75 years of TAAI's invaluable contribution to the travel and tourism industry. The celebratory meeting had a record participation of over 60 members, reflecting the chapter's vibrant spirit and unwavering commitment.

TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar and Vice President Mr. Lokesh Bettaiah, joined this important event and their presence reflected its importance.

Addressing the members, President Mr. Sunil Kumar, shared the perspective of TAAI, its initiatives and plans forward. He covered IATA matters and highlighted on the active engagement across India to celebrate "The 75 Years of TAAI".

Mr. Lokesh Bettaiah gave updates on the APJC and the association's intense lobbying, aimed to safeguard members' interests. This was followed by a Q & A session, to clarify points raised by members.



To commemorate this special occasion, the chapter honoured Past Chairpersons.

Mrs. Shubhuda Joshi, Mrs. Amarjeet Lidder, Mr. Noshir Irani, Mr. Bahram P. Zadeh, Mr. Krishn Gopal, and Mr. Kishore Rawat are the leaders who served TAAI. They were honoured for their leadership and contribution to the development of TAAI Central & South Maharashtra Chapter (Formerly the TAAI Pune Chapter).

On this occasion, a thought-provoking talk was delivered by Guest Speaker, Dr. Vaibhavi Pingale, Head of Tatvita Analysts, a platform dedicated to applied research and best practices that deliver actionable solutions across sectors, countries, and systems. Dr Pingale offered a pragmatic assessment of the current geopolitical situation and its impact on the Indian economy and travel trade. She further presented actionable ideas for consideration, sparking a healthy exchange of questions and insights from the floor.

Earlier, Chairperson Mr. Mehbook Shaikh updated on the current trade situations, the growth plan of Pune International Airport and other matters.

The evening then transitioned into an enjoyable affair of cocktails and dinner, marked by intense conversations, lively interactions, and a renewed sense of camaraderie among members. The entire event was organised by the CSM Team - Chairperson Mr. Mehboob Shaikh, Hon. Treasurer Mr. Syed Zakir Husaini and Hon. Secretary Mr. Yazdi Marker.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

Ms. Aparna Thakurdas of Odyssey Tours & Travels, Pune, was conferred with the TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award.



TAAI Goa Chapter

Celebrating Women of Impact: WoW Awards - Chapter Meeting



The TAAI Goa Chapter hosted its WoW Awards Evening at Hotel Fidalgo, commemorating International Women's Day with a strong turnout of members and industry stakeholders. The event commenced with a chapter meeting, setting the tone for an evening of recognition and camaraderie.

The evening took on a deeper resonance as the chapter turned its spotlight on the women quietly - and not so quietly - shaping the industry. The WoW Excellence Awards celebrated achievers across governance, hospitality, and the travel trade.

Mr. Nagesh Pampati, Chairperson – AP Chapter & Telangana Chapter joined the meeting. The event reflected a shared commitment to recognising leadership and contribution across sectors.



Chairperson Mr. Timoteo Colaco highlighted the importance of celebrating women leaders who continue to inspire excellence and leadership across industries. He also reflected on TAAI's milestone journey of 75 years and outlined the association's vision for the future. A short presentation showcasing TAAI's legacy and upcoming initiatives formed part of the proceedings.

TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

Ms. Egna Cleetus, IAS, Collector of South Goa, was recognised for her work at the intersection of administration and possibility - her award presented by Mr. Nagesh Pampati.

Ms. Sheetal Singh, General Manager of Taj Exotica and Cluster Manager for South Goa, was honoured for setting the standard for hospitality in the region. Her award was presented by Mr. Pramod Rane of Air Sonics.

Ms. Maryrose of Libra World Travels, Goa received the TAAI WoW Member Excellence WoW Award, which was presented by Ms. Sita Anatao - Past TAAI Chairperson and last year's WoW recipient herself.



