

OTOAI hosts 'Extraordinary General Meeting'- Protraction of the elections for a year

Keeping in view the "Rules and Regulations of OTOAI and Societies Act" The Outbound Tour Operators Association of India (OTOAI) hosted an 'Extraordinary General Meeting' on December 20, 2021, at The India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The meet was highlighted by the presence of the Association members and well-known travel trade media people.

Mr. Riaz Munshi, President, OTOAI, addressed the gathering by highlighting the crucial matter for postponement of elections of the Association for Executive Committee for One Year keeping in view the Rules and Regulations of OTOAI and Societies Act. The decision was taken due to the Covid 19 Pandemic which has lasted for the last 18 months, the term of the present Executive Committee needs an extension to complete the objects for which they were elected. The decision was sanctioned by all the members present over there without any obligation due to the present unavoidable circumstances.

Also Mr. Shравan Bhalla, General Secretary; enumerated the Turkey convention matter by saying- The Association was organizing a Convention in Turkey in March 2020 for its members, which got postponed due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. The Present EC is still in talks with the Tourism Board of Turkey to hold the Convention in the year 2022. The date has not been decided, the tourism board of Turkey wishes to deal with the present EC to propose the convention for the sake of continuity. Mr. Riaz Munshi, President added his words by saying; The convention will most probably be held in March 2022 in Turkey only if things go well. And if that didn't have to be happening then things are seriously not going well in the Industry"!

Lastly, for the past several months, we all have been working from home or probably not working at all due to that pandemic situation. Now definitely looking for greater and brighter 2022! We all were gearing up for this year-end season and again omicron came into our lives and everything again went back to that thing. But yes I think Omicron should be the last wave and the virus will end up and the whole world will start traveling again, said Mr. Himanshu Patil (Vice President).

Our focus as an Organisation has always been the Outbound sector and as the Tourism industry is the most affected industry from the past several months or a year and it has been very much neglected by the government as no such actions have been taken for it, we are in talks with the Ministry of India to bring up the licensing system especially for travel companies which can become the keychain where they will ask us to get the revenue and by this travel, operators can do the business in some professional level. This will not only lead us to get noticed in the eye of the government but also lead to the smooth running of the travel business for which OTOAI is working - said Mr. Riaz Munshi.

All the working committee members Mr. HimanshuPatil, Vice President; Mr. Shravan Bhalla, General Secretary; Mr. Vineet Gopal, Joint Secretary and Mr. Sidharth Khanna, Treasurer moderated the meet by wishing them a healthy and prosperous New Year wishes