

HOTEL & RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF ORISSA *News Letter*



Debiprasad Mishra
Minister
Higher Education, Tourism & Culture
Govt. of Orissa, Bhubaneswar



MESSAGE

I am happy to learn the Hotel & Restaurant Association of Orissa (HRAO) is completing 25 years of service to the tourism industry. I am aware of the good work done by the HRAO since past several years and my good wishes will always be with the activities of HRAO.

The State Govt. is determined to make Orissa an attractive destination and many projects are in the pipeline. The new Tourism policy shall be announced soon and will be very attractive for investors in Orissa.

Hoteliers should look beyond the golden triangle of Puri- Konark- Bhubaneswar and spread out to very attractive destinations in Satkosia gorge, Narsinghpur, Koraput, Phulbari, Balangir etc. Eco tourism is one area where Orissa has an advantage over other states. The last cultural diversity and heritage of Orissa makes it the ultimate destination of India.

I wish the association all success in their endeavour to promote Orissa.

Debiprasad Mishra
Debiprasad Mishra

EDITOR

Tarini Prasad Mohanty
Secretary General

Design & Co-ordinated by
Durga Das
Executive Secretary

Chairman's Message

At the outset, I would like to wish all my colleagues a very HAPPY & PROSPEROUS 2010. During the past one year our association has made tremendous progress in helping the growth of the tourism sector of our State. One of the major achievements was conducting a State Level Workshop to finalize the Tourism Policy of the State. The State Tourism Dept. has accepted our suggestions and very soon the gazette notification would be made by the State Tourism Dept. I thank all my colleagues for getting comparative information on the Tourism Policy of other states and being able to produce a wonderful tourism policy, which will boost the future of Orissa Tourism.



This year as our association is completing 25 years, we will celebrate the Silver Jubilee function in a befitting manner. We successfully conducted the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) Convention last year bringing in more than 800 tour operators to the State to explore the tourism potential of Orissa. While I thank all hoteliers for their contribution and cooperation, I am happy to announce that this has benefited us tremendously and a lot of tour operators who did not see Orissa earlier have started promoting Orissa in a big way.

I have personally discussed with the Tourism Secretary and Hon'ble Tourism Minister to start an annual event (Orissa Tourism Conclave) every year in similar line with the Kerala Travel Mart organized by the Kerala Tourism Society. This year we plan to have the event prior to Rath Yatra so that tour operators, travel writers, photo journalists can be invited to participate in the Tourism Conclave, do sightseeing and enjoy the Rath Yatra festival. The proposed programme would be - on 10th July arrival of guests, on 11th July - inauguration of the tourism exhibition and convention, 12th July - exhibition and local sightseeing, 13th July visiting Rath Yatra, 14th July - sightseeing, 15th July - departure of guests. We would soon be forming a small committee to handle this big event. Those interested to volunteer may please write to me.

Another event to be conducted by HRAO is the national level Chilika Boat Carnival. I have already had a meeting with the 4 associations in Chilika for conducting a national level Boat Carnival. A separate committee would also be formed to handle the same.

Three other sub committees would be formed to deal with Industrial Policy, Legal Matters, Taxation, Fairs & Festivals, Electricity & Excise. I want members to volunteer for the same.

Our association started with 7 members in the year 1984 and we are proud to have 208 members. We have a very dynamic new executive committee and I am sure they would be aggressive to make every new hotel a member of our esteemed association and increase the fellowship and brotherhood among the hoteliers of our State. Our association is one of the most forward looking private bodies which has worked in close cooperation with the State Govt. since last 25 years.

I am personally unhappy about the growth of tourism in our State as we still have the lowest tourist traffic compared to our neighbouring states. We have miles to go and many more things to achieve and I am sure all members would extend their helping hand to achieve success.

With best wishes
Jitendra K Mohanty, MHCIMA

HRAO News Letter



EDITORIAL :

It is a great pleasure that HRAO has completed 24 years and publishing the News letter. It contains the important events, information of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Industries. All our efforts should be made to attract the magazine by way of sending the news, articles and events of different places. I hope your kind co-operation and best wishes.