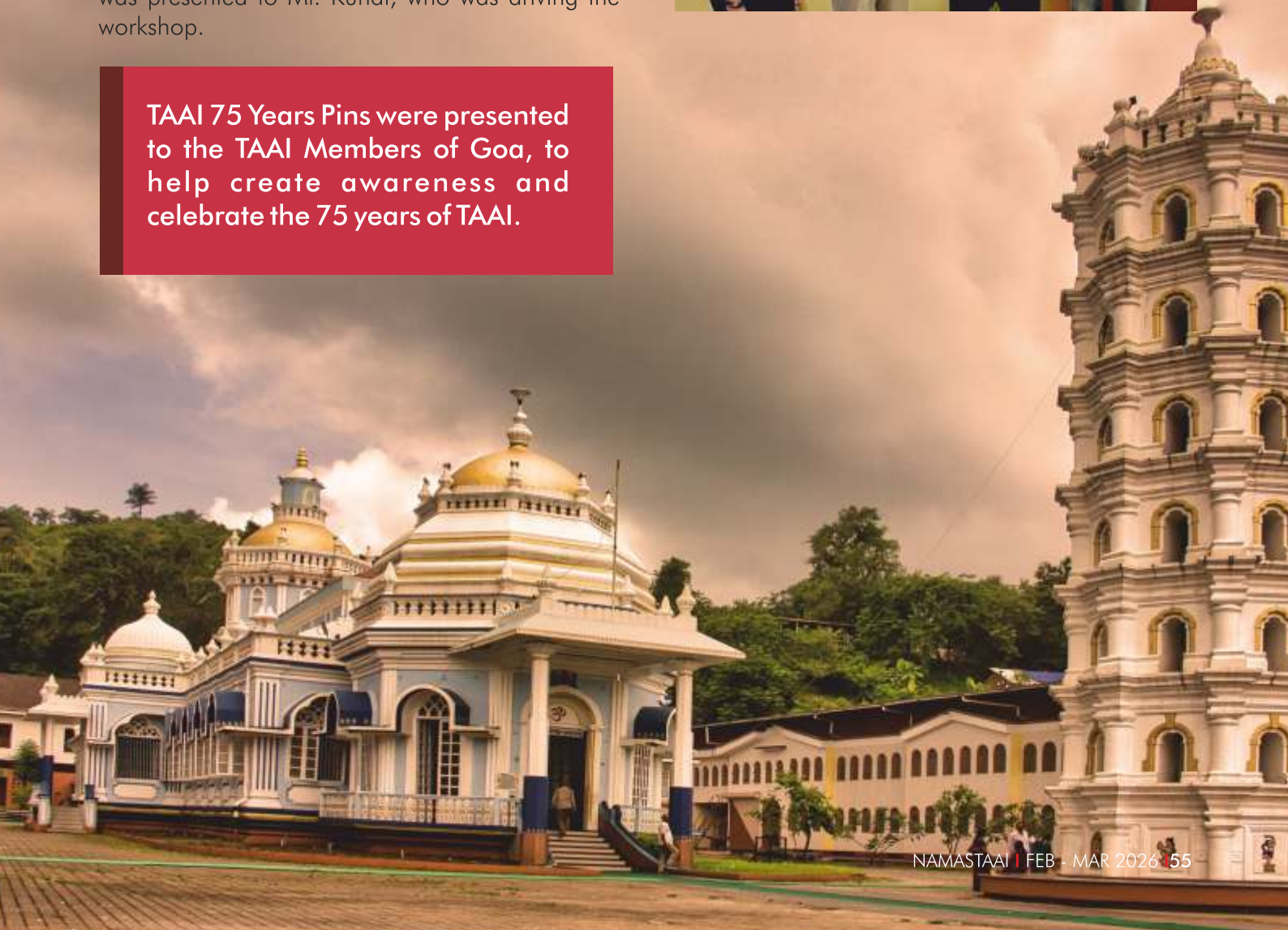


Goa Chapter Supports YAS Island Road Show

TAAI Goa Chapter extended help to the YAS Island Roadshow, held on April 27, 2026 at Taj Vivanta, Goa. TAAI Convention 2025 had the Gala at the YAS Sea World, and this was an expression of our gratitude, as well. The event promoted the purpose well and was educational and inspiring to the good attendance the Chapter had generated for this event. The commemorative copy of NAMASTAAI was presented to Mr. Kunal, who was driving the workshop.



TAAI 75 Years Pins were presented to the TAAI Members of Goa, to help create awareness and celebrate the 75 years of TAAI.



TAAI Gujarat Chapter On the Move – Meetings & Discovery



From boardroom conversations to immersive experiences, the TAAI Gujarat Chapter brought together business insight and new-age tourism exposure.

The Sixth Chapter Meeting – Updates and Member Engagement

The TAAI Gujarat Chapter hosted its sixth Chapter Meeting on February 28, 2026 at Crowne Plaza Ahmedabad City Centre, with participation from 46 members.

A key highlight was a session by PayGlocal, offering practical insights into cross-border payment solutions, with relevance for members handling international transactions and global travel business.





Exploring Innovation: Visit to Spectra Museum

Spectra Museum in Ahmedabad is India's first immersive, multi-sensory art and technology museum, located on Science City Road, Thaltej. Offering an aesthetic, cinematic experience, it features eight interactive zones blending light, sound, and digital art. Ideal for families and creators,

The Chapter organised a visit to Spectra Museum, Ahmedabad on March 20, 2026, with around 25 members experiencing the city's newest attraction.

As India's first, Spectra showcased immersive experiences, offering members valuable insights into emerging experiential tourism products.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award for Gujarat Chapter is presented to **Mrs Sadhana Dipak Shah**, Director, Planets Aviation Pvt. Ltd, Ahmedabad.



TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter

Enhanced Visibility – A Stronger Presence, A Greater Commitment

Kashmir Tourism Summit 2026: Reinforcing Growth Direction



The TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter marked a strong presence at the Kashmir Tourism Summit 2026 held at The LaLiT, New Delhi, with Chairperson Mr. Sameer Ahmad Baktoo and National Managing Committee members in attendance.

The summit was presided over by Hon'ble Union Minister for Tourism & Culture Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir Shri Omar Abdullah, who outlined the roadmap for the revival and sustained growth of tourism in the region.



Bringing together key stakeholders from across the industry, the platform reinforced a clear direction, strengthening Jammu & Kashmir's positioning as a preferred destination through enhanced connectivity, infrastructure and collaborative engagement.

Tourism Education Expo, Encouraging Future Talent TAAI Felicitates Winning Students

The Tourism Education Expo & 'Dekho Apna Desh' Brochure Contest, organised by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, highlighted the growing focus on tourism education and youth engagement.

TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter Chairperson Mr. Sameer Ahmad Baktoo felicitated the winning students, recognising their creativity and participation. The initiative reflects the importance of building early awareness and encouraging the next generation to engage with the travel and tourism sector.





Setting the Standard in Srinagar

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, is on a mission to ensure India's hotels earn their stars - and TAAI is helping make it happen. As part of the Ministry's ongoing hotel classification programme, inspection teams travel across the country evaluating properties against the criteria for their applied star category, with TAAI representatives joining each delegation.



At a recent inspection of The LaLiT Grand Palace, Srinagar, Chapter Chairperson Mr. Sameer A. Baktoo joined the team led by Mr. Arun Srivastava, Joint Director General, Ministry of Tourism - contributing to what is quietly one of the more consequential efforts in raising the bar for Indian hospitality.

