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Regd. No. - 1078-296 of 1985-86

Proceedings of the 27th EC Meeting held on 23rd December 2019 at 11.00 am under the Chairmanship of Sri J K Mohanty, Chairman, HRAO at Swosti Premium Hotel.

The members present in the meeting are annexed herewith.



Before starting the meeting one minute silent prayer was observed for late Bibhuti Bhusan Jethy of Hotel Bishal, Cuttack.

To start with the meeting and with the permission of Chairman, HRAO, Mr. A. Talukdar made a presentation on State-wise ranking of India's hotel industry which contained useful information about tourism & hotel industry. Chairman informed the house that as the State Tourism Department is preparing the new Tourism Policy 2020, Chairman requested Mr. Talukdar to prepare a Power Point Presentation by taking suggestions from the 4th Odisha Tourism Conclave and useful informations from the Survey Report which will be submitted to the State Tourism Department for inclusion in the new Tourism Policy 2020.

The meeting was started with the issues with the BAR license. In this regard Mr. Milind Gupta informed the house that the Legal Committee Members of HRAO attended a meeting called by Excise Department on 19th December 2019 to take feedback for preparing Excise Police for the year 2020-21 and submitted memorandum / suggestions on reduction of license fee by 50% of the existing fee structure, separate policy and fee structure for renewal of license applications and for new license applications, reduction in additional bar counter fee, waiver of MGQ on Restaurant with BARs, Extension of BAR timings, smooth operation at OSBC Depot, etc., etc., and the department assured that the suggestions will be taken up while preparing the Excise Policy. The HRAO also demanded for a separate depot to be located in Bhubaneswar which Secretary Excise agreed and the department is taking note of this.

He also informed that the Excise Department is now working for provide online facilities and from March onwards the entire system for applying BAR license, payment of license fee will became online. He further informed that the Excise Department decided extend time limit of Bar timing upto 1.30 am (midnight) by depositing an amount of Rs.5,000/- per day. Members who are celebrating New Years Eve may avail this facility by depositing the amount with the Excise Department.

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It was resolved in the meeting that a separate request letter will be submitted to Excise Department to specify pick up time for liquors and door delivery facilities should be available while applying online.

Further the association strongly objected to the letter received from the Government that Fire License is mandatory to get / renew BAR license and Chairman HRAO informed the House that a Core Committee to be formulated by the HRAO to represent the issues on BAR license. Further it was also decided that a separate meeting will be conducted with other bar associations of Odisha and the common suggestions / issues shall be submitted by the Core Committee to the Excise Department to resolve the issues.



<u>Issues relating to IPRS / PPL & Novex</u>:

Members informed in the meeting that they are facing tremendous problem with these agencies as each agencies are forcing them to pay for live music performance & track record music performances every year and unnecessarily sending invoices / legal notices to individual hotels. Members of HRAO requested the Executive Committee for a long term solution on this issue.

Chairman assured the House that the association will formulate a core committee who will meet all these agencies individually and find out a long term solution in this regard. In the meantime the HRAO will also take advise of FHRAI & HRAEI on this matter. Chairman also requested Mr. Debasis Patnaik, Director Hotel Crown to consult an advocate dealing with such case and take up this matter seriously.

Fire Safety license:

Chairman informed the House that for effective implementation of Fire & Safety rules, DG Fire has now authorized District Fire Officers to issue Fire Safety Certificate hence there is no need to follow up with DG Fire Office Cuttack for Fire Safety License. Chairman requested members to approach their District Fire Officer for Fire Safety licenses of their respective properties.

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SARAI Act. : As raised by members regarding problems for getting SARAI Act., Chairman informed that the Association already following up the matter with the Government for abolishing the SARAI Act since long and once again another memorandum from HRAO will be submitted to the Chief Secretary for abolishion of SARAI Act.

