

TAAI's TRAVEL & TOURISM INITIATIVE

NAMASTAAI

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**WHERE
2,500+
ASPIRATIONS
COME TOGETHER!**

**A NEW HOME FOR TAAI.
A LANDMARK FOR
OUR MEMBERS.**



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF TAAI.
ONE ASSOCIATION. ONE PROUD COMMUNITY.



TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
SINCE 1951

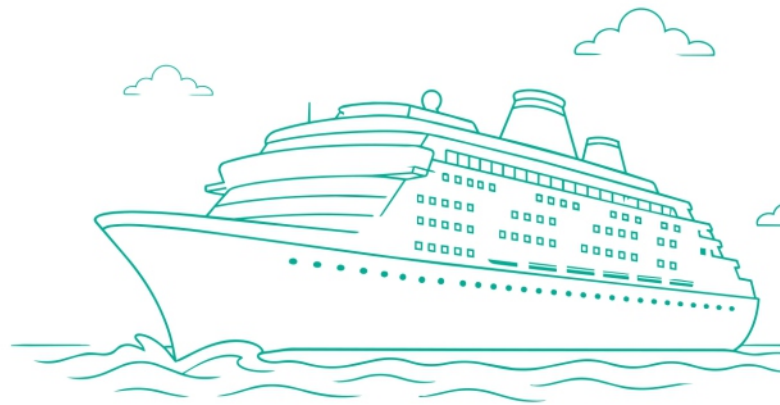


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There are moments in the life of an institution that are measured not by their size or age, but by what they mean to the people who have made that institution what it is.

The opening of TAAI's own new office to house our Secretariat, to commemorate TAAI's 75th year, is one such special moment. For 75 years, TAAI has been a place for people who believed that our industry is stronger when we stand together. Generations of members have contributed their time, their ideas, their friendships and, above all, their faith in TAAI.

The collective spirit has found a place of its own.

This new Secretariat office is much more than an office.

It is a new home for our TAAI, we have nurtured together.

It is where a member can experience it, and feel proud of it.

The new office is far more than its rooms, desks and stunning appearance. It should remind us of the thousands of conversations, meetings, representations, acts of leadership and service that have shaped TAAI over the decades.

We recall the greatness of those who served TAAI in the past and those who have continued to associate with TAAI. They are the ones who carried the Association through changing times, and those who continue to give it their energy and commitment.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

**From
Our Members ...
For
Our Members.
One Association.
One Home.**



With immense pride and even greater affection, we dedicate this new TAAI office for our Secretariat to every member of TAAI. Our members have always been our strength, and our leaders have always been our value.

Year after year, the quiet contributors who remained dedicated without seeking

recognition; the Region and Chapter officers whose efforts kept our members actively engaged; the Managing Committee members who provided outstanding leadership; and our Presidents whose vision kept TAAI relevant and purposeful, both locally and nationally, **remain the true face of TAAI.**

While our address is new, the spirit that fills these walls remains unchanged. The spirit that has united us for 75 years. This Secretariat will surely become a place where ideas take shape, where concerns find a hearing, where young professionals find encouragement, where experience is shared generously, and where every member feels welcome.

Most importantly, it can become a place that reminds us of something fundamental: **TAAI is not defined by its walls. TAAI is defined by its people.**

Please allow me to offer my deepest gratitude to every member who has, in some way, contributed to the making of TAAI. May it always remain open to ideas, open to dialogue, open to friendship and, above all, open to every member who calls TAAI their own.

This is our Secretariat.

This is our home.

And it belongs to all of us.

With warm regards,

Sunil Kumar R

President

Travel Agents Association of India
sunilkindia@gmail.com

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ABOUT THE COVER

This edition's cover captures a landmark event for TAAI: the inauguration of its new Secretariat in Mumbai; an address large enough to house the aspirations of its 2,500+ members. Modern, well-appointed and strategically located, the office is a fitting tribute to 75 years of TAAI. Excitement was palpable as TAAI leadership and industry stalwarts gathered to celebrate this milestone.



TAAI Office Bearers in Action



A great new place for creating a purposeful future!

This issue of NAMASTAAI carries a special significance for all of us.

It marks the opening of our new Secretariat premises, a place that gives a physical presence to the collective work, commitment and aspirations of TAAI.

A new home for TAAI is more than an address. It is where ideas find direction, conversations acquire purpose, and the Association remains accessible to those it represents.

As TAAI enters its 75th year, this new home allows us to look ahead with renewed confidence. May these doors remain open to every member, every idea and every opportunity that can take our profession forward.

Here's to a new chapter in the history of TAAI and to everything we can accomplish from here.

Best Wishes,

Lokesh Bettaiah
Vice President



A Landmark in TAAI's Journey

The inauguration of the new TAAI Office at Crescent Business Park adds a significant chapter to the Association's 75-year history.

For an organisation that has grown alongside India's travel trade, establishing a permanent and modern Secretariat is an important expression of its institutional strength and maturity.

The new premises represent the contribution of generations of TAAI leaders and members whose commitment has shaped the Association over seven and a half decades. It also reflects the confidence with which TAAI approaches the years ahead.

As we commemorate **75 Years of Excellence, Leadership and Service**, this milestone belongs to the entire TAAI fraternity. It honours our heritage while providing the platform from which the Association can pursue its next phase of growth, representation and service to the travel industry.

Warm Regards,

Shreeram Patel
Hon. Secretary General



Countless moments of Pride, Joy & Celebrations

This special edition of NAMASTAAI captures a truly memorable moment in the journey of TAAI. The 75 years of the Association and the beginning of a new chapter at our new Secretariat. This creates countless moments of pride, joy and celebration for the entire TAAI fraternity.

As India celebrates the completion of its 79th Independence Day, the TAAI fraternity has its own milestone to cherish: 75 years of shared achievements, friendships and service to the travel trade. Our new Secretariat adds another reason for every member to feel proud. It belongs to every member of our Association. We warmly invite all TAAI members to visit our new Secretariat whenever you are in Mumbai and experience this special milestone for yourself.

The Double Diamond Jubilee celebrations are now unfolding across India, with Regions and Chapters bringing members together through industry programmes, media interactions, awards, gala evenings and educational initiatives.

So, don't miss out. Be a part of this historic celebration. It's happening right here, right now. So don't go anywhere!

Wishing every member of the TAAI family lots of happiness, success and continued growth.

Warm Regards,

Paras Lakhia
Hon. Treasurer

A Journey That Finally Found Its Home

The 75 Years Commemorative Initiative.
Honouring our Legacy - Inspiring the Future.
TAAI's New and Modern Office for
our National Secretariat At Mumbai.



Certain accomplishments are difficult to express in words. Not because they lack a story, but because the experience of achieving them is far more powerful than anything words can convey.

Some moments bring satisfaction.

Some bring pride.

And some moments get us emotional.

The journey to the new TAAI Secretariat in Mumbai has been one such experience.

Some may call it a long-cherished dream.

Some may call it the need of the hour.

Others may say that, after 75 years, it was simply the right thing for TAAI, an organisation that has grown in stature, relevance and responsibility, to have a Secretariat that reflects its journey and its future.

Whatever one may call it, this was certainly not just a mission accomplished or a goal attained.

It was a journey.

A journey of exploring possibilities.

A journey of considering one option after another.

A journey of carefully and prudently evaluating, discussing and reconsidering.

And, most importantly, a journey of not giving up when the right choice did not come easily.

This happens whenever we set out to find something truly special.

The first option may look promising, but may not quite meet our expectations.

The second may come closer, yet still leave something wanting.

There is always the temptation to settle for what is available.

Isn't that what happens in our lives?

But when the objective is to find something that is truly right, a compromise cannot be the right answer.

The pursuit has to continue.

You keep searching.

You keep exploring.

You keep asking whether there could be something better.

And you continue until you find the right choice, or the closest possible choice to what you had envisioned.

That is exactly what happened with TAAI.

The search for the right location, the right accessibility, the right size, the right design and, of course, the right value was not easy.

There were challenges.

There were options.

There were moments when one could have said, "This should be good enough."

But the pursuit continued.

And finally, it happened.



that brought us here.
It is a reflection of where we stand today.

And it is, perhaps most importantly, a foundation for where we want to go tomorrow. That is what the new TAAI Secretariat in this special location is all about. Not merely a new address. A new home for TAAI. A new chapter in its journey.

A location just a few minutes from Terminal 2 in Mumbai. A size that meets the organisation's requirements. A design that allows the space to function effectively. And a price that makes the acquisition responsible and meaningful.

When location meets convenience, when size meets design, and when value meets affordability, **what more can one ask for?**

But acquiring something for an organisation is very different from acquiring something for oneself.

When we buy something for ourselves, we often think about how it serves our present needs. When an organisation acquires something for its future, the thinking has to be very different. It has to be about generations.

TAAI today is much larger and more influential than it was decades ago.

Our membership has grown. Our role in the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality industry has evolved.

Our voice has become stronger. Our responsibilities have increased.



And therefore, the Secretariat too needed to reflect the organisation that TAAI has become.

It needed to offer convenience to its members, efficiency to its functioning, dignity to its institution and a sense of permanence for the future.

The new Secretariat is therefore much more than a new office.

It is a statement of confidence in the future of TAAI.

It is a recognition of the journey

And a stronger foundation for the future.

It gives us immense pleasure to dedicate TAAI's new Office to every member of TAAI.

It is your unwavering support, your trust, and your enduring association with TAAI that has made this special day possible. Thank you for being an integral part of the TAAI journey.

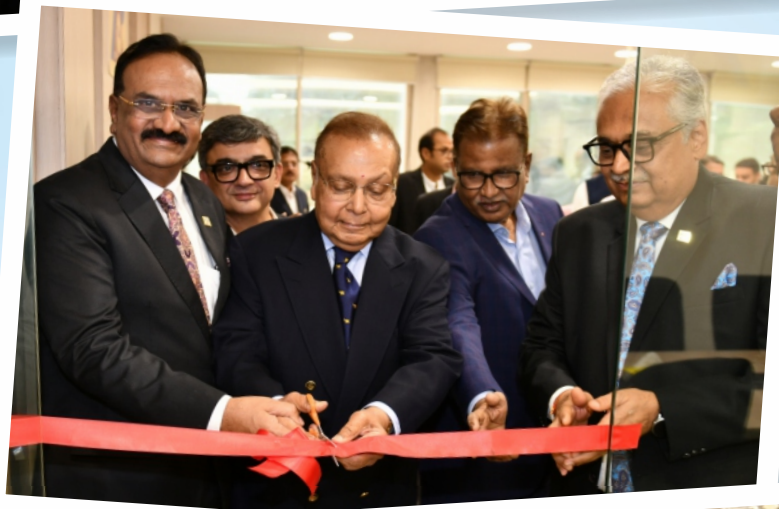


Inauguration of the New Office: Moments of Glory and Pride



It took about two months to completely renovate the existing premises and transform it into a space that is not only elegant and contemporary, but also practical, functional and user-friendly.

On August 10, 2026, as the office became ready for occupation, the Office Bearers of TAAI, joined by Western Region Chairperson Mr. Rajesh Poddar and Managing Committee Member Mr. Sameer Karnani, performed the Havan to seek the blessings of the Almighty.



Both these leaders from Western Region played a pivotal role in helping TAAI procure and transform the premises. TAAI places on record its deep appreciation for their dedication and contribution..

On August 11, 2026, the new office was formally inaugurated. Past Presidents Mr. Mahendra K. Sanghi (1980–1982), Mr. Cyrus Guzder (1984–1985), Ashwini Kakkar (2005–2006) and Mr. Iqbal Mulla (2011–2014) joined President Mr. Sunil Kumar R and the Managing Committee to ceremonially open different sections of the office. A traditional lamp was also lit, invoking blessings for this new chapter





The Past Presidents shared their insights, compliments and appreciation, and thanked the TAAI team for creating this important facility. President Sunil Kumar, in response, reiterated that the initiative of the TAAI Team 2024–2026 was an expression of gratitude for the legacy entrusted to them and a commitment to strengthen TAAI and prepare it to serve the future with greater purpose and pride.

President Sunil Kumar dedicated the achievement to every member of TAAI, acknowledging that the members remain the Association's greatest source of strength.

It was especially heartening to have all 13 Managing Committee Members, along with Chairpersons from across the country, present on this historic occasion.

The inauguration witnessed the presence of a large gathering of industry leaders representing airlines, hotels, technology companies and other segments of the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality industry, along with TAAI members and well-wishers. The happiness and excitement as members moved through the new premises were truly memorable.

Managing Committee Meets at the New Office



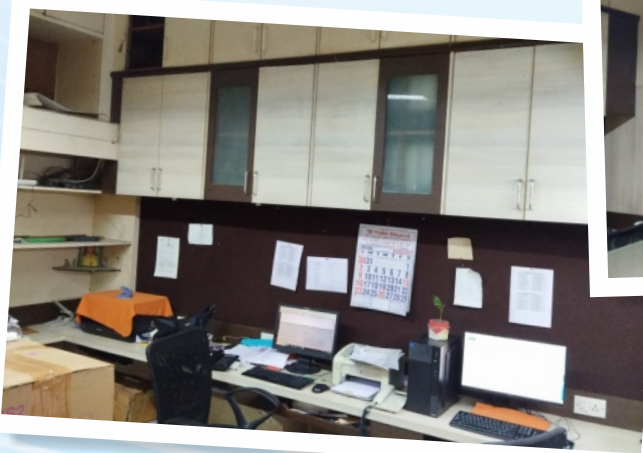
On August 11, 2026, the Managing Committee, along with TAAI Chairpersons, held its meeting in the new premises. With 25 members in attendance and the new conference and presentation facilities put to use, the two-hour meeting became the first formal working engagement at TAAI's new home.



The new Secretariat is envisioned as a space reflecting TAAI's growth and stature while providing a platform for greater engagement and collaboration among members and industry stakeholders.

From the Old to the New

For those who remember and worked from the earlier office, this is a remarkable transformation. From the traditional to the contemporary. From functional to future-ready. From an office to a home for TAAI's next chapter.



Presenting TAAI's Brilliantly Curated New Office

A journey through its innovative design reveals a contemporary workspace that reflects TAAI's stature and aspirations.

TAAI's new office is truly an experience to visit. With approximately 1,050+ sq. ft. of carpet area and two privately owned parking spaces, the premises represent a valuable long-term asset for the Association.

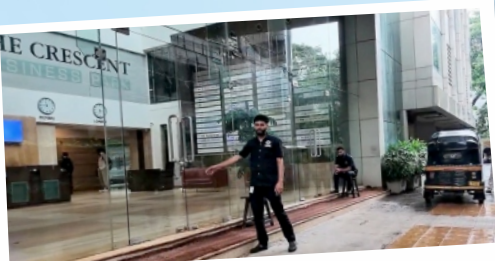
Located in a complex just a few minutes away from Mumbai's Terminal 2, the office offers a convenience that TAAI has looked forward to for a long time. Its strategic location saves considerable travel time for visiting Office Bearers who are based outside Mumbai.

Situated on the second floor, the premises enjoy plenty of ventilation and natural light from both sides, which also contributes to a Vastu-friendly environment.

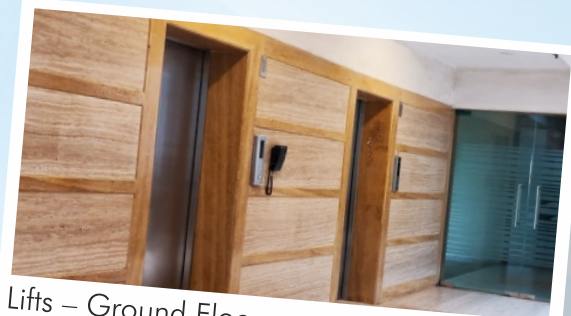
The office has a distinct touch of class. Designed and executed with considerable attention to detail, it combines aesthetics with functionality to create a tasteful, contemporary and user-friendly facility.