National Tourism Conference at University of Kashmir

Members of the TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter participated in the one-day National Conference organised by the Department of Tourism, Hospitality & Leisure Studies, University of Kashmir, at Gandhi Bhawan on March 24, 2026. This was pursuant to an invite in recognition of the proactive role being played by the Chapter in promoting tourism development and stakeholder coordination in Jammu & Kashmir

The conference, held on the theme "Beyond Sustainability: Advancing Regenerative Models in Tourism Development," witnessed detailed deliberations on responsible tourism, sustainability challenges, community participation and emerging tourism models. Chairperson Mr. Sameer Ahmad Baktoo, actively participated in the discussions and shared the perspective of the travel industry.



Participation in this important academic event reflects the growing involvement of TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter in policy dialogue, responsible tourism initiatives and collaborative tourism development in the region.

TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter Meets Director of Srinagar International Airport to Address Tourism Facilitation Matters

In a significant step towards strengthening tourism infrastructure and improving operational convenience for travel stakeholders, TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter, led by Chairperson Mr. Sameer Baktoo, held an important meeting with the Director of Sheikh ul-Alam International Airport, Mr. Javed Anjum, to deliberate upon several pressing concerns faced by the travel trade fraternity at Srinagar Airport.

During the interaction, various issues affecting the smooth handling of tourists and travel company operations were brought to the forefront which included the following:

- The need to simplify airport access for registered travel company representatives, including TAAI members and authorised tourism facilitators.
- The persistent parking inconvenience at Srinagar Airport, which often creates operational hurdles for tourism service providers during guest pickups and departures. Request for smoother vehicular movement and designated parking support.

The meeting also focused on the much-anticipated large-scale expansion and modernisation project of Srinagar International Airport. With the Government of India having approved a multi-crore upgradation plan for the airport, there were discussions on the impact of



renovation activities and its potential impact on tourism movement during the peak season.

Airport Director Mr. Javed Anjum assured the TAAI delegation that all necessary measures would be taken to ensure that tourist arrivals, departures, and ground facilitation remain smooth and uninterrupted during the execution of the expansion works. He further conveyed that the airport administration is committed to carrying out the renovation in a phased and tourist-friendly manner so that no inconvenience is caused to incoming travellers or the local tourism industry.

TAAI expressed gratitude to the Airport Director for his time and discussions.

TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI Member Excellence Award was presented to **Mrs. Aabroo Ratta**, Director of Honey Gold India Tours and Travels, Srinagar.



TAAI Karnataka Chapter

Driving Dialogue Forward: Eighth Chapter Meeting, Bengaluru



The TAAI Karnataka Chapter held its eighth Chapter Meeting on April 29, 2026 at the Karnataka State Hockey Stadium, witnessing an excellent turnout and active member engagement.

The session featured insightful discussions on key industry matters, with members contributing perspectives and ideas, while also outlining plans for upcoming initiatives as part of TAAI's 75th year celebrations.

Members also acknowledged the efforts of the TAAI National Committee in facilitating the reduction of TCS from 5% to 2%, a significant development for the travel trade.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

TAAI WoW Leadership Excellence Award 2026 was presented to **Smt. N Pushpa**, Former Joint Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka, to acknowledge her contribution to the Industry.

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to **Rtn. Sanjeevi Singh**, Founder of IVS Holidays, Bengaluru.



TAAI Kerala Chapter

Members Meet – Destination Promotions



The TAAI Kerala Chapter has made it their mission to ensure members are always involved. Through regular initiatives, events, and timely updates, the chapter has carved out a presence that's hard to ignore - raising the bar for what regional engagement looks like within India's travel trade community.

Eighth Chapter Meeting

Member Engagement and Forward Planning

The eighth Chapter Meeting of TAAI Kerala was held at Le Meridien, Maradu, Kochi on February 11, 2026. Despite the Chapter covering the vast area of Kerala, from across the State, members travelled to join this important event.

The meeting provided an opportunity for members to connect and align on upcoming initiatives, including discussions around TAAI's 75th Year programs. The meeting was hosted by Le Meridien, Kochi.

Dubai Tourism Roadshow, Strengthening Industry Connect

The Chapter also marked its participation at the Dubai Tourism Roadshow held on February 17, 2026 at Marriott Hotel, Edappally, Kochi.

Members actively engaged with industry stakeholders during the event, exploring opportunities and strengthening destination connections.

TAAI At Road Shows

Partnerships to Promote Destination

TAAI Kerala Chapter members joined the Swiss Tourism Road Show at Taj Vivanta, Kochi, on March 31, 2026.

Continuing the spree of association, members of TAAI Kerala Chapter participated in the New Zealand Tourism Roadshow and also the Airline Roadshow, which was held at the Crowne Plaza on April 30, 2026.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to **Ms. Saju Premjith**, Managing Director, Sana Destino Private Limited, Kozhikode.



TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter Milestones and Engagement Across Industry Platforms



Sixth Chapter Meeting – Strengthening Member Engagement

The sixth Meeting of TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter was successfully held on February 13, 2026 at Hotel Hyatt, Raipur, with strong participation from members across Chhattisgarh. The meeting brought together esteemed members of the chapter for meaningful discussions and strategic collaboration aimed at strengthening the travel trade in the region.

During this visit the TAAI delegation had the honour of meeting Ms. Poonam Sharma, DGM of the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board. The interaction focused on promoting Chhattisgarh as a vibrant tourism destination and exploring new opportunities for mutual growth.

Ms. Poonam Sharma assured her complete support to TAAI and expressed her commitment to working closely with the association for the development of tourism in the state.



An insightful product presentation on Chardham by TTP added further value, enhancing members' knowledge and equipping them with better tools to promote spiritual tourism.

Honouring Women Who Make an Impact

The Chapter celebrated International Women's Day with an engaging and meaningful interaction, recognising the achievements of accomplished women across diverse fields.

Distinguished guests included Dr. Seema Alawa (ADC Police), Ms. Jayshree Pingle (Senior Journalist), Ms. Shrarvaani (History Teller) and Ms. Pooja Dave (Social Worker). Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon presented mementoes to the guests, acknowledging their contributions and the inspiring perspectives shared with members.





