

Regd. off.

105, Janpath, Bhubaneswar - 751001, Odisha
Ph : 0674 - 2535777 , fax : 0674 - 2535781, Mob.: 8895883469
Email : execsecy@hrao.org / cmd@swosti.com
Web site : www.hrao.org



HOTEL & RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF ODISHA
(Regd. No. 1078-296 of 1985-86)

Shri Asit Kumar Tripathy, IAS
Addl. Chief Secretary,
Home Dept., Govt. of Odisha

21st February 2018

Respected Sir,

We once again would like to bring to your kind notice two major problems being faced by the hotel industry in the state and request your urgent intervention.

1. **Difficulties in getting SARAI Certificate** : As per the new rules every staff is required to have a Police verification certificate for getting employment in any hotel. A letter from the Home Department was sent to DG Police for sending police personnel to different hotels for the same. But, unfortunately the police officers are not coming and wanting the hotel staff to come and queue up at the police stations. This causes enormous delay in getting the police verifications completed within six months and the validity of police verification certificate is only six months.

In view of this we request the Government to kindly provide online verification facilities for the same to eliminate this difficulty. The hoteliers can submit the Aadhar and other documents as required by Police through online.

Appeal : Sir, as the SARAI Act is very traditional and existing before India got its independence, **we request the Government to kindly consider complete abolition of the SARAI Act and save the industry from unnecessary harassment.**

2. **Fire Licence** : Huge publicity is being made that hotels are being sealed due to non compliance to get fire licence. **Sir, the entire hotel industry is equally concerned as much as the Government to provide safety & security to the tourists and its customers as it is in our own interest and the state as well.**

In view of this we request the Government **not to make excessive publicity** of closure of hotels due to non-compliance of safety and security requirements as we are expecting the Hockey World Cup to take place in Odisha. As we are aware the State is looking forward to hosting the Hockey World Cup and aviation sector, hospitality sector and other investors are looking forward to Odisha as a favourable destination for investment, this negative publicity will send a wrong signal and hinder the growth. Further, the NBC code which has been started from 2005 should be exempted from older buildings which have been approved as per previous norms and a liberal attitude be shown for approval of old buildings.

Thanking you
Yours sincerely


J K Mohanty, MHCIMA
Chairman-HRAO, IATO – Eastern Region
Member – Tourism Advisory Council, Govt. of Odisha