Right from the entrance to the building until one arrives at the TAAI office, the complex conveys a sense of quality. A spacious reception area, dedicated space for nameplates, five lifts, a second-floor lobby overlooking the atrium and the pre-office lobby all contribute to the overall appeal of the common areas.

Come, let's walk you through our new address.



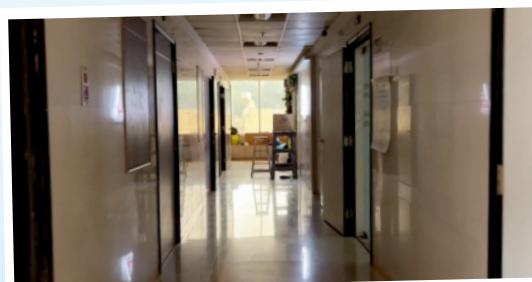
Entry into Building



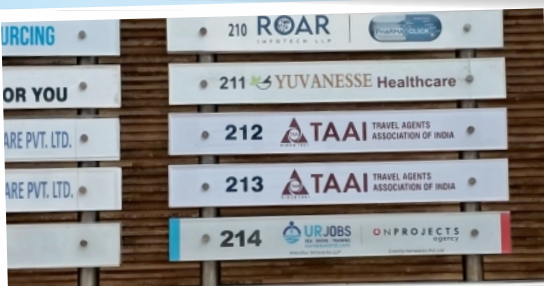
Lifts – Ground Floor



Entrance Lobby – Ground Floor



Office Pre-Lobby



Nameplates



Office Pre-Lobby

A Welcoming Reception

A chic and welcoming reception area creates an excellent first impression.



Reception

As one enters, the depth of the space and its décor create an immediate impression of a professional and well-planned workplace. Beyond the reception is a large open area designed to accommodate presentations and smaller gatherings. It can seat approximately 30 people and is equipped with a projector and pull-down screen. The TAAI Managing Committee meeting held on August 11, 2026, took place here.



Inside Open Area

Efficient Workspaces

Provision has been made for six staff members across two well-designed work areas—one for Administration and the other for Finance. Both provide adequate working space and are thoughtfully equipped. Each also has a dedicated private area with ample cupboard space for storing records and documents.



Inside Cubicles



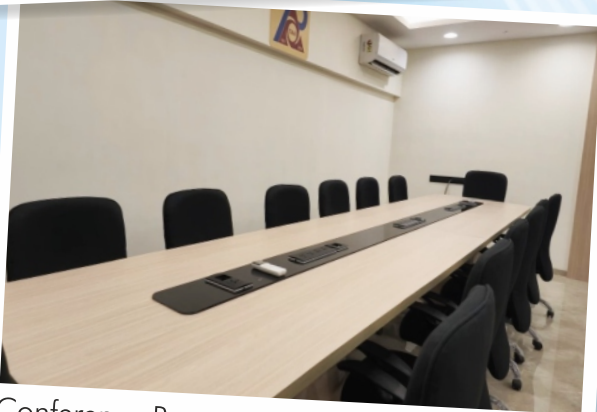
Inside Cubicles

Conference Facility

A smartly designed, exclusive and impressive 14-seater conference room, which can accommodate an additional four people, provides a modern setting for meetings, reviews and event planning. Whether for a Managing Committee meeting or a larger team coordinating a major event, the conference room offers an efficient and professional working environment.



Conference Room



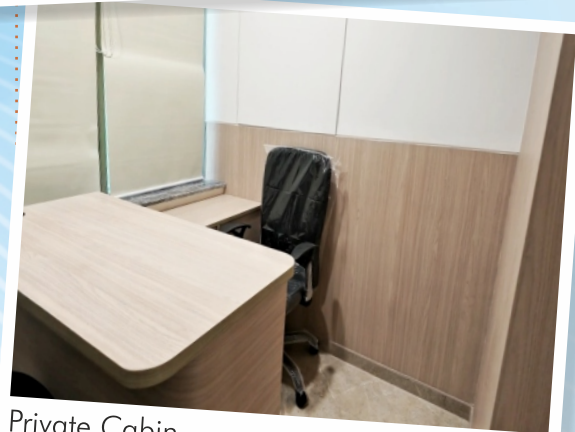
Conference Room

Private Cabins

Two well-appointed private cabins - one for the Office Bearers and another for the Head of Administration - complete the professional workspace.



Office Bearers' Cabin



Private Cabin

An equipped pantry and two washrooms provide staff and visitors with additional comfort, convenience and privacy.

Keeping in line with TAAI's requirement for secure record storage, the office also includes a dedicated strong room. It can accommodate a few large safes while providing additional space for the safe storage of important records and documents.

And the celebrations continued...

The celebrations continued later in the evening, when TAAI Western Region hosted a large Industry Get-Together to commemorate TAAI's 75 Years of Excellence and celebrate the opening of the new Secretariat.

Those who contributed significantly to the growth and development of TAAI were honoured, including Past Presidents, Past Chairpersons, and Past Members of the Managing Committee of the Western Region, in recognition of their invaluable leadership and contribution to TAAI's enduring legacy.

A series of TAAI videos, including a special video created for TAAI's 75th Year and the inauguration of the new Secretariat, were screened on the occasion. These showcased TAAI's extraordinary journey, achievements and its vision for the future.

The evening brought together generations of the travel industry, current TAAI leadership, Members, industry partners and leaders, creating an atmosphere of great celebration.





75 Years of TAAI

A Journey to Offer a Future of Enhanced Visibility, Growth & Impetus
75 Years of Legacy. One TAAI. A Future of Greater Possibilities.

75 Years of TAAI is a moment of immense pride for every member of the Association. It is a celebration of seven and a half decades of commitment, contribution, resilience and togetherness, a journey shaped by generations of travel professionals who believed in the strength of collective representation.

But for TAAI, the 75th year is not only about looking back. It is about looking forward.

One TAAI. Every Member Matters.

At the heart of the 75th Year celebrations is one clear objective, to engage as many TAAI members as possible. The celebration of 75 Years cannot be confined to one city or one event. It has to travel across the country.

TAAI's Regions and Chapters are taking the lead in organising a series of programmes and activities, particularly through August and September, bringing members together, celebrating the Association's heritage and creating opportunities for interaction, networking and visibility.

These initiatives are also intended to take the message of 75 Years of TAAI beyond our membership. The regional and chapter celebrations will build momentum towards the National Celebration of TAAI's 75 Years, bringing the entire Association together as one TAAI family.

IMAGE

THE APPROACH BEHIND THE 75TH YEAR

The 75th Year has been shaped around a simple and purposeful approach — IMAGE. IMAGE is an acronym that supports planning of Regions and Chapters as they design this most special event.

I – INDUSTRY LEADERS ENGAGEMENT



Creating opportunities for TAAI members to interact with leading voices from the travel, tourism and hospitality industry, while strengthening TAAI's engagement with stakeholders who shape the future of our sector.

M – MEDIA INTERACTION



Taking TAAI's story, achievements, initiatives and industry perspectives to a wider audience. Greater media engagement will help enhance the visibility and, importantly, the contribution of its members to India's travel and tourism ecosystem.

A New Home for a New Chapter

Among the most significant milestones of the 75th Year is the establishment of TAAI's new Secretariat office. The new office is more than a new address. It is a landmark achievement and a physical expression of TAAI's journey over 75 years. It is a place that belongs to the Association and its members, a permanent symbol of where TAAI has come from and where it intends to go.

A new address, but the same spirit. The office stands as a fitting milestone to commemorate 75 years of TAAI and as a foundation for the Association's next chapter.

From Celebration to the Future

The 75th Year is therefore not simply a commemoration. It is an opportunity to reconnect with our members, recognise our legacy, strengthen our visibility, deepen our industry relationships and prepare our community for the future.

As Regions and Chapters can take the celebration to members across India, the 75th Year will become a celebration that truly belongs to the entire Association. With all these initiatives culminating at the National level, TAAI will not merely celebrate 75 years completed. It will celebrate 75 years of a journey that has created the foundation for the next generation.

A – AWARDS FOR THE DISTINGUISHED



Recognizing the Key Industry Leaders across India to honour their contribution and association, particularly, with TAAI.

Also, recognising those who have contributed to the Association and helped shape its journey - Past Presidents, Past Chairpersons of Regions and Chapters, Managing Committee members and other distinguished contributors. The objective is not merely to honour individuals, but to acknowledge the collective leadership and service that have built TAAI over 75 years.

G – GALA – CONNECT, NETWORK & BOND



The Gala brings us together. Beyond the celebration, it is an opportunity for members to meet, network, reconnect, team up and build stronger relationships. The strength of an Association lies not only in its structure, but in the relationships among its members.

E – EDUCATION & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP



Preparing our leaders for the future by encouraging learning, new perspectives and thought leadership. Education can focus on helping members and travel industry professionals understand emerging trends, technology, AI, changing consumer behaviour, new business models and the evolving global travel environment. This will enable our leaders and personnel to remain relevant, competitive and future-ready.

16th TAAI Managing Committee Meeting in Bengaluru

Strengthening the Current - Shaping the Future



The 16th Managing Committee Meeting of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) for the 2024–2026 term was held on June 15 and 16, 2026 at Aldovia Resort & Convention, Bengaluru, bringing together the Managing Committee, Regional and Chapter Chairpersons and representatives for two days of interaction, deliberation and planning.

The Managing Committee Meeting chaired by President Sunil Kumar R, reflected the Association's continuing emphasis on greater interaction, dialogue and engagement on matters affecting the travel industry and TAAI members.

The President congratulated the Managing Committee and Region and Chapter Office Bearers for their leadership and active participation. He also expressed his appreciation to the Karnataka Chapter for playing a role as coordinating hosts for the meeting. Members were also presented with the latest issue of NAMASTAAI, reinforcing the Association's effort to keep members connected with its activities and initiatives.

TAAI at 75 – A Nationwide Celebration

A major focus of the meeting was the upcoming 75th Anniversary of TAAI, with the President outlining plans to make the milestone a truly nationwide celebration involving members across Regions and Chapters.

Everyone present agreed that to create greater impact, all activities and celebrations across the country related to the 75 Years of TAAI be held during August and September 2026. The objective is to take the anniversary beyond a single national event and create multiple opportunities for members, industry stakeholders and the media to participate and celebrate the Association's journey.

The proposed framework, presented under the IMAGE initiative, encourages every Region and Chapter to create meaningful local engagement through:

- I** – Industry Engagement
- M** – Media Interaction
- A** – Awards
- G** – Gala
- E** – Education



Some plans included:

- To provide a common identity to the celebrations, a 3–5 minute video on 75 Years of TAAI will be created to be played at all events.
- A media kit will be designed to enable Regions & Chapters to share a presentation on TAAI and the 75 Years of TAAI.
- Regions and Chapters may identify a few key personalities to join the event, and TAAI would send plaques to bring about uniformity across the country.
- 75 Years of TAAI is being planned in a big way at the National Level. A few cities in India are shortlisted and we shall explore them to offer a memorable experience to our delegates.
- Suggestions included Industry Gala Events, Awards Ceremonies, Media Interactions, Members Connect Programmes showcasing TAAI's 75-year journey, all highlighting the Association's contribution to the travel industry.

The Commemorative TAAI Directory is under design, and this is planned to complement the 75 years of TAAI.

The discussions reinforced the central objective of the celebrations: to take TAAI's 75-year story to the largest possible audience while bringing its members closer together.

The proposed TAAI Convention was another important subject of discussion. While the Association had been exploring international possibilities, following the Hon'ble Prime Minister's message, the focus is now to explore the possibility of doing the event in India.

An important feature of the Bengaluru meeting was the active participation of Region and Chapter Chairpersons, who shared their ideas and suggestions on how the 75th anniversary could achieve maximum member and industry engagement.





A Landmark Decision for TAAI

The meeting also reaffirmed an important decision concerning the acquisition of the new TAAI property. Following deliberations, it was resolved that all members present supported the decision to proceed with the purchase of the new property, marking another significant milestone in TAAI's institutional journey. The proposed new office is envisaged not merely as a physical address, but as a landmark for TAAI at 75 and a foundation for its future growth, visibility and engagement.

An Evening of Fellowship and Team Bonding

Beyond the formal deliberations, the Bengaluru meeting also provided an excellent opportunity for interaction and fellowship. The evening saw Managing Committee members and Region and Chapter leaders engage in informal conversations, networking and strengthening the bonds that hold the TAAI community together.

As a gesture of appreciation, TAAI presented a plaque to Aldovia Resort & Convention in recognition of its hospitality and for hosting the Managing Committee meeting.

The Bengaluru meeting thus combined governance, planning, celebration and fellowship, reflecting the Association's continuing commitment to building a more engaged, visible and future-ready TAAI.





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25
Years Since
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71
Client
Governments

169
Countries
of Operation

4,250
Application
Centres

Over
557 Million
Transactions
Processed

Over
240 Million
Biometric
Enrolments

Over
17,800
Employees

169
Nationalities



*Comprised of 344.15 million transactions by VFS Global and 212.94 million transactions by CiX Citizen Experience

TAAI Representation at Various Events

TAAI is always invited by the industry to join them as they organize travel and tourism events; roadshows or promotions. Office Bearers of TAAI or its MC Members attend the events. TAAI's PR Council is most active and ensures TAAI is well represented. Here are some events where TAAI was represented by our Managing Committee Member Rajan Sehgal, who chairs the TAAI's PR Council.



PHDCCI & TAAI at the Third Global Spiritual Tourism Conclave

Shirdi played host to the Third Global Spiritual Tourism Conclave on June 12, 2026, organised by PHDCCI, with TAAI on board as Travel Association Partner - a fitting pairing, given spiritual tourism's growing weight in India's travel economy.

The conclave drew a strong government presence: Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar, IAS, Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India; Shri Goraksh Gadilkar, IAS, CEO of the Sai Baba Sansthan Trust; and senior tourism officials from the Government of Maharashtra all attended. TAAI's presence on the ground came from its Pune and Mumbai members, who joined the conversation on where spiritual travel is headed next.



A World of Connections

TAAI's association with World Travel Market (WTM) India continued with the launch event at The Oberoi, New Delhi, on May 27, 2026. The event was graced by Shri. Suman Billa, Addl. Secretary & DG Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India; Ms. Rachel Travers, President - UK Hub, RX Global and Mr. Umang Gupta, Country Head, RX Global. Mr. Renu Kunalaiy is the Event Director, WTM, Spotlight India. Mr. Rajan Sehgal represented TAAI.



On June 3, 2026, TAAI was represented at a dinner hosted by His Excellency Ali Murat Ersoy, Turkish Ambassador to India, at his residence - an invitation Mr. Rajan Sehgal accepted on the association's behalf.

An Award Worth Noting

TAAI marked 75 years as India's oldest and largest travel association with recognition to match - the association was honoured at the 9th Tourism, Travel and Hospitality Awards 2026, hosted by Hospitality India on June 28 in Delhi. Shri K.J. Alphons, former Union Minister of Tourism, graced the occasion; Mr. Rajan Sehgal received the award on TAAI's behalf.



The July Diary

On July 8, 2026, Mr. Rajan Sehgal had an informative meeting with Her Excellency, Ms. Chavanart Thangsumphant, Ambassador of Thailand to India. He briefed her on TAAI's work and reaffirmed the association's interest in deepening ties with Thailand



On July 8, 2026 Mr. Rajan represented TAAI at SATTE where the published report was presented at Hotel Le Meridien was invited to speak at the event.



TAAI was invited to join the Jharkhand Tourism Conclave, held in association with FICCI, on July 9, 2026 at Hotel Taj Palace. Mr. Rajan Sehgal interacted with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand Shri Hemant Soren, and the state's Minister of Tourism, and Secretary of Tourism.