Indore Airport Terminal Inauguration, A Regional Milestone

In a significant development for regional aviation, the reconfigured terminal at Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar International Airport, Indore was inaugurated, marking a key milestone in infrastructure growth. The terminal was virtually inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu, with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Mohan Yadav and Shri Shankar Lalwani present as Chief Guests. Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon was invited as a special guest for the occasion.

The development enhances passenger convenience and strengthens Indore's position as an important aviation hub in the region.

Seventh Members Meet Strengthening Engagement

The TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter hosted its seventh Chapter Meeting on April 24, 2026 at Simcha Island Park & Resort, bringing together members from Bhopal, Indore and Ujjain for a focused and engaging session.

Key discussions centered on enhancing airline connectivity across the region, membership growth, and planning for the upcoming TAAI 75th anniversary celebrations, reflecting a forward-looking approach within the chapter.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Leadership Excellence Award was presented to **Ms. Poonam Sharma**, Dy. General Manager (Joint Collector) of the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board. She received the award for her significant contribution to the development of Chhattisgarh Tourism, and for supporting the travel trade in its growth. The award was presented by Mr. Raman Jadwani, senior TAAI member.



Ms. Bhavna Jadon of Overseas Travels, Indore, was the recipient of the TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award for her outstanding contribution and for inspiring other women in the industry through her leadership. The award was presented by Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Mr. Shankar Lalwani.



TAAI Punjab Chapter

Dialogue, Recognition & Industry Alignment



Advocacy in Action: Representation to Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar

On April 2, 2026, a delegation from TAAI Punjab met with the Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar, to discuss key concerns affecting the travel trade.

The interaction focused on challenges related to license renewals, procedural delays and the need for greater clarity and consistency in compliance processes. The delegation also highlighted concerns relating to members holding OCI cards and the operational implications arising from existing interpretations.

The representation was positively received, with assurance from the administration that the concerns would be reviewed with due consideration.

Chapter Meeting and WoW Awards

The TAAI Punjab Chapter Meeting and WoW Awards were held on April 22, 2026, bringing members together for discussions focused on key operational and regulatory matters impacting the travel trade.

The session addressed evolving compliance requirements, service standards, digital processes and day-to-day industry challenges, encouraging collaborative dialogue and knowledge-sharing among members.

A special highlight of the gathering was the WoW Awards recognition, where members were felicitated for their contribution, leadership and continued commitment to the travel fraternity and TAAI's objectives.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award, was presented to **Ms. Ranjita Sabrol**, Founder of Ved Mantra, Jalandhar.



TAAI Rajasthan Chapter Members Meet – Industry Engagement



The Ninth Members Meet of TAAI Rajasthan Chapter

The TAAI Rajasthan Chapter came together in Jaipur to celebrate its ninth Chapter Meeting with strong participation and enthusiasm. This well-attended Members Meet was held on February 27, 2026 at ITC Rajputana Palace, Jaipur, with members coming together in a well-curated setting.

It was a meeting that updated members on various matters of TAAI, including TAAI's 75 years celebrations during 2026.

Hosted by Mr. Deependra Rana, General Manager, members were briefed by the updates on upcoming developments from ITC Mementoes and Castle Kanota, highlighting new projects in Jaipur.

The evening concluded with a special award, which was presented to Mr. Deependra Rana in appreciation of his hospitality and support by the TAAI Rajasthan Chapter.





An Interaction with Tourism Team at Jaipur

The TAAI team, led by Chairperson Mr. Manoj Sogani, interacted with the team from the Ministry of Tourism, Rajasthan, at their office in Jaipur, led by Asst. Director General of Tourism Mr. R.K. Bhati.



The commemorative issue of NAMASTAAI along with our special 75-year pin was presented. TAAI's 75th year was shared with the team along with the journey of TAAI.

The Team from MOT appreciated TAAI's role and congratulated the 75-year legacy and its contribution to India's travel and tourism Industry. They also assured of a stronger partnership in promoting tourism, together

TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to Ms Beena Rathore, Director of Holiday and Business Travels Pvt. Ltd, Jaipur



You're Already In. Now Stand Out.

Every TAAI member earns a place in this landmark edition. A premium listing ensures you're the one they remember.

As TAAI marks 75 years of representing India's travel and tourism industry, the Special Commemorative Membership Directory will feature more than 2,500 member organizations and their company profiles in a collector's edition commemorating this historic milestone.

*Every member receives a complimentary listing
But not every member will command the same attention.*

An Enhanced Listing gives your company greater visibility through larger formats, logo placement and premium positioning, helping your brand stand out to fellow members, industry partners, suppliers, tourism boards and key stakeholders.

Grab the Upgraded Listing Offer.

Very Nominal Cost. But High Visibility.

Send your consent to get upgraded to directory@taai.in, today. Do not delay



**THE
TAAI DIRECTORY
COMING SOON**

**Get Noticed!
Position your Agency
with Enhanced Visibility.**

TAAI Saurashtra & Kutch Chapter

A Great Initiative of Industry Collaboration



On the Field, Off the Clock, Still Connected,
Over 175 Participated

The TAAI Saurashtra Kutch Chapter brought the travel fraternity together through sport, strengthening bonds beyond the boardroom.



A very interesting Box Cricket Tournament was organized on March 7, 2026. The full day event, held amidst most outstanding environment of collaboration and camaraderie, witnessed members and industry partners join together in an engaging and energetic setting.

A great deal of planning went into this event and numerous preparatory meetings were held by the Chapter. Chairperson Mr. Devan was able to inspire members to contribute to this cause in addition to support received from several industry leaders.

The event was graced by TAAI President Sunil Kumar, along with two other National

Office Bearers: Hon. Secretary General Mr. Shreeram Patel and Hon. Treasurer Mr. Paras Lakhia, and Gujarat Chairperson Mr. Prashant Madlani, which clearly reflects the importance of this mega event. added to the significance of the event.