Tarini Prasad Mohanty



Sri J. K. Mohanty, Chairman, HRAO, felicitating Sri Debi Prasad Mishra, Minister - Tourism for his outstanding contribution for developing Orissa Tourism. Mr. Jonathan Raul, Vice Chairman, HRAO is also seen in the picture.



HRAO Members During Gopalpur EC Meeting on 22nd May 09. Discussion on Development of Southern Orissa Tourism with Sri Pradeep Parigrahi, M.A, Gopalpur & Sri V.K. Pandey, IAS, District Collector.



Sri Ratinarayan Puri, Dy. Chief Whip, Govt. of Orissa, Sri Khageswar Behera, M.A, Ohendipada Sri Rajankant Singh, M.A, Angul, Sri R.N. Nanda, Director, Tourism (Orissa) & Sri G.C. Bhuyan Dy. Director, Deptt. of Tourism (India) with Sri J. K. Mohanty, Chairman, HRAO during seminar on development of Angul District Tourism at Angul on 08th Aug 09

Minutes of the 24th AGM Meeting of HRAO held at Hotel Swosti Premium, Bhubaneswar on 20.12.2009 at 4.00 PM

The Meeting was presided over by Sri Deepak S. Rathor, Advisor, HRAO.

The following Members were present in the Meeting.

1. Mr J.K.Mohanty, Chairman, HRAO
2. Mr Deepak S Rathor, Advisor, HRAO
3. Mr Srinibash Subudhi, Managing Partner, Hotel Janpath, BBSR
4. Mr Jonathan Raul, Managing Director, Cooks Restaurant, BBSR
5. Mr Niranjan Sahoo, Proprietor, Hotel Blue Wheel, BBSR
6. Mr Sujit Kumar Mohapatra, MD, Hotel Lingara, BBSR
7. Er B. C. Praharaj, Proprietor, Hotel Upasana, BBSR
8. Mr K Mohanan, Managing Director, Hotel Venus, BBSR
9. Mr Chita Ranjan Jana, Corp. GM, Swosti Premium, BBSR
10. Mr Basudev Sahoo, Proprietor, Hotel Mayfeel, BBSR
11. Mr Tarini Prasad Mohanty, MD, Ridge Residency, BBSR
12. Mr Prasant Ku Jena, Proprietor, Anjali Palace, BBSR
13. Mr Debashish Pattnaik, Director, The Crown, BBSR
14. Maj R.C. Moharana, Proprietor, Hotel Apsara, BBSR
15. Mr Rajkumar Sharma, GM, Hotel Kalinga Ashok, BBSR
16. Mr Gajendra Nath Biswal, Hotel Roxy, Cuttack
17. Mr Bipin Bhusan Jethi, Proprietor, Hotel Bishal, Cuttack
18. Mr Mukesh Ku Thacker, MD, Bombay Hotel, Cuttack
19. Mr Magesh Ku. Pradhan, Partner, Hotel Manerama Plaza, Cuttack
20. Mr Prashant Ku. Tripathy, Proprietor, Hotel Daffodils, Puri
21. Mr Mohit Ku Das, Managing Partner, Hotel Sea Foam, Puri
22. Mr Saroj Ku Rath, Managing Director, Hotel Gandhara, Puri
23. Mr Srikant Sahoo, COO, Hotel Shakti Internasional, Puri
24. Mr K Prasant Kumar, Partner, Gautam Palace, Berhampur
25. Mr V. Santosh Kumar, MD, Lakshmi Nivas Lodging, Berhampur
26. Mr Jasbir Singh Hura, MD, Hotel Sheela Towers P Ltd, Sambalpur
27. Mr Sankaracharya Pradhan, MD, Hotel Shanti, Angul
28. Mr Arbin Chawda, MD, Hotel Goutam Vihar P Ltd, Angul
29. Mr Nilamani Pany, Managing Director, Hotel Prashanti, Angul
30. Mr Satyananda Dalbehera, MD, Hotel Durga, Angul
31. Mr Narottam Mohanty, Proprietor, Hotel Namra Palace, Angul
32. Mr Jiten Satpathy, Managing Director, Hotel Brundaban, Talcher
33. Mr Sarosh Bodhanwala, Partner, Barjorjis Hotel P Ltd, Balasore
34. Mr Ramesh Ch. Panda, Hotel Swarnachuda Pvt Ltd, Balasore
35. Mr Dushmant Ku. Tunga, MD, Hotel Pashupati, Paradeep
36. Mr Kailash Ch. Moharana, MD, Faradeep International, Paradeep
37. Mr Satya Narayan Mohanty, Proprietor, Hotel Pooja, Joda
38. Mr Suresh Ch. Pattnaik, MD, Hotel Ankita, Keonjhar
39. Mr Jitendra Ku Pattnaik, MD, Hotel Surya, Dhenkanal
40. Mr Siba Prasad Mohanty, MD, Hotel Golden Palace, Kendrapara
41. Mr Bijay Ku. Patra, Partner, Hotel Trinath, Nayagarh