On July 15, 2026, the Uttarakhand Conclave – Hindustan 2.0, was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami. Mr. Rajan Sehgal was invited to speak at the event.



Sport Meets Tourism in Srinagar

In Srinagar, conversations turned toward sport and tourism together. Mr. Rajan Sehgal met Hon'ble Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, along with the CEO and CBO of PGTI, ahead of the PGTI Golf Event in Srinagar - set for August 2, 2026. 120 professional golfers from India, Asia, and Europe are expected to participate in this event. He also extended greetings to Dr. Farooq Abdullah during the visit.



Investing in the Next Generation

Continuing TAAI's focus on Education, Mr. Rajan Sehgal was invited to interact with the Final Year students of MBA in Tourism at IITM, Noida, on July 22, 2026.



International Tourism Summit Asia 2026

Connecting Global Travel Leaders, Ideas & Opportunities



The International Tourism Summit Asia 2026 brought together tourism leaders, travel professionals, hospitality brands and industry decision-makers from around the world in Pattaya and Bangkok, Thailand, from May 12–16, 2026.

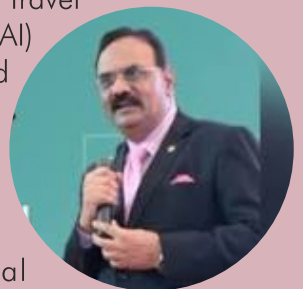
The event combined an international conference, curated B2B networking, knowledge sessions and destination experiences, creating a vibrant platform for business development and global collaboration.

The Summit focused on the rapidly evolving travel landscape and the opportunities emerging across the Asia-Pacific region. It an effective platform for

establishing new partnerships, expanding distribution networks and connecting buyers and suppliers across borders.

Mr. Sunil Kumar as Keynote Speaker

Mr. Sunil Kumar R, President, Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and President, United Federation of Travel Agents Associations (UFTAA), was the Keynote Speaker at the Summit.



Addressing the international gathering, Mr. Sunil Kumar R spoke on the changing, and increasingly opportunity-rich global travel and tourism landscape. He highlighted how technology and artificial intelligence are transforming the way the industry operates, communicates with travellers and creates new business opportunities.

He encouraged industry stakeholders to embrace technology and AI, strengthen their visibility, innovate continuously and develop experiential tourism offerings that respond to the changing expectations of today's traveller.

He also stressed the importance of being prepared and agile as the global travel industry enters a new phase of growth, urging stakeholders to optimise their participation in what is becoming a bigger, bolder and increasingly dynamic global tourism marketplace.





B2B Networking – Turning Connections into Business

The Summit emphasised meaningful B2B engagement. Curated meetings enabled travel professionals to connect directly with international buyers, suppliers and destination representatives. The participation of UFTAA members added further value to the B2B programme. UFTAA's presence brought not only

opportunities for international business collaboration but also access to global travel trends and insights, encouraging participants to continually adapt their products and approaches to remain relevant.

UFTAA Board Meeting in Pattaya

The Summit also provided an important opportunity for UFTAA to further its global agenda. UFTAA Board Members participated in the Summit and held a Board Meeting in Pattaya, where plans and initiatives for strengthening global connectivity, knowledge-sharing and professional engagement were discussed.

UFTAA, which was associated with the International Tourism Summit, Asia, had its Board Members join the event. It also successfully held the UFTAA Board Meeting at Pattaya. UFTAA Board had laid out plans and designs to launch more activities focused on global networking and learning. The participation of UFTAA further demonstrated the Federation's role in creating bridges between travel professionals across markets and facilitating international cooperation.

A Platform for Global Travel

The Summit, led by Mr. Murtaza Kalendar of Travel Shop Turkey, successfully brought together business networking, knowledge exchange and destination experiences in a single platform.

The International Tourism Summit Asia 2026 reaffirmed the importance of global collaboration at a time when the travel industry is changing faster than ever.



TAAI & Sri Lanka Strengthen Tourism Partnership At Sancharaka Udawa 2026

A memorable experience, with thanks to SLAITO & Sri Lanka Tourism



The longstanding bonds between India and Sri Lanka received fresh impetus as a delegation of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) participated in the 13th edition of Sancharaka Udawa 2026, organised by the Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) in association with the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB).

Held on May 15 & 16, 2026 at the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Exhibition Halls, BMICH, Colombo, Sancharaka Udawa 2026 brought together Sri Lankan tourism stakeholders, international buyers, travel professionals and industry leaders. The event featured more than 250 exhibitors and over 300 stalls, with more than 100 overseas agents participating.

Specialised workshops and panel discussions were held to offer valuable opportunities for interaction, knowledge exchange and networking.

TAAI Participation

TAAI's participation further reinforced the strong and enduring relationship between the Indian and Sri Lankan travel trade. Delegates from the TAAI Western Region and TAAI Madhya Pradesh &

Chhattisgarh Region participated in the programme, engaging with Sri Lanka's fellow travel professionals.

The TAAI delegation included President Sunil Kumar R, Honorary Secretary General Shriram Patel and Managing Committee Member Sameer Karnani. TAAI Western Region Chairperson Rajesh Poddar and TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter Chairperson Mr. Hemendra also participated in the programme.

The delegation interacted with leading local DMCs, hotel partners and officials from the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau. The interactions provided an excellent platform to discover new tourism products, understand emerging opportunities and strengthen business-to-business relationships between the travel trade communities of the two neighbouring countries.

President Sunil Kumar R, Addresses the Networking Evening

The Networking Evening, packed with music and dance performances, provided a particularly warm and memorable occasion for the participating delegates.



TAAI President Sunil Kumar R addressed the gathering and spoke about the close and longstanding relationship between TAAI and Sri Lanka. He recalled TAAI's active engagement with the destination over the years, including the hosting of several TAAI Conventions in Sri Lanka.

These conventions have not only brought hundreds of Indian travel professionals to Sri Lanka but have also created valuable opportunities for interaction, friendship and business between the two travel trade communities.

Mr. Sunil Kumar R emphasised the importance of building on this strong foundation and creating even greater opportunities for collaboration, destination promotion and business exchange.

Honouring Sri Lanka's Tourism Leadership

As a gesture of appreciation and recognition, TAAI presented special plaques honouring the distinguished leadership and contribution of Sri Lanka's tourism leadership.



The plaques were presented to Hon'ble Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tourism and Foreign Employment, Sri Lanka, and Hon'ble Prof. Ruwan Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Sri Lanka.



The leaders at Sri Lanka Tourism and SLAITO also honoured TAAI President Sunil Kumar R with appreciation plaques, recognising TAAI's longstanding engagement and contribution towards strengthening India-Sri Lanka tourism relations. The exchange symbolised the spirit of partnership and goodwill that has characterised the relationship between the two tourism communities.

Beyond Colombo – Discovering Trincomalee

The Sri Lankan experience for the TAAI delegates from Western Region and Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh Chapter, extended beyond the trade fair and business interactions, with a familiarisation tour of Trincomalee and other parts of Sri Lanka, including Ahungala and more, offering an opportunity to discover another fascinating facet of Sri Lanka.

The FAM tour allowed delegates to experience the destination first-hand and understand its potential for the Indian market. Experiencing a destination

personally provides insights that go far beyond brochures and presentations, from its attractions and hospitality to its infrastructure, local experiences and possibilities for creating distinctive itineraries.

Trincomalee, with its spectacular coastal setting, natural beauty, cultural heritage and unique tourism experiences, offers considerable potential for Indian travellers. It presents an appealing combination of beaches, heritage, spirituality, nature and leisure, making it a destination that can be developed into varied experiences for different segments of the Indian market.





More Than a Trade Visit

What made the Sri Lankan visit special was the combination of business, friendship, discovery and hospitality. The networking programme strengthened relationships, while the Familiarization Tours added the invaluable dimension of experiencing the destination first-hand. Together, these experiences highlighted the depth and potential of India–Sri Lanka tourism cooperation.

For TAAI, participation in international trade platforms such as Sancharaka Udaava is about much more than promoting destinations. It is about creating meaningful connections, opening avenues for business, sharing knowledge and strengthening the larger tourism ecosystem.

Sri Lanka remains a destination with a particularly strong affinity for the Indian traveller. With evolving traveller preferences, improved connectivity and growing interest in experiential and short-haul travel, there is considerable scope to further increase tourism flows between the two countries.

Our Gratitude

TAAI expresses its sincere gratitude to SLAITO, led by President Mr. Nalin Jaisundara, and to Sri Lanka Tourism for their warm welcome, gracious hospitality and excellent arrangements, which made the visit a truly memorable experience. Their support, hospitality and personal engagement reflected the strong spirit of friendship and cooperation that has long characterised the close relationship between TAAI and SLAITO.

FAITH Conclave 2026

Incredible India: Invaluable Economics



The second edition of the FAITH Conclave 2026 was held on July 16-17, 2026, at Taj Palace, New Delhi.

The Conclave brought together policymakers, government representatives, tourism leaders, international organisations, hospitality professionals, aviation stakeholders, investors, and industry experts to deliberate on tourism's pivotal role in achieving India's aspiration of becoming a US\$3 Trillion Tourism Economy by 2047.

The event further strengthened FAITH's position as the apex policy and advocacy platform representing India's travel, tourism and hospitality industry.

Organised by the **Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH)**, the apex policy and advocacy platform representing India's travel, tourism and hospitality industry, the Conclave was built around a compelling theme: 'Incredible India: Invaluable Economics.' It placed tourism not merely as an industry that brings visitors to India, but as a powerful contributor to employment, enterprise, investment, regional development, cultural exchange and the country's wider economic aspirations.

For TAAI, the Conclave carried particular significance. As one of the twelve national



associations that constitute FAITH, TAAI has consistently supported the endeavour to bring the collective voice of India's organised travel and tourism industry to the policy table. The participation of TAAI and its representatives reaffirmed the Association's commitment to being an active contributor to conversations that shape the future of our industry.





Union Minister for Tourism & Culture Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat; the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Shri Taranjit Singh Sandhu; Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi Smt. Rekha Gupta;

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Mohan Yadav and Member of Parliament Shri Anurag Singh Thakur were among the distinguished dignitaries. Gloria Guevara, CEO of the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTTC), delivered the keynote address. The programme also featured leaders and eminent personalities from across government, business and public life, including Shri Kandula Durgesh, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Government of Andhra Pradesh; Shri Pasang Dorjee Sona, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Government of Arunachal Pradesh; General Anil Chauhan (Retd.) PVSM UYSM AVSM SM VSM – Former Chief of Defence Staff, and many more illustrious leaders.



Tourism as an Economic Force

One of the strongest messages emerging from the Conclave was that India's tourism ambitions must now be matched by measurable economic outcomes.

With India's vast geographical diversity, civilisational heritage, natural attractions and increasingly connected infrastructure, the opportunity is enormous. But opportunity alone is not enough. The next phase requires coordinated action across governments, businesses, destinations and the many segments that together make up the tourism ecosystem.

From Conversation to Commitment

Perhaps the most significant aspect of FAITH Conclave 2026 was its emphasis on moving beyond broad aspirations towards a more defined roadmap.

FAITH and its member associations are working towards identifying time-bound milestones for Indian tourism up to 2030, creating building blocks for the larger national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. The stated ambition of positioning Indian tourism among the world's top five travel and tourism economies gives this effort both scale and urgency.

For an industry as diverse as ours, this kind of collective thinking is essential. Travel agents, tour operators, airlines, hotels, destinations, technology companies, tourism boards and countless allied businesses do not operate in isolation. The success of one segment has a direct bearing on the others.

FAITH provides a platform where these voices can meet and, more importantly, where the industry can engage with policymakers as a united and informed stakeholder.



A Shared Responsibility

The Conclave also served as a reminder that India's tourism story cannot be written by one organisation, one ministry or one segment of the industry.

It will be written collectively by those who create destinations, connect travellers, welcome visitors, build experiences, promote India, facilitate journeys and invest in the infrastructure that makes tourism possible.

The real opportunity before India is therefore not simply to attract more tourists. It is to ensure that tourism creates greater value for the nation and wider opportunity for its people.

That means more employment, stronger local economies, greater participation by communities, better experiences for visitors and a more competitive Indian tourism industry on the world stage.

Looking Ahead

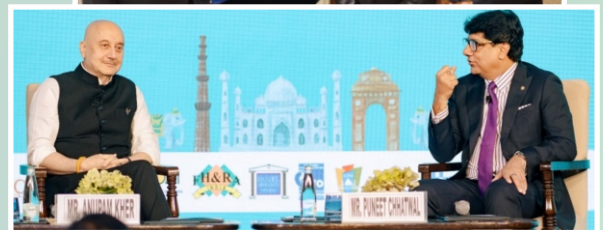
The second FAITH Conclave has reinforced an important thought: India's tourism potential is no longer something to be discussed merely as an aspiration. It is an economic opportunity that demands purposeful action. For TAAI, being part of this collective endeavour is both a privilege and a responsibility.

As TAAI celebrates 75 years of representing and strengthening India's travel trade, our participation in platforms such as FAITH assumes an even deeper meaning. The Association's experience, reach and understanding of the travel marketplace can contribute meaningfully to the national conversation on where Indian tourism should go next.

The task ahead is substantial. But so is the opportunity.

President Sunil Kumar in a Fireside Chat with Mr. Ankush Nijhawan

TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar R moderated an engaging Fireside Chat with Mr. Ankush Nijhawan, Co-Founder – TBO Tek, on 'India Leads – Transforming Travel with Technology.' The discussion explored the transformative role of technology in reshaping the travel and tourism industry, driving innovation, enhancing customer experiences and creating new opportunities for growth.



TAAI Associates with PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The 15th International Heritage Tourism Conclave at Hyderabad.



In its endeavour to promote Heritage Tourism, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) organised the 5th Global Heritage Tourism Conclave at Hyderabad on July 24, 2026. TAAI served as an Associate Partner and through TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter, supported the success of the event. The objective was to chart a roadmap to position Heritage as India's next tourism growth engine.

The conclave was supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India; Jharkhand Tourism; Madhya Pradesh Tourism; Tamil Nadu Tourism; and Telangana Tourism. The theme was centred around 'A Tribute to Heritage'

President Sunil Kumar; MC Member Rajan Sehgal; TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chairperson Nagesh Pamapati; Chapter

Secretary Hemant Pandey; Past TAAI Office Bearer Imitaz Qureshi and other members of the Chapter joined.

The conclave included various events. On July 23, there was a Heritage Walk for speakers and delegates at the iconic Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad. Mr. Sunil Kumar delivered the Theme Address. Mr. Rajan Sehgal served as a speaker.



The other speakers who addressed the inaugural event included:

- Dr. Abhay Arvind Bedekar, IAS, Additional Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board
- Mr. L. Ranjeet Nayak, IFS, Director – Tourism, Government of Telangana
- Mr. Venkatramana R. Hegde, Additional Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
- Mr. Anil Parashar, Chair of Tourism & Hospitality Committee, PHDCCI
- Dr. Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & SG, PHDCCI
- Ms. Shalini S. Sharma, Asst. Secretary General, PHDCCI





The session began with a classical Perini Natyam performance curated by the Department of Culture, Government of Telangana. The inaugural session also witnessed the release of the third PHDCCI-KPMG Heritage Tourism Report, which presents strategic recommendations for strengthening India's heritage tourism ecosystem.

The conclave featured four thematic sessions that examined emerging opportunities and policy priorities across the heritage tourism ecosystem. These included:

- The New Age of Museums
- Food is Memory
- Shared Heritage, Shared Responsibility
- Tech, AI & The Future of the Past

Each of these sessions had renowned industry leaders as speakers.