The tournament saw participation from nine teams, including TAAI members, airport authorities, insurance companies, leading DMCs and hotels, with over 175 industry colleagues in attendance, which included the family members and industry personnel.

The presence of dignitaries including the Regional Director, India Tourism, IATO National Committee Member, and TAFI Gujarat Chairperson further added to the significance of the event.



Bi-Monthly Members Meeting at Rajkot



TAAI Saurashtra-Kutch's Fifth Members Meeting was held at Rajkot on April 7, 2025. Celebrating the success of the most popular Box Cricket Tournament, which earned TAAI huge visibility, during the 75th Year of TAAI, this meeting saw excellent participation by its members.

The meeting also had a series of presentations cut through the noise on issues that directly affect how agencies operate, protect themselves, and stay ahead of an increasingly complex business landscape.



Mr. Parth Mehta and Ms. Vaishali Vitthani of Shree Keshari Nandan Law Firm made a compelling case for why legal literacy is no longer optional for travel agents - walking members through the specialised protections available to the trade and the frameworks that can shield agencies from disputes before they escalate.

Rajkot City Cyber Crime Branch brought an equally urgent message: in an era where online fraud is growing more sophisticated by the day, awareness is the first line of defence. Their session on identifying threats and building preventive practices was, by all accounts, one of the more eye-opening moments of the meeting.



A Special Note from President Sunil Kumar

"Joining the TAAI Saurashtra-Kutch Chapter during the Box Cricket Tournament was truly an enriching experience. I am immensely proud of all the members, who showcased not only outstanding teamwork and leadership but also a remarkable spirit of unity. Their generous contributions, along with the enthusiastic involvement of families and staff, reflected a rare and inspiring sense of togetherness.

This was far more than just a cricket match. It was an extraordinary celebration of unity, leadership, and industry spirit. With multiple grounds, meticulous planning, excellent hospitality, and an IPL-inspired festive dress code for the players, the event was executed on an impressive scale. The presence and participation of all verticals of the travel industry added tremendous energy, purpose, and prestige to the occasion.



Kudos to the entire Leadership Team for this remarkable achievement, which I was privileged to witness personally. It also provided me with a valuable opportunity to connect with more members, an important priority I have always cherished.

My sincere thanks to our Hon. Secretary General Mr. Shreeram Patel and Hon. Treasurer Mr. Paras Lakhia for joining and contributing to this spectacular event, which was truly packed with success."

TAAI South Gujarat Chapter

Members' Bi-Monthly Meeting - More New Members - Promoting Tourism



Well-Attended Bi-Monthly Meeting At Surat

TAAI South Gujarat Chapter held its bi-monthly meeting on March 27, 2026 at The Long-D Hotel & Banquet, Surat. It was a well-attended members' meeting.

The meeting featured the introduction of five new members who joined TAAI. Chairperson Vishal Shah briefed members on TAAI's active role across India.

The curtain raiser on TAAI's 75th Anniversary Celebration was also updated in addition to the Directory and ID Cards. NAMASTAAI's special commemorative edition was presented.

Mr. Rajnesh Panika introduced the meeting, Sponsor Mr. Paras from Hello Vietnam, a Vietnam DMC and Mr. Nisharg from V2 Travel Pty Ltd, gave a presentation on this occasion.

TAAI Members Participate in the Abu Dhabi Tourism Road Show

The Abu Dhabi Tourism Road Show, aimed at promoting Abu Dhabi as a destination and strengthening travel industry engagement, was held in Surat. TAAI members were actively associated with the initiative.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

Mrs. Aarati Shah, Managing Director of Aabha Holidays, Vadodara, was presented with the TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award.



TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter

Members Meet At Trichy



Tenth Chapter Meeting

Long regarded as one of the most engaged and visible chapters in its region, the TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter has made a habit of showing up, and showing up well. That reputation was only reinforced when the chapter made the journey to New Delhi. As reported in a previous issue of NAMASTAAI, members of the chapter journeyed to New Delhi to join hands with the TAAI Northern Region for a Joint Meeting. A rare example of a positive cross-cultural connection, this initiative was a welcome reminder of what's possible when geography stops being an excuse.

In its most regular format, the TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter, during the current term of 2024-2026, held its tenth Members Meeting on February 17, 2026. Members gathered at Hotel Blossoms, Trichy, for what turned out to be a focused and lively exchange of ideas.

Supported by Greenmind Travel, Thailand DMC, the meeting was complemented by an engaging destination presentation, offering fresh perspectives and opportunities for members to explore Thailand as a key outbound market.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Leadership Excellence Awards were presented to **Ms. Mary Joji**, Reservation Manager, Translanka Air Travels (P) Ltd., GSA Srilankan Airlines, Trichy. And **Ms. Sabitha Raj**, Station Manager, AirAsia Berhad, Trichy.

The TAAI WoW Membership Excellence Award was presented to **Ms. K. Sheela**, Proprietor Sheela Priya Travels, Madurai



TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter Members Meeting, Destination Workshop, Collaboration with UP Tourism



The Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter continued its visibility and associated with the Tourism Boards and Government to keep TAAI engaged.

South Africa Destination Workshop – Lucknow

A South Africa Destination Workshop was organised for TAAI members on March 31, 2026 at Hyatt Regency, Lucknow, bringing together members for an insightful and engaging session. This workshop created awareness on the destination and supported member engagement.



Kushinagar International Buddhist Conclave 2026 - A Landmark Initiative

The first edition of the Kushinagar International Buddhist Conclave (KIBC 2026) was successfully held from March 31 to April 2, 2026 in Kushinagar, in collaboration with TAAI and the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department.