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At the outset the Chairman welcomed the Honourable Members. Chairman requested all members to observe one-minute silence prayer in the memory of Late Radhanath Sahoo, father of Mr Milan Ku Sahoo, Vice Chairman of HRAO. Members prayed for his soul to rest in peace.

2. In absence of Life Time Advisor Mr. V.S. Mathews, IAS (Retd) due to illness, his message was read out by Mr. Deepak S Rathor, Advisor, HRAO.

Message from Mr. V. S. Mathews, IAS (Retd.)

Life Time Advisor :

In his message he welcomed all members to 24th AGM. He congratulated everyone for doing their best despite adverse circumstances surrounding Orissa Tourism. He sent his greeting for X-mas and New Year 2010.

In his message, he mentioned due to Civil Commotion and riots in Khandmals & neighbouring districts in Orissa many countries discourage their citizen to visit Orissa. This has dented Tourism trade badly. He emphasized it is healthy to discuss such issues at this AGM.

He suggested, due to Maoist attacks and other disturbances when well known tourist spots become less popular, it is better to explore new cultural avenues. We must provide better facilities to our domestic tourists by having new motels, better transport and easy connectivity. Our hotels should be able to provide better hospitality to Govt. and corporate visits at short notice. HRAO can explore new venues in far off districts like Koraput, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Rourkela, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal & prepare a compendium of tourist spots in Orissa.

Message from Mr. Kumar Haldar, Vice Chairman :

In his message Mr. Kumar Haldar highly appreciated Chairman's contribution towards association. He also emphasized on how Govt. of Orissa and other trade bodies give due recognition to our association.

3. Annual report of Secretary General :

I welcome the Honourable Members of HRAO to this Annual General Body Meeting (AGM). Thanks to the Chair for giving me an opportunity to read out the Annual Report of HRAO.

- (A) During the last year three Executive Committee Meeting were held at Bhubaneswar, Gopalpur & Angul and one AGM Meeting was held at Bhubaneswar.
- (b) During last two years thirteen (13) nos. of hoteliers enrolled as the new members of HRAO, stretching from Balasore, Keonjhar, Angul, Talcher, Cuttack, Paradeep, Puri, Bolangir to Bhubaneswar. In the mean time we have received applications from v.i.z. Hotel Shree Krishna, Keonjhar & Pal Heights, Bhubaneswar for their enrollment as the new Members of the HRAO.
- © I convey my heartfelt thanks to each members who have updated the payment of their Annual Membership dues to strengthen the association. For smooth functioning of HRAO, Mr. Durga Das, a retired (VRS) Air Force Employee been selected and appointed as the Executive Secretary of the association, joined office on 2nd Nov. 2009.

Since joining he visited HRAO members of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda & Rourkela to get the views & suggestions to strengthen the association.

- (d) Now HRAO families have 206 members out of which 111 members have updated their Annual Subscription fees. Still 95 members have not updated their annual subscription fees of Rs. 7,19,750.00. Steps have already been taken and the members have been reminded telephonically & personally to clear up their membership dues up-to-date to strengthen as well as to improve the financial position of the Association.