Past President's Response at the Inauguration



Dear Sunil,

It was such a pleasure meeting you, members of TAAI's Managing Committee and such a large number of the Chairpersons of the TAAI's Chapters across India.

It was a veritable TAAI's mini Convention and it was a privilege for me to be in the company of all the movers and shakers in the travel agency business.

Thank you for the courtesies you extended to me so warmly. Though I had not met the majority of your colleagues, I was overwhelmed by their warmth and goodwill. It was a wonderful feeling to be back with the travel agency fraternity.

Thank you too for the handsome Plaque that you presented to me. It will now adorn the lobby at my office.

As I mentioned, now that you have reached the 75th Year milestone, you can look forward with confidence to the next quarter century.

I wish TAAI every success in the coming year and, indeed, in the years to come.

With kindest personal regards,

Cyrus Guzder
Past President, TAAI

**A NEW OFFICE FOR TAAI
LEGACY UPGRADED
AND CARRIED FORWARD!**





Built for scale. Held together by *grace*.

TAAI MANAGING COMMITTEE
SITE VISIT

Set amidst 70 acres of verdant landscapes in Swiss Town, just minutes from Kempegowda International Airport, ALDOVIA is a destination where scale, elegance and tranquility coexist seamlessly.

Designed to serve both the discerning leisure traveller and the demands of large-format events, the resort offers a unique blend of luxury hospitality and world-class convention infrastructure.

Home to 151 elegantly appointed rooms and suites, with an additional 80 rooms currently under development, ALDOVIA is poised to expand its inventory to 231 keys.

Complemented by 11 versatile indoor and outdoor event venues, 5 distinctive dining destinations and expansive landscaped spaces, the resort has emerged as one of India's most distinctive destinations for conventions, incentive travel, destination weddings and leisure getaways.

The TAAI Managing Committee's visit provided an opportunity to experience the property first-hand, from its expansive grounds and thoughtfully designed accommodations to its diverse dining venues and state-of-the-art event facilities. What particularly captured the attention of the committee was the sheer magnitude of the convention infrastructure, a rarity in the Indian hospitality landscape.

In an industry built on discovery and experiences, it is rare for seasoned travel professionals to encounter a destination that genuinely surprises them. Yet, that was precisely the sentiment shared by members of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) Managing Committee during their recent visit to ALDOVIA Resort & Convention, Bengaluru.



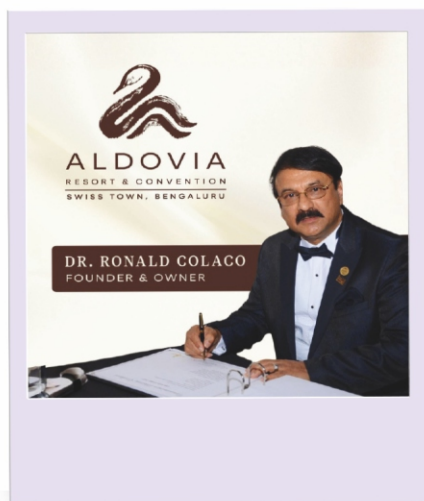
At the heart of the resort lies the Ocean Convention Centre (OCC), one of South India's largest integrated convention venues, capable of accommodating up to 3,000 guests in theatre-style seating and over 6,000 guests for large-format conventions, exhibitions and social gatherings. The venue has already hosted some of the country's most prestigious medical and professional conferences, including DERMACon, which welcomed more than 5,000 delegates, while RSSDI is scheduled to convene at ALDOVIA later this year. Equally, the resort has established itself as a sought-after destination wedding venue, where families celebrate multi-day occasions amidst grand venues, luxurious accommodations, exceptional culinary experiences and the warmth of personalized hospitality. For many committee members, witnessing a destination of this scale and sophistication opened new possibilities for future conventions, industry gatherings and celebrations.



Yet, what truly distinguishes ALDOVIA is not merely its infrastructure, it is the philosophy that guides its existence and the people who ensure every vision is transformed into reality.

The resort is the vision and legacy of Founder and Owner, Dr. Ronald Colaco, who envisioned creating more than a hospitality destination. His aspiration was to build a sanctuary where guests could step away from the demands of everyday life, reconnect with themselves, and discover a deeper sense of peace a place where they could truly find their grace.

Supporting this vision are the Executive Directors of AHPL (Aldovia Hospitality Pvt. Ltd.), Mr. Nigel Colaco and Mr. Randal Colaco, and the CEO, Mr. Balaji who continue to guide the property's growth with a progressive outlook while preserving the values upon which it was founded. Their leadership reflects a commitment to innovation, excellence and the creation of a destination that seamlessly blends contemporary hospitality with timeless warmth. A significant contribution to ALDOVIA's evolving identity has been the articulation of its brand philosophy as "The Spirit of Tranquility," a concept envisioned by Mr. Randal Colaco. Represented by the graceful swan that forms the heart of the ALDOVIA identity, The Spirit of Tranquility symbolizes elegance, serenity, and the quiet confidence that defines every guest experience. More than a tagline, it embodies the very essence of the destination, a sanctuary where nature, hospitality and thoughtfully curated experiences come together to create moments of calm and connection. It reinforces ALDOVIA's promise of being a place where guests can pause, reconnect and ultimately discover where grace finds them.



During the visit, the Managing Committee had the opportunity to interact with the leadership team and gain deeper insight into the journey of ALDOVIA. Led by Vice President, Ms. Nilisha Ghuliani, alongside General Manager- Operations Mr. Varun Sharma and Senior Leaders including Mr. Deepak Kumar, Director of Sales and Chef Suresh, Director of Culinary, the team shared the vision, philosophy and future roadmap of the destination.

Beyond the impressive facilities, the committee members appreciated the passion, purpose, and collaborative leadership driving ALDOVIA's evolution, as well as the unwavering commitment of its people to delivering exceptional guest experiences.

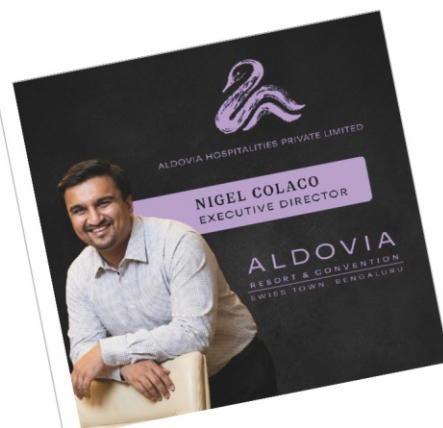
As India's travel and tourism industry continues to grow and diversify, destinations such as ALDOVIA are redefining expectations. They demonstrate that hospitality is not merely about accommodation or events it is about creating experiences that inspire, connect and endure.

The committee departed with a profound appreciation for what has been created at ALDOVIA and a genuine excitement for the opportunities it presents to the travel fraternity.

Whether for conventions, incentive travel, weddings, leisure escapes, or milestone celebrations, ALDOVIA stands as a compelling example of Indian hospitality at its finest.

For those seeking a destination where grand possibilities meet genuine warmth, ALDOVIA offers a simple invitation:

Come experience a place where conventions become experiences, celebrations become memories and where, indeed, grace finds you.



TAAI Northern Region

Keeping Members Connected and Informed



TAAI Northern Region continued its proactive engagement with members through a series of updates, interactions and opportunities designed to keep the fraternity informed and connected with the latest developments in the travel and tourism industry.

With New Delhi, the capital city, as its key centre of activity, the Region remains one of the most sought-after platforms for industry engagement. Its members are regularly invited to participate in programmes and initiatives hosted by National and International Tourism Boards, Airlines, Destination Management Companies and other industry partners.

These engagements provide members with valuable opportunities to discover new destinations, understand emerging products and trends, strengthen industry relationships and explore new business possibilities. The Region's continued interaction with key stakeholders reflects its commitment to ensuring that members remain connected to the ever-evolving opportunities within the travel ecosystem.

Through these regular initiatives, Northern Region continues to serve as an active bridge between its members and the wider travel and tourism industry, bringing knowledge, opportunities and partnerships closer to the TAAI fraternity.



Members Meeting, Interactive Session on IATA matters

TAAI Northern Region held its Members' Meeting at The Meriton Hotel, New Delhi, bringing together members of the travel fraternity for an evening of industry interaction and knowledge sharing.



The highlight of the meeting was an insightful session by Mr. Ritam Saha, Assistant Director – Passenger & Cargo Services, India, Nepal & Bhutan, IATA, who shared the latest updates on IATA and developments concerning the airline industry and BSP.

Mr. Ritam Saha's engaging presentation was highly appreciated by the members, and he addressed several queries raised by the audience, providing valuable clarity on issues affecting accredited agents.

TAAI Northern Region expressed its gratitude to Mr. Ritam Saha for his valuable contribution and reaffirmed its commitment to facilitating meaningful interactions and continuous learning opportunities for its members.

TAAI Northern Region actively participates in the FAITH Conclave in Delhi.

The FAITH Conclave, held in Delhi on July 16 & 17, 2026, witnessed active participation from the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI). The event was graced by the presence of TAAI President Sunil Kumar and Honorary Secretary General Shreeram Patel, along with TAAI Northern Region Office Bearers Mr. Neeraj Malhotra, Mr. Anurag Agarwal, and Mr. Neeraj Sarna.

The TAAI delegation engaged in meaningful dialogue and interactions with key stakeholders from across the tourism industry, reaffirming TAAI's



commitment to strengthening the travel and tourism ecosystem and fostering greater collaboration and partnerships across the travel industry.

TAAI and Expedia TAAP Strengthen Travel Trade Collaboration in Gurugram



TAAI Northern Region, in collaboration with Expedia TAAP, successfully hosted an informative seminar at Expedia's Head Office in Gurugram on July 11, 2026. The session showcased

the latest Expedia TAAP product features, booking solutions, and business growth opportunities for travel agents. Members actively participated in interactive discussions and gained valuable insights into the platform's latest enhancements. The event strengthened the partnership between TAAI and Expedia TAAP while promoting technology-driven growth for the travel trade. The seminar concluded with networking over lunch, fostering stronger industry relationships.

TAAI Eastern Region

A blend of Members Engagement & Tourism Promotions

TAAI Eastern Region kept up its momentum this quarter, with a packed calendar of chapter events, member initiatives, and industry engagements. Despite the post-election scenario in May, with a new government and relatively subdued industry activities, TAAI Eastern Region did not slow down. It stayed engaged through member-focused initiatives, knowledge-sharing programs, strong media visibility, and active participation in tourism promotion.



TAAI Eastern Region Members' Meeting: Embracing AI for the Future of Travel

TAAI Eastern Region organized an engaging Members' Meeting, as it regularly does. The well-attended meeting featured an insightful presentation on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing relevance to the travel and tourism industry.

The session moved beyond the concept of AI as a technological trend, focusing instead on its practical application in day-to-day travel businesses. Members were introduced to ways in which AI can support business processes, streamline operations, improve productivity and enable travel professionals to work smarter and more efficiently.

The programme also encouraged members to look at AI not as a replacement for human expertise, but as a powerful tool that can augment professional capabilities and create greater value for customers. The session generated considerable interest and participation, reflecting the industry's growing recognition that embracing technology and innovation is essential for remaining competitive in a rapidly evolving travel landscape.

The Eastern Region's initiative provided members with valuable insights and practical takeaways, reinforcing TAAI's commitment to equipping its members with knowledge, skills and opportunities to adapt, innovate and lead in the future of travel.



TAAI Eastern Region Leadership Meets West Bengal Tourism Ministers

Chairperson Anjani Dhanuka and Honorary Treasurer Punam Arora met with the Hon'ble Tourism Minister of West Bengal, Mr. Shankar Ghosh, and the Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism, Ms. Purnima Chakraborty, on June 17, 2026, at the Office of the Department of Tourism, Kolkata.

During the meeting, they had the opportunity to brief the officials about the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI), share insights into the Association's initiatives and contributions to the travel and tourism industry. They also presented the latest edition of the Association's magazine, 'NamastAAI.' The interaction served as a valuable platform to strengthen ties with the West Bengal Tourism Department and explore opportunities for closer collaboration in promoting tourism and supporting the growth of the travel trade.

International Yoga Day Celebration

On the occasion of International Yoga Day, the Eastern Region conducted a Yoga Session exclusively for its members, which received an encouraging response.





Yoga Sangam Day celebrations aboard The Nautilus.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in association with the Ministry of Tourism, Government of West Bengal celebrated Yoga Sangam Day aboard The Nautilus (Venue Partner). The event was graced by the presence of Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism, Government of West Bengal Ms. Purnima Chakraborty who was the Chief Guest. The responsibility of organising and managing the event arrangements was entrusted to TAAI Eastern Region. The Yoga Sangam Day celebration was highly appreciated by all participants and dignitaries present, reflecting the spirit of wellness, harmony and togetherness that yoga inspires.



Widening the Reach: Extensive Media Coverage

During this period, TAAI Eastern Region received exceptional media coverage. Leading English and Hindi newspapers, including The Times of India and Sanmarg, published feature articles highlighting TAAI's activities and perspectives.

Active Participation in Roadshows Promoting Tourism

Several tourism boards organized promotional roadshows across the region, in which our members actively participated, strengthening industry relationships and promoting tourism opportunities.

TAAI Western Region

On the Move and Actively Engaged

TAAI Western Region remains dedicated to building robust industry networks and bringing first-hand global destination expertise directly to our clients and partners.

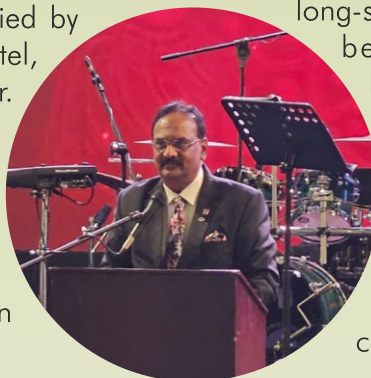


TAAI – SLAITO – Sri Lankan Tourism B2B and a FAM Trip to Promote Sri Lanka

The Sri Lanka FAM Trip & B2B Forum in Colombo proved to be a vibrant and enriching experience for the members of TAAI Western Region. Led by Chairperson Mr. Rajesh Poddar and Managing Committee Member Mr. Sameer Karnani, the delegation participated in an exclusive Familiarization (FAM) Trip from May 14 to 19, 2026, at the special invitation of Sri Lanka Tourism.

A key highlight of the itinerary was a comprehensive, full-day B2B tourism convention, which served as a premier platform for meaningful networking and the strengthening of industry partnerships. Adding great prestige to the occasion, the Honourable Prime Minister of Sri Lanka graced the event as the Chief Guest, underscoring the importance of fostering tourism collaboration between the two nations.

TAAI President Mr. Sunil Kumar, accompanied by Hon. Secretary General Mr. Shreeram Patel, addressed the prestigious SLAITO Dinner. During the occasion, TAAI presented its Special Plaques of Appreciation to Hon. Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tourism and Foreign Employment, Sri Lanka, in recognition of his support towards strengthening tourism ties between the two countries.



The delegation also had a meaningful interaction with Hon. Prof. Ruwan Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Sri Lanka. President Sunil Kumar presented a TAAI Plaque of Appreciation to the Deputy Minister and addressed the distinguished gathering, reflecting on the long-standing and cordial relationship between TAAI and Sri Lanka.

He fondly recalled his enduring association with the destination, including serving as Chairperson of the TAAI Convention held in Colombo in 2005, a milestone that further strengthened bilateral tourism cooperation.





The journey continued with an unforgettable exploration of the spectacular Trincomalee region, where delegates experienced the destination's rich cultural heritage, visited its renowned temples, and enjoyed the tranquillity and hospitality of its picturesque waterfront resorts. The immersive itinerary offered members a first-hand appreciation of one of Sri Lanka's most captivating tourism destinations

TAAI Western Region Meets Director of Tourism, Malaysia

Representatives of TAAI Western Region led by Managing Committee Member Mr. Sameer Karnani, successfully concluded the meeting with Ms. Haryanty, Director of Tourism, Malaysia, to discuss strategic collaborations. The meeting focused on fostering deeper bilateral ties, exploring upcoming promotional avenues, and developing new, curated travel experiences to meet evolving market demands.



