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**Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 3 PM IST**

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## Gujarat launches Aatithyam dashboard for real-time tourism data

The Tourism Minister of Gujarat, Mulubhai Bera has launched 'Aatithyam' dashboard, an initiative of the Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd.

The Minister stated that dashboard will have information on the number of visitors of various districts and tourist spots of the state along with the visitors' age, nationality, travel purpose, and the number of days/ nights of stay. Gujarat Tourism Secretary Harit Shukla said that Aatithyam dashboard has details of the main 109 tourist places of the state, which include 24 sites for spiritual tourism, 45 for leisure tourism, 18 for heritage tourism, and 22 for business tourism. The details of various national and international tourists who visited various tourist sites of the state in the last 1 year are available on the dashboard. It will help to chart tourism policy with real-time data, he added.



## Domestic air traffic to touch 14.5cr in next 12 months: ICRA

The domestic airlines' passenger traffic is estimated to grow at 8-13% in the 12 months from April to touch 145-150 million (14.5 crore to 15 crore), which is much higher than the pre-Covid levels, said credit rating agency ICRA in its recent report, adding the Indian aviation industry is gradually moving out of its turbulent phase.

Given the fast-paced recovery in domestic passenger traffic in the past 12 months of the 2023 financial year, ICRA said it has revised its outlook for the Indian aviation industry from "negative" to "stable". The industry's net loss is expected to decline significantly to INR 50-70 billion in FY2024 from an estimated INR 110-130 billion in FY2023, it added.

## Nepal makes guide mandatory for solo trekkers from April 1

Come April 1, solo or free independent trekkers have to mandatorily hire a guide or a porter before setting off to Nepal's mountains. Nepal Tourism Board, the country's national tourism promotion body, which includes trekking and mountaineering associations, has decided to make a guide mandatory for solo or free independent trekkers (FITs) due to increasing safety concerns. Nepal Tourism Board has been mandated to issue the trekkers information management systems (TIMS) cards before they start trekking. "Therefore, the board reserves the right to make a guide mandatory for solo trekkers," said Mani Raj Lamichhane, the Board's Spokesperson.



## Assam eyes Bollywood for Film Tourism

In a bid to invite film-makers to choose Assam as their shooting destination and promote film tourism, the state Assam Tourism Department organised a road show in Mumbai projecting the



state's film tourism potentialities and the facilities. Jayanta Malla Baruah, Minister, Public Health Engineering, Skill Development Employment and Entrepreneurship and Tourism, Assam, said, "We are putting a lot of efforts for promoting film tourism in the state and making it the most film tourism-friendly state by facilitating shooting permissions with single-window clearances for film projects and providing necessary support to attract filmmakers. Assam is now well-connected with any part of the country, with excellent road infrastructure and peaceful conditions and is known for spiritual, wildlife, river and adventure tourism."



## Air Mauritius to resume flights to New Delhi

Air Mauritius will resume its direct operations to and from Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi from May 3, 2023, with two weekly flights using the Airbus A330 aircraft in a Business and Economy class configuration with a capacity of 254 seats. The duration of the flight is 07 hours and 30 minutes.

Krešimir Kučko, CEO of Air Mauritius, said, "We are excited to resume our operations to New Delhi after three years of absence. In April this year, Air Mauritius will be proudly commemorating its 50 years of presence in Mumbai. New avenues are being explored with Air India in order to offer seamless connectivity via both Mumbai and New Delhi to/from a number of destinations in India."

## Goa tourism body welcomes move to regulate water sports

The Goa government's decision to regulate water sports has been welcomed by the coastal state's apex travel and tourism body. The Goa bench of the Bombay High Court recently ordered the State Tourism Department to introduce a "queue system" for water sports. Following the order, the Department started state-run counters to regulate the recreational activity. Nilesh Shah, President, Travel and Tourism Association of Goa, said such a step was necessary as many water sports overcharge customers, which brings a bad name to the state. "When there is a system, it is beneficial to everyone. With this, the safety angle will also come into the picture," he said.