Achievement :

- (A) The final amended Bye-Laws of HRAO has been confirmed as per the proposals.
 - (b) After a long gap of 24 years we have succeeded in including the HRAO as a member of the committee before draft IPR, 2007 & the result has come out in the last meeting conducted by tourism dept. on tourism policy. In the same meeting all related department authorities has been invited to give the suggestions & co-ordinations in the policy making in the tourism policy, which is a milestone for development of Tourism in Orissa.
 - © A state level workshop on Tourism Development of Orissa was conducted on 25th Jan 09 at Swosti Premium Ltd., which was attended by Sri Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon'ble Minister-Tourism, Sri Debashish Samantaray, Chairman-OTDC, Sri Parag Gupta, Secretary-Tourism and all related officials of the Govt., media and travel trade personnel.
 - (d) Entrepreneurs week was celebrated on 7th Mar 09 at Swosti Premium, Bhubaneswar, whose presentation on investment opportunity and development of tourism infrastructure through PPP in Orissa was given.
 - (e) The one time settlement (OTS) facility for the hoteliers has been extended by the OSFC & other financial institutions.
 - (f) The 13th Puri Beach Festival was one of the best festival having two gorgeous mega nites with presence of Hema Malini with her two daughters, especially performed Odissi dance and Amit & Ankita of Inidan Idols vibrated & touched the heart of the audience.
 - (g) IATO conference had been arranged for the first time in Orissa at Hotel Swosti Plaza, Bhubaneswar which gave Orissa an important position in the map of Tourism in India.
- We should thanks to Chairman for bringing IATO to Orissa and making the event successful. Also he has succeeded by bringing 50 lakh Grant-in-aid for arranging IATO convention. Also I like to thanks to HRAO members, The Crown, The Mayfair, Suryansh, The New Marrion, Trident & Jonathan Raul & Srinibash Subudhi for their support having IATO Convention a grand success.
- (h) After constant persuasion, the bar license timing in the specific Urban Areas like Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Rourkela, Puri, Berhampur, Sambalpur, Balasore, Paradeep, Barbil, Jharsuguda and Angul has been revised to 12 NOON to 12 MIDNIGHT instead of 11 AM to 11 PM. We have been pursuing for extending similar facility to the left out areas (both Urban & Rural) in the State.



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(I) Planning Member, Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) in letter dtd. 21st February, 2008, restricted ban imposed by BDA on arranging social functions & marriage functions in the Hotels was successfully lifted by State Govt, due to our prompt action with State Govt Machineries.

(j) On dtd. 22nd May 09, one tourism workshop was conducted, which was attended by MLAs of Angul, Chhendipada, Chief Whip to Govt of Orissa and officials of Tourism Dept.. It was suggested to take pro-active steps by State Tourism dept. to make Angul, Dhenkanal, Sambalpur and Sundergarh belt a tourism circuit. The impact converted at Angul Festival (Tarang) this year.

(k) After number of meetings with Chief Minister & two meetings with RDC, Ganjam & Collector, Ganjam, the administration lunched cleanliness and beautification drive at Gopalpur-on-sea and new road is being constructed by the initiated of HRAO.

(l) Web site of HRAO is created. Co-operation of all members are required to update of this website, which will be launched very soon.

Miles to go:

(a) Reductions of Sales Tax (VAT) on food to 4% instead of 12.5% as accessed for sweets & snacks restaurant.

(b) Appointment of advocate/advisor for extending necessary help to look into the problems/hurdles created by HUD Dept.

(c) The originals Registration Certificate and the Memorandum of the Bye-Laws are the important documents for an Association. Since the same are not available in HRAO office, necessary application has already been filed before the AGM, Bhubaneswar to obtain the certified copy of the same.

Suggestions:

(a) Classifications of Hotels

(b) Enhancement of Annual Subscription fees

(c) New Membership drive

(d) A request is made to all members to educate their front office & cash counter staffs to pay respect to our membership cardholders, which has given to them as a token of brotherhood.

I request to new Executive Committee to make acceptability of HRAO Membership card should by the FH&RAI & H&RAEI members.

4. Open House:

(a) Advisor requested all members to give their self-introduction.