Strategic Participation at South Korea Tourism Event Reinforces East Asia Expansion

Demonstrating a commitment to expanding our East Asian portfolio, Mr. Sameer Karnani attended the South Korea Tourism Event on June 12, 2026. The engagement provided key insights into South Korea's latest tourism products, regional trends, and upcoming cultural campaigns.

Educational Program in Cambodia concludes successfully.

With a continuous focus on first-hand product knowledge, TAAI Western Region successfully organised a four-night educational trip to Cambodia, from June 25 to 29, 2026. The experiential program proved to be an invaluable eye-opener for all attending partners, showcasing Cambodia's vast cultural wealth, hospitality infrastructure, and diverse potential for leisure and experiential travel.



TAAI Southern Region

Another Eventful Quarter



Strengthening Global Partnerships through Strategic Industry Meeting

Management Committee Member Mr. Lalith Jain hosted a meeting between TAAI Southern Region Office Bearers, Hon. Secretary Mr. K Babu and Hon. Treasurer Mr S. Jeyasekaran and international hospitality leaders at his office in Chennai. On May 11, 2026 TAAI team held extensive discussions with the representatives of the Re Union Hotel Group, La Financière Janar, Dirigeant Joël Narayanin, and Globe Destinations, Founder and Director Mr. Pranav Kapadia.

Active participation in Morocco's "Kingdom of Light" Tourism Roadshow.



Office Bearers of the TAAI Southern Region participated in the 'Kingdom of Light' showcase roadshow, organised by the Moroccan National Tourism Office, on May 15, 2026 at Hotel Pullman, Chennai. The event featured an engaging session with key stakeholders from Morocco's tourism, hospitality, and aviation sectors. Present on the occasion was Mr. Jamal Younes Kilito, Country Manager, Moroccan National Tourism Office.

Showcasing India's Travel Leadership at Sri Lanka MICE Promotion Roadshow



TAAI Southern Region Hon. Secretary Mr. K. Babu joined the SLCB MICE Promotion Roadshow, organized by the Sri Lankan Convention Bureau (SLCB). During his address, he highlighted TAAI's remarkable 75-year milestone, its key initiatives and activities, while also emphasizing the growing potential of Sri Lanka as a tourism destination. He also appreciated the efforts of Sri Lanka Convention Bureau in promoting MICE tourism. The event took place on May 29, 2026 at Hotel Pullman, Chennai.

TAAI Southern Region Joins the Celebration of 250 Years of American Independence



TAAI Southern Region Chairperson T. Devaki represented the association at a landmark celebration marking the 250th anniversary of American independence, hosted by U.S. Consul General in Chennai Mariana L. Neisuler and U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor at ITC Grand Chola, on June 22, 2026. The event highlighted the enduring friendship and shared values between India and the United States.

Members' Meeting Concludes Successfully.

TAAI Southern Region held its Members' Meeting on June 30, 2026 at Hotel Savera. TAAI Regions & Chapters regularly hold these meetings which not only engages members, but provides them an opportunity to learn from the industry updates and our partners.

At this well-attended members meeting, there were discussions on the latest developments, emerging trends, and key issues shaping the travel and tourism sector.



TAAI Southern Region Chairperson at IITM, Chennai

TAAI Southern Region Chairperson T. Devaki attended the inaugural Ceremony of the India International Travel Mart (IITM) held at Chennai, and joined the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Thiru Rajesh Kumar, in lighting the ceremonial lamp. The event took place at Chennai Trade Centre on July 16, 2026.

On July 17, Chairperson T. Devaki visited the Rajasthan Tourism Stall at IITM, Chennai and was felicitated by Rajasthan Tourism.

TAAI Southern Region actively participates in Abu Dhabi Tourism Roadshow

TAAI Southern Region Chairperson T. Devaki participated in the Abu Dhabi Tourism Roadshow at Hotel Pullman on July 17, 2026. The roadshow provided an opportunity to interact with Abu Dhabi tourism representatives and industry stakeholders and served as a platform to explore opportunities for promoting the destination among Indian travellers.



TAAI Southern Region Discuss Religious Tourism Opportunities in Sri Lanka

At the invitation of the Deputy High Commission of Sri Lanka in Chennai, TAAI Southern Region members participated in discussions on promoting religious tourism in eastern Sri Lanka. The event took place at the Deputy High Commission of Sri Lanka, Chennai office on July 20, 2026. The meeting focused on opportunities to strengthen tourism promotion and to develop a greater sense of awareness of Sri Lanka's religious and cultural attractions among Indian travellers.

These engagements reaffirm TAAI Southern Region's continued efforts and commitment to foster strong relationships with international diplomatic missions, tourism boards and industry stakeholders, while paving the way for opportunities for destination promotion and the growth of the travel and tourism industry.

TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter

A Great Connect For Partnerships And Promotion, Active Member Engagement.

TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter continued its momentum of active member engagement, meaningful partnerships and tourism promotion through a series of initiatives and interactions. With a strong focus on connecting members, creating opportunities and strengthening industry relationships, the Chapter remained actively engaged throughout the year.



Chapter Meeting with members – Engaging knowledge sessions

The 10th Chapter meeting was successfully conducted on June 19, 2026 at Hotel Abode. The meeting was followed by knowledge sessions on Vietnam by DMC 'Arrival Gate'. The meeting was attended by 47 regular members and concluded on a successful note.

TAAI strengthens partnership with Telangana Tourism ahead of TAAI Utsav

On May 14, 2026, TAAI had the privilege of meeting the top bureaucrats of Telangana Tourism. During the meeting, members gave them a brief overview of the Association and its various initiatives, and also shared information

on the forthcoming celebrations commemorating 75 glorious years of our Association, aptly titled the 'TAAI Utsav.'

During the interaction, TAAI sought the support and participation of the Government of Telangana in making this landmark occasion a grand success.



The TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter members felicitated:

- Ms. A. Vani Prasad, IAS, Special Chief Secretary, Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture Department, Government of Telangana
- Ms. P. Gouthami, IAS, Managing Director In-Charge, Department of Tourism, Government of Telangana
- Mr. Ranjit Naik, IFS, Director of Tourism, Telangana
- Mr. Venkatramana, Director, National Institute of Tourism & Hospitality Management (NITHM)
- Mr. Arnab, General Manager, Taj Deccan

The meeting was highly encouraging and reaffirmed the strong partnership between TAAI and Telangana Tourism in promoting sustainable growth of the travel and tourism sector and fostering strong industry collaboration.

Chapter participates in Telangana Tourism Conclave and signs strategic partnership with NITHM

On May 24, 2026, Chapter Chairperson Nagesh Pampati was honoured and privileged to be part of the panel discussion as a speaker at the Telangana Tourism Conclave, which was organised by the Government of Telangana. The theme for the conclave was 'Destination Telangana – The Road Ahead.'



The event was graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Guest Shri. Jupally Krishna Rao, Minister for Tourism, along with distinguished dignitaries including Smt. Vani Prasad, IAS, and Ranjeet Nayak, IFS.

It was a great honour for Mr. Nagesh Pampati to represent TAAI and share the panel with eminent leaders from the hospitality and tourism industry – Mr. Arnab Gupta, GM - Taj Deccan, Mr. Aditya Deendayal, ED - Alankrita Resorts, Mr. Abhishek Patwar of Weddings by Patwar,



Mr. D. Ram, FTCCCI, Mr. A. V. Rao, VP - Ramoji City, Mr. G. B. Rao, Chairman - Pragati Resorts, and Mr. Ramdev, Chairman - Experium.

A significant highlight of the Conclave was the signing of the Memorandum of Partnership between TAAI and the National Institute of Tourism Hospitality, and Management, marking a significant step in industry-academia collaboration.

Sharing Vision for India's MICE Growth at WEEV Industry Event



TAAI Chapter Chairperson was honoured to represent TAAI and to be part of the panel discussion as one of the speakers at the WEEV event, an umbrella platform for Industry events, which was supported by the Govt. of Telangana and the Department of Tourism, Government of India, on a thought-provoking topic: 'Scaling India's Convention Infrastructure: Policy, Connectivity & Collaboration.'

It was a privilege for the TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter Chairperson to share the panel with distinguished industry leaders such as Thomas Joseph, Jio World Centre; Ubaid Ahmad, Bengaluru Convention Centre; and Manoj Ralhan, Novotel Jaipur Convention Centre. The session was expertly moderated by Pallavi Mehra from Informa Markets.

The discussion highlighted the critical role of world-class convention infrastructure, progressive policies, enhanced connectivity, and strong stakeholder collaboration in positioning India as a leading global MICE destination. The event served as an excellent platform to exchange ideas and contribute to the future growth of India's meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions industry.



Enthusiastic participation in the Indonesia Sales Trade Mission

On June 12, 2026, TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter Chairperson participated in the Indonesia Sales Trade Mission Roadshow as a Special Guest, reaffirming the Chapter's commitment towards strengthening international tourism partnerships. The event provided an opportunity to meet and interact with Eddy Wardoyo, Hon. Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia, Mumbai, and Widya Parsaoran Gultom, Consul (Socio-Cultural), Mumbai.

The event brought together more than 30 tourism stakeholders and business partners from Indonesia, providing an excellent platform for networking, collaboration, and strengthening tourism ties between India and Indonesia.

The event was a grand success owing to the efforts of the organisers and the Indonesian delegation for showcasing the incredible tourism opportunities and cultural richness of Indonesia. The TAAI Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Chapter looks forward to fostering stronger partnerships and promoting greater travel exchanges between our two countries.



TAAI Chandigarh Chapter

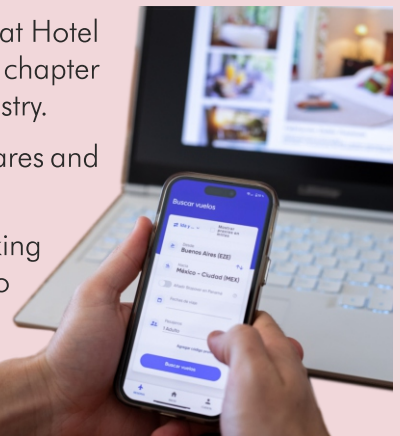
Chandigarh Chapter Meets To Address Changing Industry Landscape



The TAAI Chandigarh Chapter held its monthly meeting on 22nd June 2026 at Hotel KLG Altoria, Chandigarh. The meeting witnessed active participation from chapter members and served as a platform to discuss key issues affecting the travel industry.

Members deliberated on the continuous rise in domestic and international airfares and its impact on travellers as well as travel agents.

The meeting also focused on the growing challenges posed by online booking platforms, including pricing disparities, customer expectations, and the need to reinforce the value of professional travel advisors. Members exchanged views, shared practical experiences, and discussed possible strategies to address these evolving industry challenges.



Past President's Response at the Inauguration



I can't express how happy and excited I am to be back with my family with whom I was closely associated for so many years. Therefore, I will seek indulgence, if I can be given a few minutes to express, my days of remembrance; those were the formative years of 1975-76, when I used to attend the TAAI committee meeting in Radio Club.

I was a very ardent member of the committee of the western zone. I fondly remember all the years which I gave to TAAI, because those were the years when the founders of the association like Nariman Katgara, Gautam Khanna, Vinoo Ubhayakar, Inder Sharma, Arvind Parikh, Vasant Kotak, Mercury Travels, were the doyens of the industry. It is not that we do not have doyens now but I remember each one of them fondly.

The travel industry gave me valuable experience, wonderful camaraderie and great friendships. The only thing I want to share is that the entire travel industry has changed.

What it was in my time around 1979-80, I think some of you can't imagine. Today, I feel many of you have far more challenging jobs than what we had. We had that system of straight commission from a local airline - an Indian airline - that too, only one and there was no competition and domestic airlines. Today I think you have to take many difficult calls in a very different way because technology has taken over the entire business.

The secretariat, with qualities like policy formulation, administrative coordination and procedural support, keeps the association and the organisation in a sound and positive manner. A good Secretariat will undoubtedly provide a platform for greater engagement and collaboration among members and industry stakeholders.

I am very happy to be amongst you. God bless you all, and thank you for having me today

Mahendra Sanghi
Past President, TAAI

**A NEW OFFICE FOR TAAI
LEGACY UPGRADED
AND CARRIED FORWARD!**



TAAI Goa Chapter

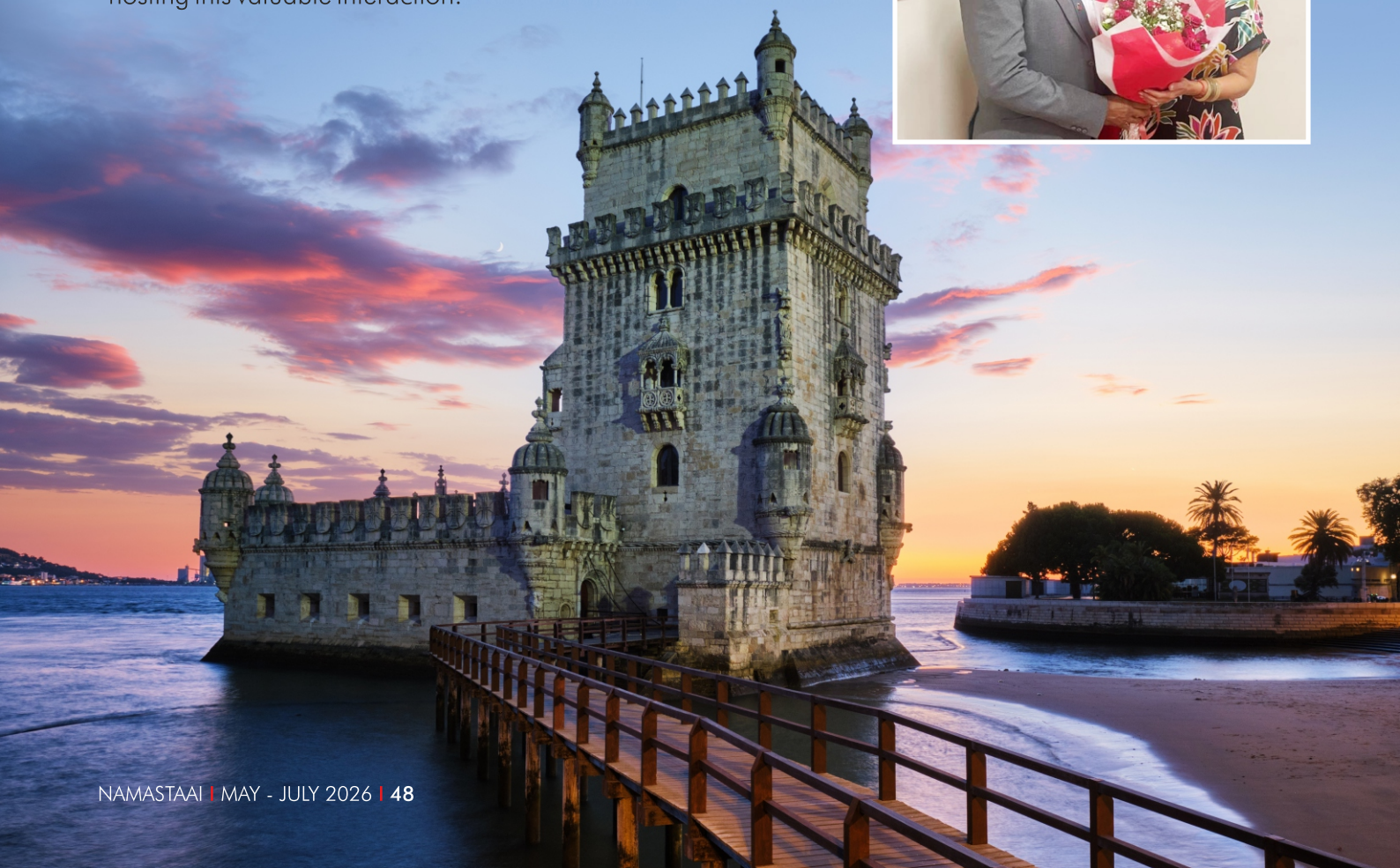
Fostering Stronger Travel Trade Relations with Portugal

On June 11, 2026, members of TAAI Goa Chapter attended the meeting at the Portuguese Consulate in Goa at the invitation of Cláudia Matias, Director, VisitPortugal India, and Her Excellency Mrs. Manuela Franco, Consul General of Portugal.