The conclave witnessed participation from delegates across India and international markets, including representation from over 10 Indian states, along with strong engagement from the travel trade and industry stakeholders. Leading airlines such as Air India, IndiGo and SpiceJet supported the initiative, further strengthening the platform.

Focused on promoting the Buddhist Circuit of Uttar Pradesh, the conclave highlighted the region's cultural and tourism potential, marking a successful first edition with encouraging industry response.



Chapter Meeting.

WoW Awards Presented

The TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter Meeting was conducted on April 29, 2026, with the participation of 45 members. The session featured fruitful discussions and meaningful conversations among all attendees.

During the meeting, the chapter also celebrated the WoW Award recipients and extended best wishes for their future endeavors.

The evening was dedicated to recognizing achievements and warmly welcoming new members into the chapter.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to **Farheen Fatma Farooqui** Proprietor, Travel Around The World, Lucknow.





TAAI TALK

NEWS FROM REGIONS & CHAPTERS

TAAI Vidarbha Chapter

Blending Celebration With Experience,
Showcased Both Community Spirit and Industry Engagement.



Celebrating Women of Excellence

The TAAI Vidarbha Chapter organised a Women's Day celebration on March 12, 2026 at Hotel Tuli Imperial, Nagpur, bringing together members for an engaging and meaningful interaction.



The event saw 16 women representatives of the chapter being felicitated with mementoes and recognised for their contributions.



TAAI WoW AWARDS 2026

The TAAI WoW Member Excellence Award was presented to Ms. Pushpa Khubchandani, Director, Pawansut Travels Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur.



Experiencing the Wild: TAAI Vidarbha Chapter FAM Trip at Pench

The TAAI Vidarbha Chapter organised a FAM Trip on April 4 and 5, 2026, at Wildlife Accord Resort, Pench Tiger Reserve, bringing members together for an engaging and immersive destination experience. The itinerary also included visits to Tuli Veer Bagh Resort & Spa and Tuli Tiger Corridor Resort, offering members further exposure to regional hospitality offerings.



Vidarbha Chapter Welcomes TAAI Managing Committee Member at Tadoba

Thanks to the efforts of Member of the Managing Committee and Past Chairperson of Vidarbha Chapter, Mr. Irshad Mehdi, the 15th TAAI Managing Committee meeting was hosted by WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa, Chimur on April 21 and 22, 2026. The members of TAAI Vidarbha Chapter led by Chairperson Alok Vaidya welcomed the TAAI Managing Committee members and Chairpersons at the Nagpur Airport and hosted them a sumptuous breakfast at Hotel Centre Point, Nagpur. Accommodation was also offered to members who arrived the previous night. Thank you TAAI Vidarbha Chapter.



A warm welcome to our new members

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE AGENCY	CITY	REPRESENTATIVE I	REPRESENTATIVE II
1	Travelbell	Bangalore	Mr. Tejpal C. Jain	Mr. Aryan Palrecha
2	Rishika Tours And Travels	Bangalore	Mr. Krishnaiah Babu	Mr. Gourav S. Babu
3	CDV Holidays Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Mr. Lalit Bhagat	Mrs. Sanjivini Bhagat
4	Yoga Quest Tours Pvt. Ltd. (OPC)	Madurai	Mrs. Halima Yusuf	Mr. Yusuf Gaffar
5	Eutla Yes Me Holidays Pvt. Ltd., T/A Yes Me Holidays	Chennai	Mr. Mukesh Kumar J.	Mrs. M. Krishnakumari
6	Carrot Ad Works Pvt. Ltd.	Chennai	Mr. Anand Balakrishnan	Ms. Priya Anand
7	Travel Vibes Worldwide	Pune	Mrs. Priyanka Francis	Mr. Govind Alhat
8	Eighteen Travels	Pune	Mr. Somnath Gaikwad	Mr. Vishal Sathe
9	AltVoice.Travel, T/A AltLabs	Pune	Mr. Jayant Luthra	Mrs. Meera Luthra
10	Fare Fix Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	Jaipur	Mr. Vishal Parwani	Mr. Tarun Parwani
11	Shri Karni Kripa Tours & Travels	Jaipur	Mr. Rajendra Singh Rathore	Mr. Yudhishtir Singh Rathore
12	Travel Solution	Lucknow	Mr. Syed Naseer Ahmad	Mr. Mohd. Naved
13	Saga Vacations	Lucknow	Mrs. Kriti Jaiswal	Mr. Niraj Jaiswal
14	City Link Travels	Lucknow	Mr. Mohd Azam	Mr. Sarvendra Singh
15	Richa Air International	Lucknow	Ms. Richa Jaiswal	Mr. Akash Jaiswal
16	Go24Online Pvt. Ltd.	Dehradun	Mr. Lal Singh Yadav	Mr. Ram Singh Yadav
17	SNT Overseas	Ahmedabad	Mr. Samir Thakkar	Ms. Himani Thakkar
18	Trips Designs	Ahmedabad	Mrs. Priyanka Parekh	Mr. Jay Parekh
19	Shree Umiya Travels	Ahmedabad	Mr. Keval Vasudevbbhai Patel	Mr. Amit Vasudevbbhai Patel
20	Tripoint Holidays Pvt. Ltd.	New Delhi	Mrs. Roshan Sherwani	Ms. Anju Singh
21	IUM Destination	New Delhi	Mr. Umesh Chander	Mr. Mohit Chander
22	La Mondiale Tours	New Delhi	Ms. Vinita Rikhi	Mr. Subhash Verma
23	Fundoo Vacations	Bhopal	Mr. Parijat Chandra Pathak	Ms. Poonam Pathak
24	Navigation Global Travels LLP	Mumbai	Mr. Neville Gheewala	Ms. Karishma Parmar
25	Seven Wonders Holidays India Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	Mr. Sandeep Gupta	Mr. Sunil Gupta
26	Wanderlust Travel Hub	Mumbai	Mr. Raj Chaudhari	Mrs. Poonam Raj Chaudhari