(b) **Mr Sankaracharya Pradhan, Vice Chairman, HRAO** in his address requested to conduct EC Meeting in each zonal part of Orissa to attract and make comfortable for members to attend the meetings.

(c) **Mr Suresh Chandra Patnaik, MD, Hotel Ankita, Keonjhar** said, due to global iron recession and destructive activities by maoist, the tourism has suffered badly in Keonjhar district.

(D) **Mr V. Santosh Kumar, Co-convener** of Gopalpur Beach Festival, 2009 invited and distributed invitation cards to all members for the festival which will be from 24th Dec 09 to 28th Dec 09. He requested all members to encourage them for smooth conduct of festival and read out the message sent by Mr Uma Sankar Panigrahi, Vice Chairman, HRAO as well as convener of Gopalpur Beach Festival.

Advisor Mr Dipak S Rathor requested members to attend the Gopalpur Beach Festival.



Mr V. Santosh Kumar again requested Chairman to look after the progress of Gopalpur development.

(e) **Mr Niranjan Sahoo** of Hotel Blue Wheel, Bhubaneswar discussed about the balance sheet of the years 2007-08 & 2008-09. He suggested not to reflect the sponsorship amount, which is not receivable any more. He also suggested to pay the amount to those are due for payment.

He Conveyed his gratitude to Chairman for his 24 years dedication to HRAO. He requested all big Hotel owners to attend the meetings of HRAO instead of sending their representatives.

He suggested, step should be taken to have one independent office of HRAO by contribution from all members. He proposed that HRAO should apply for IGR registration as soon as possible. He also requested HRAO should take action in closing down selling of open bottle in off shops and competing with bars.

(f) **Mr G. N. Biswal of Hotel Roxy, Cuttack** emphasized on new membership drive. He requested every member should attend the meeting, it is a place to interact with each other.

(g) **Er. B.C. Prahara, Hotel Upasana, Bhubaneswar** suggested for new membership drive and necessary steps should be taken by EC for collection of pending annual dues. All objectives & goals of the association should be discussed in EC meetings.

5. Acceptance of Audited Balance Sheet for the years 2007-08 & 2008-09:

Audited balance sheet for the years 2007-08 & 2008-09, which was circulated to all members placed in the AGM for adoption by Secretary General. It was unanimously adopted by all members.

6. Appointment of Auditor for year 2010-11:

After discussion members retained ABPS & Associates, Chartered Accountants as auditors of HRAO for year 2010-11 with same remunerations. Secy. General proposed to apply for Section-12A under IT ACT for exemption. The same was unanimously accepted by AGM.

7. Approval of budgeted Income & Expenditure for the year 2010-11:

Proposed budget for 2010-11 to meet annual expense of HRAO was read out by Secretary General Mr. Shrinibash Subudhi. It was unanimously approved by the AGM after discussion.



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8. Proposal for increasing membership fee : Healthy discussion was started among members on this issue. Proposal also came to collect one time fee from all members for the development of association. After the discussion following resolution was passed.

(a) It was decided to increase the annual membership subscription fee from 2010-11 as follows :

- **5 Star Category Hotel** Rs. 13,000/-
- **4 Star Category Hotel** Rs. 8,000/-
- **3 Star Category Hotel** Rs. 6,000/-
- **All other Category** Rs. 3,000/-

(b) Resolution was also passed to collect one time development fee of Rs. 5,000/- for non-star categories and Rs. 10,000 for star categories.

9. Approval of New Membership :

Applications received for enrollment of new members of HRAO from Hotel Sri Krishna, Keonjhar and Hotel Pal Heights, Bhubaneswar were placed for consideration. Membership of both the hotels were approved by the AGM.

Mr. Srinibash Subudhi, Secretary General HRAO proposed considering the increase number of members it is essential to have an additional Vice Chairman and EC Members. By which the total number of EC Members increased to 39 (Thirty Nine). This is an amendment to existing Bye-Law of the HRAO, which was unanimously accepted by the AGM.