The meeting provided valuable insights into Portugal's tourism offerings, including its diverse attractions, rich cultural heritage, and increasing appeal to Indian travellers.

Discussions focused on key travel trade matters, particularly visa-related challenges faced by our members and their clients. Mr. Harish Dharwatkar proposed organising a separate interaction involving more members of the TAAI Goa Chapter. The proposal was well received, and it was agreed that such a meeting would be held in early October 2026. The members appreciated the open and constructive dialogue and the willingness of the Consulate and VisitPortugal representatives to understand and address TAAI Goa's concerns.

TAAI Goa Chapter looks forward to a continued collaboration with VisitPortugal and the Portuguese Consulate to strengthen tourism ties between India and Portugal and support smoother travel experiences for our clients. The members expressed their heartfelt thanks to Her Excellency Mrs Manuela Franco, Ms. Cláudia Matias, and their teams for their warm hospitality and for hosting this valuable interaction.





TAAI Goa Chapter Supports Tourism Malaysia Product Briefing in Panjim

TAAI Goa Chapter extended its support to Tourism Malaysia during a product briefing session held on July 21, 2026, at Novotel Hotel, Panjim. The session witnessed an encouraging response from the travel trade, with approximately 75% of the attendees comprising TAAI Goa Chapter members. The event served as a great platform for travel professionals to learn about Malaysia's latest tourism offerings, product opportunities and networking.

Akbar Travels Mumbai also participated in the session and presented its product offerings as a part of the joint initiative with Tourism Malaysia. The event was attended by Jane D'Cruz and Haryanti from Tourism Malaysia, who engaged with the participating members and shared valuable destination and product insights. Chapter Chairperson Timoteo Luis Colaco was presented with a token of appreciation from Tourism Malaysia for the Chapter's continued support.

TAAI Goa Chapter's active participation and support helped facilitate stronger engagement between Tourism Malaysia and the local travel trade, further promoting Malaysia as a premier tourist destination for Indian travellers.



TAAI Gujarat Chapter



TAAI Gujarat Chapter Welcomes Dr. Vipin Garg, Managing Director of TCGL

TAAI Gujarat Chapter members recently met Dr. Vipin Garg, Managing Director of the Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited (TCGL), to welcome him to his new role at Gujarat Tourism.

The TAAI Gujarat Chapter delegation extended its warm greetings to Dr. Garg and introduced him to the association, highlighting TAAI's role in supporting and promoting the travel and tourism industry. The delegation also reviewed several successful TAAI events and initiatives organised in Gujarat with the support of TCGL. The meeting provided an opportunity for meaningful discussions on upcoming TAAI programmes and initiatives planned across Gujarat, as well as potential areas of cooperation between TAAI and TCGL. The discussions focused on strengthening collaboration and collectively promoting Gujarat as a vibrant and preferred tourism destination.

The Chapter noted that Dr. Garg, a young and dynamic IPS officer with a background in medicine, brings a distinctive combination of administrative and professional experience to his new role. The TAAI Gujarat Chapter expressed its confidence in developing a strong and meaningful association with him and TCGL. As a gesture of warmth and friendship, the TAAI delegation presented 'NAMASTAAI' to Dr. Vipin Garg. The presentation marked the beginning of what the Chapter hopes will be a productive and mutually beneficial association aimed at further strengthening Gujarat's tourism ecosystem. The TAAI delegation comprised Hon. Secretary General Shreeram Patel, Hon. Treasurer Mr. Paras Lakhia, and Gujarat Chapter Chairperson Prashant Madlani.

The TAAI Gujarat Chapter looks forward to continued engagement with TCGL and to jointly supporting initiatives that enhance Gujarat's visibility and appeal as a leading tourism destination.

TAAI Gujarat Chapter meets Tourism Secretary, Government of Gujarat

TAAI Gujarat Chapter recently met Dr. Kuldeep Arya, Tourism Secretary, Government of Gujarat, in Gandhinagar for a productive discussion on strengthening cooperation and promoting Gujarat as a leading tourism destination.

The meeting was attended by Hon. Secretary General Shreeram Patel, Hon. Treasurer Mr. Paras Lakhia, and Gujarat Chapter Chairperson Prashant Madlani. The delegation provided an overview of TAAI, its activities and its ongoing initiatives, while also sharing the Association's plans for the coming period. A key focus of the meeting was the proposed 75th-year celebration of TAAI. The Gujarat Chapter discussed the possibility of hosting the Association's mega convention in Gujarat, highlighting the state's strong tourism infrastructure, multitude of attractions and potential to provide a perfect setting for a major industry gathering. The discussions also explored the broader opportunities for collaboration between TAAI and the Government of Gujarat in further promoting the state among domestic and international travellers.

The TAAI Gujarat Chapter expressed its appreciation to Dr. Kuldeep Arya for the constructive interaction and looks forward to continued dialogue with the Government of Gujarat towards strengthening the tourism and travel landscape.



TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter

Set To Achieve New Benchmarks With A Strategic Vision

Through meaningful engagement with Government authorities, strategic educational partnerships, regular industry interactions, and active participation in destination promotion initiatives, the TAAI Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Chapter continues to strengthen its role as a responsible and proactive representative of the travel trade.

With a shared vision of innovation, collaboration, and sustainable growth, the Chapter remains committed to working alongside all stakeholders to further enhance Jammu & Kashmir's position as one of India's most sought-after travel destinations while creating new opportunities for its members and the tourism industry at large.



Bi-Monthly Chapter Meeting of Members concludes successfully.

TAAI J&K Chapter convened its regular bi-monthly meeting, bringing together members from across the Union Territory to deliberate on key industry developments and future strategies.

The meeting served as a platform to discuss current tourism trends, operational challenges, member concerns, and opportunities for strengthening the travel trade. Members exchanged valuable insights on improving industry coordination, enhancing destination promotion, and expanding collaborative initiatives with various stakeholders. The Chapter reaffirmed its collective commitment to promoting responsible, sustainable, and quality tourism across Jammu & Kashmir.

Driving Collaboration, Skill Development & Tourism Promotion

TAAI J&K Chapter has continued to play a pivotal role in strengthening the tourism sector through strategic collaborations, active engagement with the Government, industry networking, and destination promotion. Over the past few months, the Chapter has undertaken several significant initiatives aimed at fostering sustainable tourism, enhancing professional development, and promoting Jammu & Kashmir as a world-class travel destination.

Meeting with the Financial Commissioner, Tourism Department

A delegation of the TAAI J&K Chapter had the privilege of meeting Dr. Ashish Chandra Verma, IAS, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Tourism Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, to discuss important matters concerning the travel and tourism industry.

During the meeting, the delegation presented various concerns and suggestions received from its members, with particular emphasis on strengthening tourism promotion and enhancing destination marketing. The Chapter strongly advocated for the revival of domestic and international road shows, which have historically



served as an effective platform for promoting Jammu & Kashmir, creating new business opportunities, and attracting greater tourist footfall.

The meeting was cordial and constructive, with fruitful discussions on collaborative initiatives to further strengthen the tourism sector. The Chapter reiterated its commitment to working closely with the Tourism Department in promoting sustainable tourism and supporting policies that contribute to the continued growth and development of the industry.

MoU Signed with Government Polytechnic College for Women, Bemina

In a landmark initiative towards promoting tourism education and skill development, TAAI J&K Chapter signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government Polytechnic College for Women, Bemina, Srinagar.



The partnership aims to bridge the gap between academia and the tourism industry by providing students with practical exposure, internships, guest lectures, workshops, career counselling, and opportunities to interact with industry professionals. The collaboration reflects TAAI's commitment to nurturing future tourism professionals while empowering young women to build successful careers in the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors.

This initiative marks another important step in strengthening industry-academia partnerships and preparing a skilled workforce for the rapidly evolving tourism industry.

Enthusiastic participation in the Offbeat Destination Promotion Programme

As part of its continued efforts to promote diversified tourism, the TAAI J&K Chapter actively participated in the Offbeat Destination Promotion Programme organised by the Department of Tourism, Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

The programme provided an excellent opportunity for travel professionals to explore the immense tourism potential of lesser-known destinations across the region. By promoting unexplored locations, unique cultural experiences, and nature-based tourism, the initiative seeks to encourage visitors to travel beyond the conventional circuits and contribute to balanced tourism development.

The Chapter's participation reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the Government's vision of sustainable and inclusive tourism while showcasing the rich heritage, scenic beauty, and untapped destinations of Jammu & Kashmir.





Cleanliness Drive at Chinar Bagh

In the first week of July 2026, TAAI J&K Chapter participated in a cleanliness drive at Chinar Bagh, Srinagar. The initiative reflected the Chapter's commitment to promoting responsible tourism and maintaining the natural and public spaces that form an integral part of Jammu and Kashmir's tourism landscape. The participation also reinforced TAAI's continued emphasis on sustainability and community involvement as important components of the tourism industry.

TAAI J&K Chapter at the Kashmir Marathon Campaign

TAAI J&K Chapter was invited to the launch and promotional campaign for the forthcoming Kashmir Marathon 2026, held in Srinagar in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Omar Abdullah.

The event was attended by Shri Nasir Aslam Wani, Advisor to the Chief Minister, and Shri Tanvir Sadiq, Member of the Legislative Assembly from Zadibal. The event highlighted the growing importance of sports tourism and the potential of the Kashmir Marathon to position Jammu and Kashmir as an attractive destination for runners and visitors from across the country and abroad. Chapter Chairperson Sameer Baktoo represented TAAI.

Plantation Drive in Gulmarg

On July 11 2026, Chapter Chairperson Sameer Baktoo participated in a plantation drive organised in Gulmarg by Jammu & Kashmir Eco-Watch (JKEW) - Go Green Gulmarg Initiative.



The initiative was part of the broader effort to promote greener and more responsible tourism practices in one of Jammu and Kashmir's most important tourist destinations.

Engagement with Investors and Startup Opportunities

On July 24, 2026, Chapter Chairperson met a delegation of investors visiting Kashmir in connection with a summit focused on creating opportunities and exploring funding avenues for startups in Jammu and Kashmir.

The interaction provided an opportunity to highlight the potential of the tourism sector and the wider investment opportunities available in the region. TAAI J&K Chapter was given an exclusive opportunity to engage with the visiting delegation.





The engagement was further complemented by an early-morning plantation drive at Char Chinar, Dal Lake, combining investment outreach with a message of environmental responsibility and sustainable development.

TAAI J&K Chapter at Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat

TAAI J&K Chapter also participated in the 'Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat' initiative held at the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shalimar.



The programme formed part of the nationwide campaign aimed at encouraging young people to contribute to the movement against substance abuse. Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha, attended the UT-level programme, while Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the wider national campaign and interacted with participants.

The participation of TAAI J&K Chapter reflected the tourism industry's responsibility towards youth, society and the creation of a healthier and more productive environment for future generations.



TAAI Karnataka Chapter

TAAI Karnataka Chapter Participates In 'Run For Trees' Event.



TAAI Karnataka Chapter proudly participated in the 'Run for Trees' event held on June 28, 2026 at the Government School Ground, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru.

Organised to promote environmental awareness and inspire collective action towards a greener and more sustainable future, the event also served as an excellent image-building opportunity for TAAI, enabling the Association to proudly represent the travel fraternity while reinforcing its commitment to social and environmental responsibility.

The marathon featured 10K, 5K, and 3K categories, with several enthusiastic TAAI members participating alongside nearly 3,000 runners and walkers from across the city. The overwhelming response reflected the community's commitment to environmental conservation, healthy living, and civic engagement. TAAI Karnataka Chapter is delighted to have been associated with this meaningful initiative and remains committed to supporting programs that create a positive impact on society, promote sustainable practices, and strengthen the visibility of the travel industry through community-focused initiatives.





TAAI Karnataka Chapter's 10th Meeting concludes on a successful note.

The 10th Meeting of TAAI Karnataka Chapter was held on July 22, 2026 at The Park Hotel, Bengaluru, under the chairmanship of Mr. Niranjana Bhargava. The meeting covered key industry updates, including Ministry of Tourism accreditation, airline and BSP matters, passenger rights, and important national developments shared by the TAAI Vice President.

Members also discussed operational issues relating to VFS passport delivery, FAST Track Immigration, airport security initiatives, and opportunities to strengthen Bengaluru's position as a leading MICE destination.

The meeting concluded with destination presentations by Team Elements Portfolio, followed by networking over cocktails and dinner.



TAAI Kerala Chapter



Members Meeting

TAAI Kerala Chapter successfully conducted its Chapter Meeting on May 20, 2026, at Daya by Renai, Cochin, with the enthusiastic participation of about 35 members.

TAAI Kerala Chapter strengthens engagement with State Leadership

As part of their continued engagement with the Government of Kerala, office bearers of the Chapter met Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Shri P.C Vishnunadh, at his office on June 30, 2026, to congratulate him on his continued leadership and to discuss matters relating to the growth and development of Kerala tourism.

They also met Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Ramesh Chennithala, and extended their wholehearted support for his new initiative 'Toofan,' aimed at eradicating the drug menace from the state. The Chapter assured him of its full cooperation in promoting a safe and responsible tourism environment.

Later the same day, the office bearers paid a courtesy visit to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri V. D. Satheesan and congratulated him and his Ministry for the landmark decision to recognize Tourism as an Industry in Kerala. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for a fruitful discussion on the future of the state's tourism sector. The Chapter reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with the Government and extended its full support towards the sustainable growth and development of Kerala tourism.



TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh Chapter Member Engagement – Tourism Promotion - Endless Initiatives



TAAI Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh (MP&CG) Chapter continued its active role in organising a variety of programmes that not only promote member engagement, but also strengthen our association with partners and associates.



8th Chapter Meeting of Members concludes successfully

The 8th Chapter Meeting was organised on June 26, 2026 at Jivana Wellness Retreat, Bhopal, and received an overwhelming response from members representing Indore, Bhopal, Raipur and Ujjain.

The Chapter's ongoing initiatives and future roadmap were presented, followed by active participation from members in discussions on industry developments and association activities.

The meeting concluded with a networking cocktail dinner, providing members with an opportunity to connect, exchange ideas and strengthen professional relationships.

TAAI MP&CG Chapter to support the strengthening of Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Ecosystem – An interactive meeting with Dr. Ilayaraja T, Managing Director, M.P. State Tourism Corporation



Chapter Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon, accompanied by Hon. Treasurer Mrs. C. K. Raj, paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Ilayaraja T. IAS, Managing Director, M.P. State Tourism Corporation.

During the meeting, the Chairperson highlighted the recent initiatives and activities undertaken by the TAAI MP&CG Chapter. Both sides held meaningful discussions on opportunities for collaboration to promote travel and tourism in Madhya Pradesh and further strengthen the state's tourism ecosystem.

Sri Lanka Familiarization Trip concludes on a vibrant note

From May 15 to 21, a delegation of TAAI members participated in a 6 Nights/7 Days familiarization trip to Sri Lanka.