Discussion on New Tourism Policy 2020 & Ambiguity in the guidelines of the Tourism Policy 2016

: Chairman highlighted that the Association had already requested the State Tourism Department, and various concerned departments including Office of the Chief Minister, Development Commissioner, Chief Secretary etc., several times since 2017, but no decision has been taken in this regard for grant of subsidy to the hotel industry as stipulated in the Tourism Policy 2016. The guidelines which were formulated seven months after the declaration of the Tourism Policy contradicts the intention of the Tourism Policy which was approved by the State Cabinet. Hence the association was left with no other alternative and filed case against the Government on this matter.

Issues raised by Members: Mr. J K Das, Member, and MD Darling Home Restaurant, Bhubaneswar, raised issues relating to building plan approval, parking, garbage, waste water disposal etc. Mr.Priyanath Behera, Member & VP-cum-CFO, Swosti Group of Hotels raised issue on Government notice served to Swosti Premium hotel for diversion of forest land for non forest purpose.

Important message from Chairman HRAO

Taking into consideration the various issues of the Members with the various Government Department, it was resolved in the meeting that HRAO will conduct a meeting with State Tourism Department, G.A Department, BMC, BDA where the Tourism Department will give a presentation on the New Tourism Policy 2020 and other issues / problems of the Members will also be discussed in the meeting. The Association will submit a suggestions / recommendations of the HRAO for inclusion in the Policy followed by discussion. The meeting may be fixed in the January 2020 which will be communicated to all members in due course.

The HRAO should follow up with the Tourism Department for inclusion of OTDC under HRAO Membership to enable all members for getting 30% discount on all services of OTDC.

<u>Approval of New Member Applications</u>: The following new membership applications were unanimously approved without any objection.

- 1. Golden Anchor (P) Ltd., Dhamara
- 2. Hotel KP's Salunki, Phulbani
- 3. Curry Leaf Restaurant, Patia, Bhubaneswar
- 4. Hotel Oasis, Bhubaneswar

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<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Mr. Sujit Ku Mohapatra, Treasurer, HRAO readout the report and informed the House that HRAO has fixed Deposit at Federal Bank of Rs.28,25,014.08, Cash at Federal Bank Rs.62,695.08, cash at State Bank of India Rs.1,43,733.16 and Fixed Deposit at State Bank of India Rs.1,60,463.00.

Further, the Treasurer, HRAO prepared a zone-wise list of default members who have not paid their membership fees since long. In this regard Chairman advised that HRAO will circulate the zone wise list to the respective zones for follow up and a final letter should be served to all defaulters from Head Office and those members who are not interested should be removed from the HRAO Membership List.



Letters Received & Replied: Secretary General, HRAO Dr. Srinibash Subudhi read out various letter correspondences made to the Government Departments on the issues such as Memorandum submitted on Ambiguity in the guidelines of the Tourism Policy 2016, memorandum to Home Department regarding suggestions of stakeholders for inclusion in the New Fire & Safety Policy, various letters served regarding Delay in getting Fire & Safety NOC etc.

He also informed the House that the Department of Tourism announced the International & Domestic Roadshows details to be held in 2020 which was circulated to all members vide HRAO email dated 20th December 2019 once again mentioned below for information and participation by the members.

International Roadshows		Domestic Roadshows	
Event	Date	Event	Date
ITB Berlin 2020	4 th – 8 th March 2020	Ahmedabad	19.02.20
Bangkok Roadshow	24 th March 2020	Surat	20.02.20
Roadshow at Kuala Lumpur	25 th March 2020	Jaipur	18.04.20
Bali Roadshow	27 th March 2020		

In this regard Chairman, HRAO advised all members to actively participate at the Roadshows and showcase their respective properties for generating business from the destinations. He also briefed the Members that the Government is reimbursing upto Rs.75,000/- towards roadshows in foreign countries, so every member should take advantage from these roadshows.

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The association announced the next AGM meeting will be held in February 2020.

Before delivering vote of thanks by Advisor Mr. Deepak Rathor, Chairman HRAO welcomed Principal, IHM Mrs. Sharada Ghosh for an interaction with the Members. While Mrs. Ghosh appraised the initiatives of HRAO for the promotion of Tourism in the State, she also seek support / assistance / cooperation & guidance of the Association to take IHM leap forward. She requested all members to sponsor their employees to IHM to undergo short term training courses in different area (i.e. Housekeeping, Front Office, FnB (Production & Services) etc) to get their employees more skilled and talented. Chairman HRAO requested Principal IHM to send their detail proposal which will be circulated to all members of HRAO. A letter will also be sent to IHM to be an associated member of the HRAO.