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27	Sugir Tours And Travels	Chennai	Mr. B. Shanthakumar	Mr. K. Sathishkumar
28	Sri Murugan Travel Agency	Madurai	Mr. S. Palaniappan	Mr. PL Vishwanath
29	Nesiya Holidays	Ernakulam	Mr. Binoy Daniel	Mrs. Rejimol Binoy
30	Itinerary Planner Pvt. Ltd.	Jaipur	Mr. Anshu Saraf	Mr. Siddeshwar Tyagi
31	Solivagant Holidays	Pune	Mrs. Sweta More	Mr. Vijay More
32	Down Dale Holidays	Baramulla	Mr. Asif Hussain Wani	
33	Aspen Vacations By Sweta	Ahmedabad	Ms. Sweta Prasad Bhatt	
34	Trip Planner	Lucknow	Mr. Misbahuddin Ansari	Mrs. Farzana Anjum
35	V T Travel	Pune	Mr. Vikas Agrawal	Mr. Nilesh Agarwal
36	Travel & Leisure	Pune	Mr. Rohit Kokil	
37	Phoenix Travels	Pune	Mr. Shajin Krishnan	Mr. Shashank Patil
38	Memories Worldwide	Pune	Mrs. Priyanka Verma	
39	Mile High	Kolkata	Mr. Chandan Choudhary	Mrs. Sweta Choudhary
40	Trivikarma Overseas LLP	Ahmedabad	Mr. Maulik Shah	Mrs. Parul Maulik Shah
41	Maptime Travels Pvt. Ltd.	Jamnagar	Mr. Nikhil Galaiya	Mrs. Pooja Jain
42	Airlift Overseas Services	Chennai	Mr. Gopinath V.	Ms. Zulieka Nazneen
43	Touristree Trails Pvt. Ltd.	Chennai	Mr. M. Shankar	Mrs. M. Latha
44	Paschim Tours And Travels	Morbi	Mr. Manish Dilipkumar Mehta	Mr. Nemish Dilipbhai Mehta
45	Happy Tours & Travels	Rajkot	Mr. Jitendra Lakhani	Mrs. Jagruti Jitendra Lakhani
46	Locotrails (OPC) Pvt. Ltd.	Coimbatore	Mr. Prithvi Krishna B.	
47	Encore Holidays	Pune	Mr. Manish Gupta	Mr. Alok Gupta
48	SBG World Tours	Ahmedabad	Mr. Bhumish Soni	Mrs. Hiral Soni
49	Visawaale Travel Services LLP	New Delhi	Mr. Imran Khan	Mr. Mohammad Adnan
50	Dimps Hospitality & Travels Pvt. Ltd.	Howrah	Mr. Dibyendu Munshi	Mr. Sanjoy Dey
51	Tour 4 India	Jaipur	Mr. Amit Modi	Mr. Devansh Vyas
52	Raviwo Aerticket Alliance India Pvt. Ltd., T/A Aerticket India	Mumbai	Mr. Vijay Kesavan	Mr. Prashant Ladi
53	Destination Planners	Jaipur	Mr. Abhishek Jain	Mr. Suneet Jain
54	Sky Holidays	Jaipur	Mr. Sajid Khan	Mr. Jahangeer Ashraf Khan
55	Swift Tours & Travels	Jaipur	Mr. Amitash Joshi	Mr. Vibhor Joshi
56	Holidays Unlimited	Jaipur	Mr. Gaurav Jain	
57	Holiday India Tours And Travel	Jaipur	Mr. Govind Kumar Sharma	
58	One Rise Vacations LLP	Hyderabad	Mr. Y. Srinath Reddy	Mrs. Y. Jyotsna Reddy



Digital Dementia: Technology-Induced Cognitive Inefficiency

Digital devices have become embedded in our daily lives. We depend on them for various purposes, ranging from entertainment to socialization. We rely on these devices to set reminders for us and provide us with access to endless information and resources. However, this overreliance on digital devices has been associated with various negative consequences, including a decline in cognitive functioning. This decline has been termed “digital dementia”, a concept which was proposed by Spitzer in 2012. It is also known as the “Google Effect,” first proposed to explain how people tend to forget information they know will be available online. This decline can manifest as forgetfulness, a reduced attention span, and difficulties with multitasking. Unlike in Dementia, which is known to be associated with older age, digital dementia signs can be present even among the younger population, as it is related to excessive technology use. Children and adolescents are even more vulnerable as their brains are still developing.

Symptoms

1. Forgetting things faster
2. Difficulty focusing attention
3. Not being able to tolerate boredom, or not being willing to sit idly
4. Trouble with organizing information
5. Over reliance on digital devices for information

These symptoms can further lead to difficulty in academics, social life, mood, and overall well-being.

What are the causes?

Various reasons have been known to cause digital dementia in people:

1

Excessive screen time:

Using screen devices, like phones, laptops, and gaming systems, for longer durations contributes to a sedentary lifestyle, where the individual does not lead an active lifestyle. Such behaviors weaken the connections between brain cells and lead to poor brain health. As per existing data, 2 hours or more of screen use in children is associated with adverse effects, and 8 hours or more of screen use in adults leads to dysfunction.


2

Over stimulation:

Rapid, continuous access to multiple sources of information, such as notifications, reels, messages, etc., results in cognitive overload and exceeds the brain's capacity to process information. This is known to slow down cognitive functions.


3

Impaired sleep:

Exposure to blue light from screens is known to disrupt the circadian rhythm, which regulates sleep patterns. This results in poor sleep quality and shorter sleep duration, both of which are known to impact cognitive function.


4

Cognitive offloading:

It refers to reducing cognitive effort by relying on external sources to store, organize, and manage information. For example, using Google calendars to remember birthdays, using GPS for navigation, using AI for decision-making, etc. These features allow people to outsource these tasks to digital devices, reducing cognitive effort and lessening the use of brain functions. This results in lower mental stimulation.