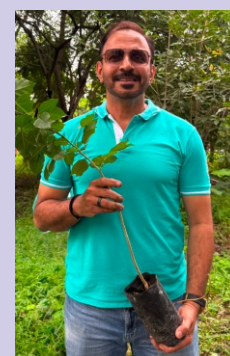


The delegation interacted with leading local DMCs, hotel partners and officials from the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau. The itinerary covered Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Ahungalla and Negombo, providing members with valuable product knowledge while strengthening tourism ties between India and Sri Lanka.

Mauritius Tourism Roadshow - A resounding success

The Mauritius Tourism Roadshow, organised by the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority with the support of TAAI MP&CG Chapter, was held on June 5, 2026, with an excellent turnout of travel professionals. Chairperson Mr. Hemendra Singh Jadon welcomed Mr. Dinesh Burrenchobay, Chairperson of the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority. The meeting included productive discussions on enhancing tourism promotion and strengthening travel cooperation between Mauritius and India.





TAAI MP&CG Chapter Organises Tree Plantation Drive at SATHM

Continuing its annual commitment towards environmental conservation, the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) MP&CG Chapter, in association with the School of Aviation, Tourism & Hospitality Management (SATHM), organised a tree plantation drive at the SATHM campus. The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from TAAI Chairperson Hemendra Singh Jadon, Dr. Yamini Karmarkar, Director, SATHM, Dr. Gaurav Purohit, Academic Coordinator, TAAI members, SATHM faculty, and tourism students.

Speaking on the occasion, TAAI Chairperson Hemendra Singh Jadon highlighted that TAAI places special emphasis on planting native and environmentally significant trees, including peepal, banyan, neem, and various fruit-bearing species. He emphasised that such initiatives not only contribute to ecological balance and biodiversity but also inspire the younger generation to take responsibility for protecting and preserving the environment. The plantation drive reflected the Chapter's continued commitment to sustainable tourism and its responsibility towards building a greener and healthier future.



TAAI Rajasthan Chapter

International Collaboration – Networking Beyond Borders

TAAI Rajasthan Chapter's Members' Summit in Thailand brought international collaboration to life, creating opportunities to build deep, meaningful relationships that transcend geographical boundaries.



Strategic Knowledge Sessions and Networking - The curated itinerary featured intensive knowledge-sharing workshops designed to strengthen professional capacities among attendees. Beyond formal sessions, delegates toured several of Pattaya's landmark attractions and attended formal networking dinners at premier venues across the city."This initiative provided a critical platform for our members to deepen professional alignment while fostering cross-border collaborations," the Chapter stated in an official release.

Rajasthan Chapter Meets in Pattaya

The Rajasthan Chapter successfully concluded its four-day International Meeting in Pattaya, Thailand, marking a significant milestone in regional member engagement. The event, from May 1 to May 4, 2026, drew approximately 16 prominent delegates. Organisers reported that the gathering effectively blended high-level professional development, strategic networking, and local cultural experiences.





Delegates highly praised the operational execution of the summit, extending special commendation to Mr. Hemraj Saraf and Nexus Travels for delivering seamless logistics and high-end hospitality throughout the tour.

Building on this momentum, leadership confirmed that the Rajasthan Chapter plans to establish a regular calendar of international summits to continually drive professional growth, networking, and camaraderie among its global network.



TAAI Saurashtra & Kutch Chapter

Sri Lanka Tourism Board Roadshow In Rajkot - A Grand Success



On June 17, 2026, Chapter Chairperson Devan Shah had the privilege of attending the Sri Lanka Tourism Board Roadshow as the Special Guest. The event brought together travel trade professionals and tourism stakeholders including TAAI Saurashtra-Kutch Chapter members to strengthen tourism partnerships and promote Sri Lanka as a preferred travel destination.

The event served as an excellent platform for networking, exchanging industry insights, and exploring new opportunities for collaboration between the travel fraternity and the Sri Lanka Tourism Board. The event was held at Hotel Fortune Park JPS Grand, Rajkot.



Past President's Response at the Inauguration



It is a matter of great pride for all of us that our Managing Committee, led by President Sunil Kumar, has taken the long-awaited, bold step to find an appropriate, contemporary home for TAAI, in its 75th year.

In keeping with the times and with the stature of the organisation, this new facility will not only provide convenience, but also prestige for all stakeholder meetings, as well as for all our staff.

For our own Managing Committee meetings, we will not need to seek external facilities, and proximity to Mumbai airport and multiple airport hotels will be a supplementary benefit.

Continuing ownership of our birthplace while deriving additional income from the Fort Premises, instead of selling out, will also stand us in good stead in the long run.

While congratulating the team that has worked so hard on the refurbishment, I would like to send prayers and very best wishes to our esteemed Association and all its members for great success in all endeavours, from these new premises.

Ashwini Kakkar
Past President, TAAI

**A NEW OFFICE FOR TAAI
LEGACY UPGRADED
AND CARRIED FORWARD!**



TAAI South Gujarat Chapter

TAAI Delegation Strengthens Industry Ties At GTTF 2026



When the Global Travel Trade Fair 2026 opened its doors at Surat's SIECC on July 28, TAAI's South Gujarat Chapter was there by invitation — and put the time to good use. Members moved through the fair with a clear brief: strengthen the partnerships that keep both trade and consumer travel moving, from B2B tie-ups with suppliers to the B2C relationships that bring travellers through the door.

Stall by stall, the delegation engaged with what the wider industry is building — new products, new routes, new ways of doing business — insights that chapter members can apply in their own operations. It was less a courtesy visit than a working one, in keeping with the Chapter's ongoing push to keep South Gujarat's travel trade connected to the pulse of the larger industry.



TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter

Regularity of Member Meetings – Environmental Initiatives

The TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter continues to lead regional industry engagement by hosting consistent member meetings and critical briefings on evolving travel sector updates. Alongside professional development, the Chapter remains heavily committed to civic responsibility through its regular community outreach initiatives.



Eleventh Members' Chapter Meeting engages Airport Director

TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter successfully conducted its 11th Chapter Meeting on May 15, 2026, at Hotel Tamil Nadu Rockfort. The meeting was graced by Mr. S. S. Raju, Airport Director, Tiruchirappalli International Airport, who was the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by the Cargo Manager. Twenty chapter members attended the meeting and had a productive and interactive session with the Airport Director.

During the meeting, TAAI WoW Awards were presented in recognition of the outstanding contributions of the members, and membership pins were distributed to the members, adding a special touch to the occasion.



NEWS FROM REGIONS & CHAPTERS

Chapter Promotes Wellness and Green Initiatives on International Yoga Day

TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter celebrated International Yoga Day with a Program at the Aurobindo International School, Woraiyu, Trichy on June 20, 2026. Yoga Master Lion M.S. Pargunan was the special guest of the event.

Lion G. Ravichandran, Chairperson of Aurobindo International School, presided over the function. Lion S.P. Rajendran, Chairperson of the TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. More than 1,000 students enthusiastically participated in the celebration, and six tree saplings were planted as part of the program's commitment towards environmental sustainability.





12th Chapter Meeting concludes successfully

TAAI South Tamil Nadu Chapter's 12th Meeting was held on July 6, 2026 at Hotel Breeze Residency, Trichy. The meeting brought together 20 participants and provided an opportunity for members to discuss matters concerning the association and review ongoing activities during the 2024–2026 terms.

The meeting concluded with members reaffirming their commitment to strengthening coordination and cooperation within the travel and tourism industry.



Past President's Response at the Inauguration



It is a great pleasure and a privilege to be associated with the inauguration of TAAI's new office, which will house our Secretariat. This has been a long-pending dream for TAAI, and seeing it become a reality is a truly proud moment for the entire TAAI fraternity.

My sincere congratulations to the Managing Committee of TAAI for taking up this important task and turning this long-cherished vision into a historic achievement.

Congratulations to TAAI on this significant milestone. It is a great success for our Association and, more importantly, a strong foundation for our future.

Iqbal Mulla
Past President, TAAI

**A NEW OFFICE FOR TAAI
LEGACY UPGRADED
AND CARRIED FORWARD!**



TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter Knowledge Initiatives – Strengthening Industry Partnerships

The initiatives taken by TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter reflect the continued commitment to enhancing members' knowledge, strengthening industry partnerships, and promoting tourism through meaningful engagement and professional development.

Chapter's active participation in the UP Tourism Panel Discussion



TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter Chairperson, Ms. Hina Sheeraz, was invited as a panellist by UP Tourism to discuss the growth prospects of tourism in Uttar Pradesh. The discussion focused on strategies to increase tourist footfall, enhance client interest in the state, and identify new attractions and experiences that can be promoted. The session also highlighted the role of government support in strengthening tourism promotion.

The interactive discussion was graced by Mr. Amrit Abhijat, Additional Principal Chief Secretary, Tourism, Culture, and Religious Affairs Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, whose valuable insights enriched the session.



Abu Dhabi Tourism Product Update Session conducted successfully.

In collaboration with Abu Dhabi Tourism, TAAI successfully organised a Product Update Session for its members. The event focused on destination updates, itinerary-building strategies, and

information on upcoming attractions. An engaging lucky draw added excitement to the session, making it both informative and interactive. The program received an excellent response from the members.





Sentosa Island Product Workshop receives an outstanding response.

Sentosa Island, in association with Luxury Tours, organized a full-day Product Update and Itinerary Building Workshop exclusively for TAAI members. The program included destination presentations, product updates, and interactive workshops designed to help members create more engaging travel itineraries. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, and a lucky draw added to the excitement, making it a productive and enjoyable learning experience for all attendees.





TAAI Strengthens Industry Engagement through Thailand & Brand USA Product Updates.

On July 10, 2026, TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter collaborated with Travel Bullz and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) to organise an exclusive Thailand Roadshow at the Holiday Inn. The event served as an important platform for travel trade professionals to explore Thailand as a preferred destination and gain insights into the latest tourism offerings, experiences, and updated products available for Indian travellers. The roadshow brought together members of the travel fraternity and destination representatives, facilitating meaningful interactions, knowledge sharing, and business networking. Participants were introduced to Thailand's evolving tourism landscape, including new and enhanced travel experiences, attractions, hospitality offerings, and destination products. Such initiatives enable travel professionals to confidently recommend and promote Thailand while keeping



pace with changing traveller preferences. Continuing its commitment to professional development and product knowledge, TAAI members also attended the Brand USA session on July 11, at the Taj. The session focused on promoting USA as a travel destination, along with comprehensive updates on its diverse tourism products and experiences.

The Brand USA engagement provided members with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the destination and stay informed about the latest offerings, travel experiences, and possibilities for Indian travellers visiting the United States. The interactive session

also encouraged valuable exchanges between travel professionals and destination stakeholders, helping strengthen industry relationships and create greater awareness of the USA's extensive tourism potential.

Both engagements reflect TAAI's continued commitment to empowering its members through knowledge, networking, destination updates, and meaningful industry partnerships. By facilitating direct interaction with tourism boards, destination partners, and industry stakeholders, TAAI continues to ensure that its members remain well-informed and equipped to offer their clients relevant, updated, and enriching travel experiences.

TAAI Advocates for Better Connectivity and Passenger Services at Lucknow Airport

TAAI Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand Chapter Chairperson Hina Sheeraz Zaidi attended a meeting with the airport authorities in Lucknow to discuss ways to enhance airport services, passenger convenience, and operational efficiency.

A key focus was on strengthening international connectivity from Lucknow to destinations across the world, which would greatly benefit tourism, business, and travellers from the region. TAAI

remains committed to working with airport authorities and industry stakeholders to make Lucknow a better-connected and more passenger-friendly international gateway.



TAAI Vidarbha Chapter



TAAI Vidarbha Chapter joins Korea Tourism Organisation to promote South Korea

The Korea Tourism Roadshow 2026 was held in Nagpur on May 7, 2026. It was an engaging evening designed to offer destination insights, valuable networking opportunities, and an immersive introduction to Korea's diverse travel experiences. Air India joined the roadshow as the airline partner. Air India had extended a special invitation to the TAAI Vidarbha Chapter Members. Mr. Myong Kil Yun, Regional Director – India and SAARC Countries, Korea Tourism Organisation (KTO), Ms. Sonika Mendiratta, Korea Tourism Marketing Manager for India, Mr. Shomil Sonawane, Senior Associate – Sales and Distribution, Air India Limited; and Mr. Satish Kumar, Korea Tourism Organisation were present at the roadshow.

Addressing the members, Chapter Chairperson Alok Vaidya remarked that South Korea has rapidly become one of the most exciting travel destinations for Indian tourists. Not only is this destination known for its modern cities and advanced technology, but it also makes a mark with its magnificent palaces, temples, and wonderful nature. Mr. Vaidya appreciated the efforts and vision of the KTO officials to boost tourism, cultural engagement, and strengthen economic cooperation with India beyond the traditional manufacturing sectors. On behalf of the Travel Agents Association of India, Mr. Alok Vaidya assured the Korea Tourism Organisation that they will make full efforts to promote



and sell South Korea for tourism, business events and MICE movements.

The roadshow provided an excellent opportunity to understand, learn and refresh their knowledge about Korea as a tourist destination. The roadshow witnessed robust attendance from the Vidarbha Chapter members, contributing to its success. The roadshow was organised at Hotel Radisson Blu, Wardha Road, Nagpur and was followed by a Networking Dinner.



StarDream Cruises Roadshow concludes on a vibrant note.

A StarDream Cruises Roadshow was organised on May 22, 2026, at Hotel Centre Point, Ramdaspath, Nagpur by Team StarDream Cruises and Nova Travels, Nagpur, in association with TAAI Vidarbha Chapter.

Mr Naresh Rawal, Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing, StarDream Cruises, India, graced the event with his presence. Mr Gurmeet Singh Vij, Nova Travels, Nagpur, presided over the program. The program coordinator was Vidarbha Chapter Chairperson Alok Vaidya, while the proceedings were conducted by Hon. Chapter Secretary Rajendra Akolkar.

Addressing the gathering, Chapter Chairperson Alok Vaidya, on behalf of TAAI Vidarbha Chapter, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to StarDream Cruise officials, especially Shri Naresh Rawal, Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing, for taking the time to visit Nagpur despite his busy schedule. He also thanked Mr. Amit Parker, Assistant Vice President, StarDream Cruises and Mr. Gurmeet Singh Vij Sir who has always been a legendary member of the Vidarbha Chapter and a longstanding supporter of TAAI and the entire team



of Nova Travels, Nagpur for arranging and hosting the Roadshow in Nagpur for Vidarbha region agencies.

Mr Vaidya also highlighted that the exclusive Road-Show by StarDream Cruise would provide updates about the new offerings and opportunities of their product-line and better sales options, enabling them to better serve their clients and grow their business.



TAAI Vidarbha Chapter Monsoon FAM trip concludes on a vibrant note

TAAI Vidarbha Chapter organised a Monsoon FAM Trip for Chapter Members on July 22 & 23, 2026 at Jungle Home Tadoba Wilderness Lodge, Kolara Gate, Tadoba in Chandrapur District. The Resort is owned by Vidarbha Chapter Member Mr. Raju Itkelwar of Irawat Infrastructure Private Limited, Nagpur. As a goodwill gesture, he generously offered a fully sponsored FAM for the chapter members to showcase the property and its exemplary hospitality. The Vidarbha Chapter expressed their sincere gratitude and thanked Mr. Itkelwar and his team for their excellent hospitality, services and meticulous arrangements during their stay.

The members also went for an exciting Tadoba Jungle Safari, and a close tiger sighting was an enthralling experience. Members lauded the efforts



of Hon. Secretary Rajendra Akolkar and Hon. Treasurer Tushar Mishrikotkar in organising and coordinating the familiarisation trip. Twenty-two Chapter members attended the FAM tour and thoroughly enjoyed the safari experience, hospitality and the camaraderie.