10. Address by Chairman :

Chairman, in his welcome note described that HRAO was started in the year 1984 with 7 members primarily to save the hotels from being locked up by OSFC under Section-29. He was proud to announce that right now the association has 208 members and growing strong. Chairman announced that the workshop on tourism, which was held in month of January 2009, was very fruitful and the department of tourism has accepted all suggestions made by HRAO in toto.

Chairman emphasized to form various Sub-committees on :

- Sub-Committee on Industrial Policy
- Sub-Committee on Legal Matters
- Sub-Committee on New Membership Drive
- Sub-committee on Taxation
- Sub-committee on Fair & Festivals
- Sub-committee on Electricity & Excise

Chairman announced these committee members would be nominated and they should take up responsibility of HRAO sincerely for the growth of the association.

It was also proposed to have a mega twin city festival between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar with the help of state tourism department. Chairman announced that he had already discussed with the four associations in Chilka for strating a national level boating festival from year 2010 at Chilka. Chairman also announced that he had discussed for strating Orissa Tourism & Travel Fair at Bhubaneswar from August 2010, which would become an annual event. Chairman also expressed displeasure the way Puri Beach Festival was conducted this year.

Chairman announced that in the year 2010, HRAO would be entering its 25th year and it was unanimously resolved to celebrate that 25th Silver Jubilee Year in a befitting manner to promote Orissa in national and international level. Lastly, Chairman congratulated all members of the HRAO for their support and confidence in the HRAO in team building and staying united for last 24 years.

11. Election for the year 2009-10 to 2011-12 :

Nomination forms received by Mr. Durga Das, Executive Secretary were handed over to Mr. Deepak S. Rathor, Electoral Officer. After scrutinizing the validity of nomination, the election result was declared by electoral officer.

Chairman congratulated all new office bearers. He requested all elected office bearers should visit the office regularly during their convenient time and share the responsibilities of association in all matters. He also suggested the first EC Meeting of newly elected body will be held in the month of February, 2010 at Jharsuguda.

New Secretary General Mr. Tarini Prasad Mohanty and Treasurer Mr. Satya Narayan Mohanty in their brief speech assured the members that they will dedicate their time towards smooth functioning of association.

12. Vote of Thanks by Deepak S. Rathor :

Mr. Deepak S. Rathor, Advisor, HRAO congratulated new EC Members & Office bearers and thanked all members for taking out their time for this AGM and Election meeting.

He appreciated the dedicated work of Mr. J. K. Mohanty, Chairman, HRAO and proposed a standing ovation for him.

Lastly, Chairman Mr. J.K. Mohanty expressed his heartfelt thanks to Mr. Deepak S. Rathor and invited all members for cock tail dinner.

(Courtesy : Hotel Swosti Premium)

Meeting & Initiatives

To :

Shri A. P. Padhi, IAS, Principal Secretary,
Dept. of Home, Govt. of Orissa, Dtd. 2nd Jan10

Sub: **Legal Issues before T.D.S.A.T., against the order of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).**

Sir,

It is to inform you that the Private Broadcasters and their demand exorbitant charges from the Hotels & Restaurants for their services. So Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Association of India (FHRAI) requested the Broadcasters to be reasonable in their demand. But the request of FHRAI was refused by the Broadcasters and they stick to their demand. As the request of FHRAI was refused, they approached to Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) for resolving the issues by filing an application. The said application admitted by TDSAT and interim stay was obtained by FHRAI, it is categorically mentioned in said stay order that the Hotels & Restaurants were required to pay tariff as was prevailing 2005. But the Broadcasters and their agents continued to take coercive action against the Hotel and Restaurants compelling them to pay the charges as per their demand by disobeying the order

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Of TDSAT. However, TDSAT deliver its judgement at the beginning of 2006, holding that the Hotels and Restaurants are not consumers the said judgement of TDSAT was challenged before Hon'ble Apex Court and the Apex Court hold that the Hotels and Restaurants are indeed consumers. The Hon'ble Supreme Court further directed TDSAT to dispose of the petition filed by FHRAI on that basis.