What is the impact?

Excessive screen use can have a significant impact on psycho-social and cognitive functioning, as well as physical health.

Sleep Disturbances

- Blue light from screens leads to sleep disturbances
- Reduction in sleep time and quality of sleep

Cognitive Impact among Children

- Early television use is related to attention difficulties
- Multitasking on digital devices while studying is related to poor academic development
- The thickness of brain areas involved in the reward pathway is reduced in children who have been exposed to more than 7 hours of screen time

Emotional and Social Impairment

- Weakened interpersonal relationships and social connections
- Decline in academic and occupational performance
- Decreased productivity and increased propensity for error

Cognitive Impact among Adults

- Impact on attention and focus, and increased distractibility
- Excessive interaction with screens can affect normal brain network development
- Impaired short-term and long-term memory, analytical thinking, and thought flexibility

Some interesting phenomena are observed with excessive use of digital devices:

Nomophobia

refers to the fear of having no mobile around.

Technoference

is the disruption in communication caused by digital devices.

Phantom vibrations are the false perception that the phone is vibrating.

FOMO

(Fear Of Missing Out) can be more due to increased social media use.

Research has shown that if the signs of psycho-social and cognitive impact are not addressed on time, it can lead to a more severe effect. Such prolonged use can increase stress, anxiety, mood swings, and depressive symptoms. It can also create long-term risk of cognitive impairment that looks like early-onset dementia - a neurological disorder characterized by severe loss of memory, learning abilities, and deterioration of mental functions.



How to overcome it?

So how can this be avoided? In the current age, complete abstinence from technology and screens is not possible for most people. However, certain practices for the healthy use of digital devices can be employed. We can remember them as 4D's to decrease the risk of Digital Dementia:

1. Digital Media Education: It is essential to make yourself and the people in your family and surroundings aware of the effects of digital devices. Verifying and relying on research-backed data is important for obtaining objective information. SHUT clinic also organizes various workshops and has published scholarly articles on this topic.

The 'Services of Healthy Use of Technology' (SHUT) is a clinic run by Dr. Manoj Kumar Sharma, Dr. Nitin Anand, and Dr. Rajesh Kumar, with their team of scholars at NIMHANS. The clinic focuses on research, awareness, and treatment related to problematic technology use and digital well-being.

2. Digital Hygiene: Various techniques can be used to maintain digital hygiene. For example, we can follow the 20-20-20 rule - for every 20 minutes of screen exposure, we look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds. Taking a break after 30 minutes of screen use, 45 minutes of headphone use, and after 2 episodes (or 1-2 hours) of watching a series is also a good technique. Minimizing the time spent in passive consumption is an important part of digital hygiene. This refers to meaningless scrolling on phones, or using phones or tablets while watching something or working. Children's exposure to screens and digital devices can be limited per WHO guidelines:

Age	Prescribed screen time
0-2 years	No screen exposure
3-5 years	<60 minutes
6-8 years	60 minutes
>8 years	Not more than 2 hours of recreational use

It is crucial that the family collaborate and parents supervise the children's screen use. Parental control settings, co-viewing, and educating children about healthy viewing are important to maintain these viewing hours.

3. Digital Fasting: This includes setting rules for screen time, having 'no screen time' for the whole family. Screen time can be substituted with other activities, especially outdoor physical activities like walking and Yoga. Spending quality time together as a family can be a great way to improve the entire family's digital well-being. Time can also be spent engaging with others in community settings and engaging in social activities. Restricting device updates is another way to limit the use of digital devices.

4. Digital Sunset: This strategy focuses on building the discipline around the time of using digital devices. It encourages reducing screen time post sunset and at the end of the day. No screen use within 1 hour of bedtime is highly encouraged to maintain high-quality sleep. Accommodations can be made to protect eyes from the blue light emitted by screens by adding blue-light filters or using screen-specific eyeglasses.

It is vital that our use of devices is more mindful, intentional, and minimal as far as possible, and that habits of healthy technology use are inculcated from childhood to avoid adverse effects on the mind.

If you are facing any difficulties or know someone who is experiencing dysfunction due to excessive use of digital devices, you can reach out to the digital detox helpline at SHUT clinic (Service for Healthy Use of Technology), which is active on Fridays from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

The helpline: +91 94808 29675.

For any more information related to digital health, reach out to SHUT Clinic
Phone: +91 80 266685948/ +91 94808 29670
shutclinic@gmail.com/nimhans.wellbeing@gmail.com

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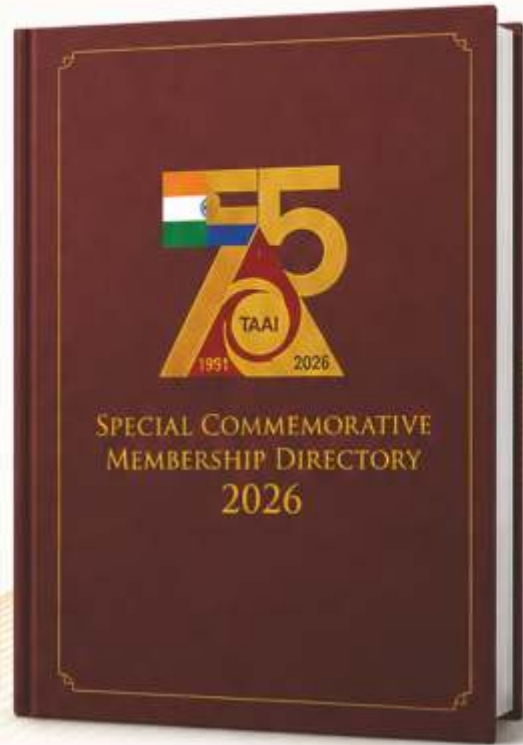
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