A warm welcome to our new members



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

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

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

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

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE AGENCY	CITY	REPRESENTATIVE I	REPRESENTATIVE II
1	Swara Travels Services	Pune	Mr. Rupesh Ananda Kamble	Mrs. Sushma Rupesh Kamble
2	Vimal World	Pune	Mr. Suraj Bora	Mr. Rajendra Bora
3	Vacanza Travels	Pune	Mr. Preetish Mutha	Mrs. Shweta Mutha
4	Anupama Holidays	Satara	Ms. Anupama Jamdade	
5	Duri Holidays	Jalgaon	Mr. Vishwesh Pawar	Mrs. Namrata Vishwesh Pawar
6	Shiloh Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd.	Cochin	Mr. Bijo Abraham	Mr. Finny Oommen
7	Insight Vacations Pvt. Ltd.	Bhubaneshwar	Mr. Susanta Kumar Satapathy	Mrs. Rojalin Satapathy
8	ITDH Tourism	Kolkata	Mr. Manoj Pal	Ms. Swarnali Saha
9	Millath Haj Service	Chennai	Mr. Muzaffer Ahmed	Mrs. Fathima Ahmed
10	Gulam Rasool Travels	Azamgarh	Mr. Abu Zaid	Mr. Mohd. Ashad
11	Travel Manager Holidays India Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Mr. Ajay Gopal	
12	Satnam Holidays	Jaipur	Mr. Manjeet Kumar	Mrs. Shubhra Rohilla
13	Star Tours & Travels	Kanpur	Mr. Umesh Chandra	Mr. Aman Chandra
14	The Trip Tailors	Khanna	Mr. Parvesh Sofat	Mrs. Neha Sofat
15	Maitree Tours	Navsari	Mr. VimalKumar Ahir	
16	Creative Travels	Surat	Mr. Rakesh Gupta	Mr. Vansh Gupta
17	Trinity Travel Services	Ahmedabad	Mr. Rubin Christy	Mrs. Jyoti Christy
18	Het Holidays	Gandhidham	Mr. Ritesh Shivraj Gadhvi	Mr. Shivraj Parbat Gadhvi
19	Joy Enterprises T/A Suitcase Diaries	Jaipur	Mr. Joy Bajaj	
20	Simbavoyages Pvt. Ltd., T/A Simba Voyages	Jaipur	Mr. Ajay Tripathi	Ms. Deepa Moolchandani
21	ITS Global Ltd.	Jaipur	Mr. Peeyush Prabhat Jha	Ms. Vandana Jha
22	Just4u Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd.	Kota	Mr. Virendra Vijay	Mr. Tarav Vijay
23	Skybee Travel & Tours Pvt. Ltd.	Chennai	Mrs. Bubby Sasikumar	Mr. Biju Ganesh
24	Nahid Group Manpower Solutions	Lucknow	Mr. Mohd. Asim	Mr. Mohd. Raquin
25	Ambica Tours & Travels T/A Ambica Tours & Travels	Ahmedabad	Mr. Amish M. Patel	Mrs. Jalpa A. Patel
26	72 Holidays Kashmir	Srinagar	Mr. Firdous Ali Rather	
27	UT Kashmir Tour & Travels	Srinagar	Mr. Tariq Hussain Najar	
28	MPStays.in	Mumbai	Mr. Anshul Shrivastava	

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE AGENCY	CITY	REPRESENTATIVE I	REPRESENTATIVE II
29	Travel Feathers Exotic	New Delhi	Mr. Devinder Sharma	Mr. Kunga Gyatso Namgyal
30	FOURC GLOBAL, T/A Sheikh Global Holidays	Nagpur	Mr. Muzakkir Sheikh	Mr. Rashid Anwar
31	Vigovia Travel Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Mr. Utkarsh Arohi	Mrs. Neena Jha
32	Bhoomi Tours & Travels	Bhopal	Mr. Dinesh Dhote	Mr. Sumit Dhote
33	Globus Tours	Nashik	Mr. Satyendra Muchhal	Mrs. Rashmi Muchhal
34	Indian Miles	Jaipur	Mr. Yogendra Singh	Mrs. Pooja Shekhawat
35	Bestination Holidays Pvt. Ltd.	Kochi	Mr. Shaibin Varghese Mathew	Mrs. Jeena Fernandez
36	Ticket On Time	Lucknow	Mr. Krishna Kumar	Mr. Faiyaz Ahmad
37	Skyline India Travels Pvt. Ltd.	New Delhi	Mr. Pradeep Kumar Roy	Mrs. Saroj Roy
38	Safiya Travel Services	Kozhikode	Mr. S. Nizamuddin	Mr. Abdul Rasheed
39	Safiya Travel Services	Bangalore	Mr. S. Nizamuddin	Mr. T. V. Ramachandra
40	Empyrean Skyview Projects – . A Unit of FIL Industries Pvt. Ltd	Udhampur	Mr. Syed Junaid Altaf	Mr. Owais Altaf Syed
41	R.A Holidays Tour & Travels T/A R.A Holidays	Srinagar	Ms. Shazia Basheer	Mr. Mir Azhar
42	Apex Holidays	Erode	Mr. Jayakumar T.	
43	Kiran Travel	Solan	Mrs. Kiran Gupta	Mr. Sunil Gupta
44	Riya Travel & Tours (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Surat	Mr. Kalpesh Dhireshkumar Sharma	Mr. Prashant Kesavankutty Nair
45	Jupiter Travel Solutions	New Delhi	Mr. Hitandu Wahi	Ms. Nidhi Wahi
46	Srishti Tours & Travels	Bhopal	Mr. Kartik Jain	Mr. Vedik Jain
47	Happiness Plans	Indore	Mrs. Kalpana Tated Jain	Mr. Harshit Tated
48	Explor42 Sports Travel LLP	Bangalore	Mr. Narayan Thammaiah	Mr. Pawan Vashisht
49	Evershine Holidays Inc.	Bangalore	Mrs. Merlyn Kurian	Mr. Shaji Mathews
50	R.J. Associates	New Delhi	Mrs. Richa Jain	Mr. Vivek Jain
51	Al-Habib Tours & Travels	Sultanpur	Mr. Makbool Ahmad Khan	Mr. Mohd. Shawaz
52	Suncity Tours & Travels	Jodhpur	Mr. Rahul Mehta	
53	BRICKTOURS	Bangalore	Mr. Santosh A L	Mr. Naveen P.
54	Mystical Holidays & Leisure	Hyderabad	Mr. Malyala Raghu	
55	Vmeet Holidays	Pune	Mrs. Veenni Kaur Agarwal	

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE AGENCY	CITY	REPRESENTATIVE I	REPRESENTATIVE II
56	Travel Club	Pune	Ms. Vaishnavi Watwe	
57	SLTT Solutions	Lucknow	Mrs. Alpana Srivastava	Mr. Anurag Srivastava
58	Travel Arc	Srinagar	Mr. Momin Manzoor	
59	Discover Nature Holidays	Srinagar	Mr. Masood Ahmad Shangloo	Mr. Bashir Ahmad Shangloo
60	Vir International Services Pvt. Ltd.	Ahmedabad	Mr. Vishray Prakashbhai Vyas	Mr. Prakashkumar Rasiklal Vyas
61	Unico Expeditions LLP	Rajkot	Mr. Vishwa Parekh	Mr. Dimpu Lalakia
62	Sufiyan Tours & Travels	Lucknow	Mr. Mohammad Sufiyan	Ms. Swaleha Makeen
63	Go Global	Indore	Mrs. Prachi Chaurasia	Mr. Shashi Kant Chaurasia
64	Winnay Immigration & Education Services Ltd.	Ahmedabad	Mr. Bhupendrasinh N. Rathod	
65	Lucknow Travel House	Lucknow	Mr. Ahmad Nadeem	Mr. Saif Khan



TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA Online Membership Portal Launched!



A great way to join TAAI!

**Apply Online
Endorsed Online
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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**



Flavours of Life: A Culinary Love Letter from Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi's culinary landscape is an exquisite tapestry woven with centuries of heritage, trade, and hospitality. Beyond the gleaming skyline and cultural landmarks lies a world of traditional delicacies and street-food treasures that every traveller should taste.

A Symphony of Tastes: Must-Try Emirati Classics

Machboos – A fragrant rice dish cooked with chicken, lamb, or shrimp, infused with dried lime and aromatic spices. Often regarded as a symbol of Emirati hospitality.

Lamb Khuzi (Ouzi) – Tender lamb, slow-roasted and served over spiced rice with almonds and pine nuts. A celebratory favourite.

Harees – Wheat and meat slow-cooked to a comforting, porridge-like dish enriched with ghee.

Madrooba – A hearty coastal creation featuring salted fish blended into a thick sauce.

Balaleet – Sweet saffron-spiced vermicelli topped with an omelet, a breakfast staple.

Luqaimat – Golden dough balls drizzled with date syrup or honey, a Ramadan favourite.

Regag & Fareed – Wafer-thin bread paired with hearty meat stews.

Jasheed – A coastal specialty of spiced shark, now also reimagined in creative modern twists.



Street-Smart Eats & Sweet Indulgences



Shawarma – Marinated meat carved from a spit, wrapped in flatbread with garlic sauce and pickles.

Falafel & Hummus – Chickpea fritters with creamy hummus, an iconic snack.

Manakish – A Levantine flatbread with za'atar, cheese, or meat toppings.

Knafeh – A syrup-soaked pastry filled with melted cheese or cream, topped with pistachios.



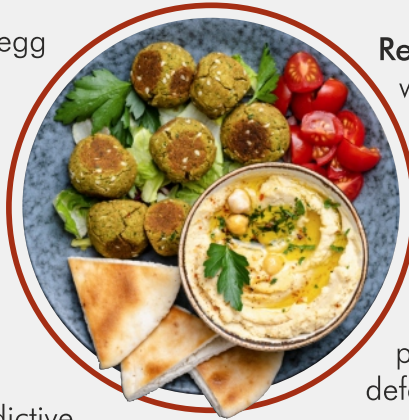
For the vegetarian traveller

Abu Dhabi's kitchens are just as welcoming to those who travel meat-free. While traditional Emirati cooking often centres on meat and seafood, the city offers a generous spread of vegetarian delights.

Balaleet – Order it without the egg topping for a sweet-savoury breakfast.

Falafel & Hummus – Found on every street corner, this duo never disappoints.

Manakish with Za'atar – The herb-and-sesame version of this flatbread is both simple and addictive.



Regag Bread – Crisp and light, enjoyed with cheese, honey, or even chips.

Vegetarian Harees – Some restaurants prepare a version made with wheat, ghee, and spices only.

Karak Tea – A warm, spiced pick-me-up, vegetarian by default and utterly irresistible.





TAAI TRAVELOGUES

DESTINATION AWARENESS

Kashmir Is Calling

A New Season of Travel, Wonder, and Excitement Awaits

Kashmir today stands tall with confidence, warmth, and renewed excitement as it prepares to welcome travellers for the 2026 tourism season beginning. As someone closely associated with the travel and tourism fraternity, I can confidently say that the energy on the ground is extremely positive. Tourists have already started arriving, hotels are active, and the Valley is once again buzzing with life, smiles, and movement.

This winter has been exceptionally good, gifting Kashmir with picture-perfect snowfall and reaffirming its global appeal as a winter destination. However, Kashmir is no longer limited to a single season. I strongly believe that Kashmir has evolved into a 12-month tourism industry, offering four beautiful and distinct seasons. Each season has its own charm: spring blossoms, pleasant summers, golden autumns, and magical winters giving travellers a reason to visit and revisit throughout the year.

I am very excited and optimistic about what lies ahead. Things are steadily falling back into place, and we are fully prepared to host the upcoming season with open arms. The response from travellers has been encouraging, and the growing interest clearly reflects the confidence people have in Kashmir as a preferred holiday destination.



I must also highlight that the Department of Tourism is working actively and consistently to promote Jammu and Kashmir at every possible level. I see strong efforts being made by the Union Territory's Tourism Ministry under the leadership of Honourable Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is working tirelessly to revive and strengthen tourism across the region. These collective efforts are creating visible impact and renewed momentum for the industry.

Kashmir offers far more than its famous destinations like Gulmarg, Pahalgam, and Sonmarg. Srinagar's iconic Mughal Gardens, the calm of Dal Lake, heritage sites, and vibrant culture leave visitors truly spellbound. Gulmarg has once again come alive and is drawing travellers from across the country and beyond.

Equally important is Jammu, with the sacred Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, historic forts, and rich cultural heritage, which add depth and diversity to any travel itinerary.

The message I want to share is simple and strong: Kashmir is welcoming, vibrant, and ready. Travellers are coming back, experiences are being rediscovered, and unforgettable memories are waiting to be created. This is the time to plan your visit, book your package, and be part of Kashmir's beautiful journey ahead.

~ **Sameer Baktoo**

*Chairperson
TAAI Jammu & Kashmir Chapter*



Anthropic's New Claude Cowork: What It Means For Travel Agencies

Anthropic's Claude Cowork - often described as giving every knowledge worker a smart AI colleague - is designed to work inside real business workflows, not just answer questions in a chat box. For travel agencies across India, this means AI can start behaving like a knowledgeable team member who understands your customers, tools and basic rules rather than a distant, generic bot.



Instead of only helping you write emails or simple replies, this new Claude 'coworker' can be connected (through secure extensions and plug-ins) to the systems your office already uses - CRMs, customer records and other internal tools. That allows it to see important context like client history, preferences and policy, and then assist consultants step by step while they handle enquiries. Think of it as a digital team member sitting beside your staff, suggesting options and drafts, while your human team makes the final decisions.

What does this look like day-to-day in a typical Indian travel agency? A consultant handling a family holiday query could ask Claude to summarise the client's past trips, budget pattern and special needs, then get 2-3 itinerary drafts with suitable destinations and dates, ready for human refinement. A corporate desk agent could have Claude read long email threads, pull out the key requests and policy limits, and prepare a clean, structured response and quotation for review. Over time, this kind of support can cut down repetitive searching and typing, allowing staff to focus more on advising, upselling and building relationships.

Beyond the desk, Claude-style co-worker tools can even automate routine online actions. Using a self-hosted helper on your own laptop, something like an internal 'ClawdBot' or 'OpenClaw' agent, you can let AI control a browser window under your supervision to complete simple, repetitive tasks. For example, it could navigate an airline website, perform web check-in for a PNR, select pre-agreed seats and download boarding passes, while your staff simply review the result and send it to the client. This keeps control with the agency but removes a lot of manual clicking that eats into staff time.

For employees, the idea is not replacement but support. Juniors gain a powerful learning tool that explains fare rules, suggests wording for delicate client conversations and highlights potential mistakes before they reach the customer. Seniors can delegate routine follow ups, web check-ins and basic document checks to the co-worker, while they handle complex cases, VIP clients and negotiations where human judgment really matters. Owners benefit from more consistent quality across branches, faster on boarding of new staff and better use of the experience that already exists in the team.

Travel is a demanding business: multiple systems, changing rules, tight margins and high customer expectations. Claude's co-worker approach is important because it is aimed at serious, rule-bound work where data security, approvals and traceability are built in from the start, not added later. It is designed to respect company controls, so you can define what it is allowed to see and do, rather than giving AI a free hand.

For travel agency leaders across India, the message is simple: this is the moment to start experimenting with AI as a true colleague at work. Begin with small pilots where Claude helps staff draft responses, summarise enquiries, complete web check-ins and prepare options, always under human supervision. Train your team to see AI as a partner, not a threat and you can turn this new 'co-worker' into a real advantage for your customers, your employees and your business.

~ **Saivisal K. B.**

*Business Development Manager
Sree Sai Travels and Services, Thrissur, Kerala*

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