In November 2006, TRAI for the first time issued a notification prescribing the tariff for domestic consumers excluding the Hotels having 50 rooms and above, Hotels with ranking of 3 star and above and Heritage Hotel. Being aggrieved with the in discriminatory treatment, the FHRAI move to TDSAT and after hearing the matter, TDSAT passed an order that no coercive action can be taken by Broadcasters against Hotels in M.A. No. 7/07. While the matter stood thus the Broadcasters instituted criminal cases against some Hoteliers for copyright infringement by violating the interim order passed by TDSAT.

Under the above circumstances it is the submission and contention of Hotel and Restaurants Association of Orissa as well as FHRAI the product being supplied by the Broadcasters is same whether to a residential consumer or to a Hotel or Restaurant and hence there can't be a price difference. The said legal issue has been reflected in 13th Annual Report 2008-09 published by Hotel Association of India. The copy of said report is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal.

Therefore, I, on behalf of Hotel & Restaurants Association of Orissa requesting you kindly consider the grievances put forth by the Hotel Association before your authority and interfere with the matter by directing the police personnel not to take any action against Hoteliers till finalization of the case bearing M.A. No. 7/07.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Most sincerely yours,

Sd/- Chairman

Copy forwarded to :1.Hon'ble Minister, Tourism, Govt. of Orissa 2. Commissioner-cum-Secy, Tourism 3. All Dist Collectors & Superintendent of Police.

To: **Sri Debi Prasad Mishra,**
Hon'ble Minister, Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Orissa,
Dtd. 29th Nov. 09

Sub: **Developing Infrastructure facilities in Tourism Sector.**

Hon'ble Sir,

As you are already aware that due to lack of proper infrastructure in the Tourism Sector we are unable to attract the international tourists. As Orissa has the longest coastline and the largest brackish water lake in Asia, we need to encash on our coastal activities, and one such activity is the establishment of a water sports complex on the Chilika Lake.

Sir, the Government of India also assists to States interested in establishing water sports activities to attract tourists. The IITM is already operating a mega water sports complex in Goa. I have already discussed this matter with Dr. Sitakanta Mishra, Director, IITM, Gwalior and he has promised for all assistance as he is also looking after the water sports complex in Goa.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Orissa has already

inaugurated the Biju Patnaik Park at mouza odiya Alapur Pathara near Chilka Lake. Only a boundary wall has been made and inside the park you have dense bushes with snakes.

We appeal to your good offices to utilize this park for establishment of a water sports complex in Orissa which can help all the hotels to start water sports activities in the beaches of Orissa. The department of Tourism has also made a survey and as per the previous director's statement, a file has been processed by the Engineer of OTDC and submitted to the Tourism Director.

Earlier a letter was also sent by Principal Secretary to chief minister for processing this early but almost one year has passed nothing has happened so far.

When I spoke on this subject with Dr. Sitikanta Mishra, he said the Ministry of Tourism also grants assistance under this head if the State Govt. has the land near the beach or lake. At Chilika, the Indian Navy has also its training center and establishment of a water sports complex at the Biju Patnaik park would add to the tourist infrastructural development of the state. The Dept. can also take the help of Dr. Sitikanta Mishra to proceed further in this subject.

Thanking you

Most sincerely yours

Sd/- Chairman



HRAO Members during EC Meeting on 8th Aug. 09 at Hotel Prasanthi, Angul

To :

Sri Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon'ble Minister,
Dept. of Tourism, Orissa, Dtd. 30 Nov 09

Sub : **Establishment of International Airport at Bhubaneswar.**

Respected Sir,

In the year 1991, Sri Gulamnabi Azad, the then Minister for Civil Aviation, had declared in the presence of late Sri Biju Patnaik that in 4 years time, Bhubaneswar Airport would become International Airport. But almost 18 years have passed and till today Bhubaneswar Airport has not been declared as International Airport.

I have recently discussed this matter with Mr. Jain, Director, Airport Authority of India, station at Bhubaneswar and he said that today the Airport is already fit to bring in larger aircrafts and is fully equipped to be declared as International Airport.

In view of this, we appeal to your good offices to invite the Minister of Civil Aviation and Union Tourism Minister and officially declare Bhubaneswar Airport as International Airport.