Mr. Deepak Rathor, delivered his vote of thanks and announced for Lunch. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Dr. Srinibash Subudhi Secretary General

Copy forwarded to Chairman, HRAO for kind information

Copy forwarded to All Members HRAO

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Members present; (Annexure)

- 1. Sri J.K. Mohanty, CMD Swosti Group, Bhubaneswar
- 2. Sri Bikash Ch. Pattnaik, Gouri Cottage, Bhubaneswar
- 3. Sri Pravudutta Subudhi, Sagar Tarang Residency, Puri
- 4. Sri Prasant Ku. Jena, Anjali Jena, Bhubaneswar
- 5. Sri Saroj Dash, New Marrion, Bhubaneswar
- 6. Sri Subho Biswas, VITS, Bhubaneswar
- 7. Sri Sujit Ku. Mohapatra, Hotel Lingaraj, Bhubaneswar
- 8. Sri Amitesh Gugnani, Prangan Hotel, Bhubaneswar
- 9. Sri Srinibash Subudhi, Hotel Janpath, Bhubaneswar
- 10. Sri Milan Ku. Sahoo, Hotel Richi, Bhubaneswar
- 11. Sri A. Talukdar, Hotelementary.in, Bhubaneswar
- 12. Sri Sakya Singh, Lal Qila Restaurant, Bhubaneswar
- 13. Sri Sumeet Das, Hotel Jay Jagannath, Bargarh
- 14. Sri Snehasish Chakraborty, Swosti Premium, Bhubaneswar
- 15. Sri Sayed Rahim, Hotel Holiday Home, Gopalpur
- 16. Sri Uma Shankar Panigrahy, Hotel Mayuree, Berhampur
- 17. Sri Jonathan Raul, Cooks Restaurant, Bhubaneswar
- 18. Sri Biswajeet Jethi, Hotel Bishal, Cuttack
- 19. Sri Sangram Das, Hotel Hari Plaza, Balasore
- 20. Sri Gajendra Nath Biswal, Hotel Roxy, Cuttack
- 21. Sri Rajaram Devata, Hotel Priya, Bhubaneswar
- 22. Sri J.K. Das, Darling Home Restt., Bhubaneswar
- 23. Sri Sidharth Kumar, Hotel Sidharth, Bhubaneswar
- 24. Sri Jitesh Garabadu, Hotel Pushpak, Bhubaneswar
- 25. Sri Choudhury Umakanta Sahoo, The Tara Residency, Bhubaneswar
- 26. Sri Narottam Mohanty, i-Namra, Angul
- 27. Sri Tarini Prasad Mohanty, Ridge Residency, Bhubaneswar
- 28. Er. B.C. Praharaj, Hotel Upasana, Bhubaneswar
- 29. Sri Milind Gupta, Food Junction, Bhubaneswar
- 30. Sri Sabyasachi Das, Hotel Labanya, Keonihar
- 31. Sri Ved Prakash Nath, Hotel Veena, Balasore
- 32. Sri Biswanath Patnaik, Hotel Best Inn, Bhubaneswar
- 33. Sri Priyanath Behera, Swosti Premium, Bhubaneswar
- 34. Sri Debasis Patnaik, The Crown, Bhubaneswar
- 35. Sri Satyanarayan Mohanty, Hotel Pooja, Joda
- 36. Sri D.K. Nanda, Hotel Keshari, Bhubaneswar
- 37. Sri Dipak S. Rathor, Hotel Ashoka, Cuttack
- 38. Sri T.P. Mohanty, Hotel Valley, Joda
- 39. Sri B. Sarveswar Rao Subudhi, Shankar Bhawan, Berhampur
- 40. Sri Vinayak Subudhi, Ganesh Bhawan, Berhampur

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