Thanking you
Most sincerely yours

Sd/- Chairman



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To :

Mrs. Kumari Selja, Hon'ble Union Minister for Tourism & Culture, India, Dtd. 30th Nov 09

Sub : Rs. 12,28,50,000/- invested in Buddhist Circuit in Orissa is wasted.

Hon'ble Madam,

On behalf of the people of Orissa and the Travel Trade we express our gratitude to you for sanctioning Rs. 740 lakh towards Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit of Langudi-Lalitgiri-Ratnagiri-Udaygiri in Orissa. We also express our gratitude to you for sanctioning Rs. 488.50 lakh towards development of Peace Park and Amphitheatre at Dhauli, near Bhubaneswar.

We are sure that these initiatives would attract a large number of Buddhist Tourists to Orissa and we are also happy that our Hon'ble Chief Minister is taking special interest in implementing these projects successfully.

We also congratulate your honour Madam for starting a special Buddhist Train "MAHAPARI NIRVAN BUDDHIST SPECIAL TRAIN" which is covering most part of Bihar, UP and Delhi. Although the Ministry of Tourism has invested a huge amount of money for development of the Buddhist Circuit in Orissa, unfortunately this special train does not touch Orissa. In view of this the investment made by the Ministry on this Buddhist sector will be a waste if corrective action is not taken immediately.

We, therefore, suggest that the special train which leaves from Delhi arrives at Bhubaneswar for Buddhist Circuit in Orissa and then from here it can go to Bihar, UP and back to Delhi.

We request Hon'ble Madam to take an early action and oblige.

Thanking you

Most sincerely yours

Sd/- Chairman

Copy forwarded to : 1.Hon'ble Chief Minister, Orissa
2.Tourism Minister, Orissa 3.Tourism, Secretary, Orissa
4.Chief Secretary, Orissa 5. Pyari Mohan Mohapatra, MP, Rajya Sabha

To :

Mrs. Kumari Selja, Hon'ble Union Minister for Tourism & Culture, India, Dtd. 30th Nov 09

Sub : Incentive to Accommodation Sector.

Respected Madam,

You are aware that we are very much short of rooms in the accommodation sector, specially in States like Orissa. It is unfortunate that the Ministry of Tourism is not giving any incentive to develop the basic infrastructure need for tourism development.

For this reason we are not able to compete with our neighbouring countries like Thailand/Sri Lanka/Hong Kong/China or even Maldives which have much better hotels than India. There is no use marketing if we don't have good quality hotels in the country. I think the Ministry of Tourism should not waste any time taking India backwards as our neighbours are growing fast.

Our appeal to you is to restart the interest subsidy in the accommodation sector as early as possible and oblige.

Thanking you

Most sincerely yours

Sd/- Chairman

Copy forwarded to: 1. Sri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister, Finance, Govt. of India, 2.Sri Sujit Banerjee, IAS, Secy. Tourism, Govt of India, 3.Smt. Archana Capoor, Chairman & MD, TFCI, 4.Sri Rajendra Kumar, President, FHRAI

Request to Members

- We request our members to pay their Annual Subscription fee to HRAO, if you have not paid till date.
- Please honour the Membership Card, issued to HRAO members, whenever they visit to your Hotels & Restaurants.
- Please share with us your achievements which can be Highlighted in the News Letter
- Members are requested to send their spouse's name & Mob. no to HRAO office for HRAO Ladies Club Activities.

HONOURS & AWARDS

we are proud of our members

- **Mr. J.K.Mohanty, CMD, Swosti Group & Chairman, HRAO**, received the "Business Leadership Award - 2009" from Sri Naveen Patnaik, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Orissa, "Neela Chakra Sanman" award from His Excellency Governor of Orissa Shri MC Bhandare. Our Chairman also has been elected as Executive Committee Member in H&RAEI and he continues as Chairman of IATO-Orissa Chapter.
- **Mr. Srinibash Subudhi, Managing Partner, Hotel Janapath, BBSR & Vice Chairman of HRAO** nominated as Vice President in Base Ball Association of Orissa.
- **Mr. Tarini Prasad Mohanty, MD,Ridge Residency, BBSR & Secretary General of HRAO** has received Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award - 2009 for most successful entrepreneur.



