

***“The Practice of Low Impact, Educational, Ecological and Culturally Sensitive Travel That not only Benefits Local Communities and Host Countries but also conserves and preserves their heritage, art, lifestyle and practices.”***

*Eco tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors in the tourism industry, literally growing at the rate of 10 to 15 percent worldwide and equally unmindful of the damage that is emerging especially in the African and Asian countries. Out of this concern was born: THE ECOTOURISM SOCIETY OF INDIA. A reversal is likely to be in place if tourism is practiced in a more responsible manner.*

The pan India series' fifth Eco Tourism Society of India (ESOI) workshop titled PRACTICING RESPONSIBLE TOURISM for Tamil Nadu and Puducherry has a few preludes and a clear agenda to move forward. While networking people and organizations, it will also take stock of where we are today. There is a need to surely think global and act local. Considering the eco-specifics of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, the workshop will focus on the following aspects:

- Coastal Zone Regulation.
- Hill-area development
- Protection and conservation of heritage buildings
- Art & culture preservation.
- Wild life protection.
- Environmental laws and their enforcement
- Media's contribution to practicing responsible tourism
- Mass tourism products and their impacts.

Speakers have been identified with the above in mind across India. The challenge is to run the workshop in a manner that it travels through the identified issues and set a direction forward

- Definition and Elements of Eco Tourism & Responsible Tourism
- Current Resources, Linkages, vogue, etc
- Global thinking and practices
- Voicing concerns of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.
- Responsible tourism Practices & Government initiatives
- Media s role in propagating & upholding responsible tourism
- Some success stories and case studies

**EOSI Workshop on 'PRACTISING RESPONSIBLE TOURISM'**  
on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at INDeco Hotels, Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu.

**PROGRAM**

**Day 1**

**26<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, FRIDAY**

8:00 AM

Registration begins.

9:00 AM

Welcome - **Mr. Steve Borgia.**

Founder Member, EOSI

CMD, INDeco Leisure Hotels

E-mail: [steve@indecotels.com](mailto:steve@indecotels.com)

Introduction to EOSI and the workshop

**Mr. Mandip Singh Soin**

Founder President, EOSI

MD, Ibex Expeditions

E-mail: [mandipsinghsoin@gmail.com](mailto:mandipsinghsoin@gmail.com)

10:00 – 11:20 AM

## **Technical Session – ONE**

### **ELEMENTS OF ECO TOURISM AND RESPONSIBLE TOURISM**

Speaker one:

**Mr. Jose Dominic,**

Founder Member, ESOI.

MD, CGH

E-mail: [josedominic@cghearth.com](mailto:josedominic@cghearth.com)

Subject: **Elements of Eco Tourism & Responsible Tourism.**

Speaker two:

**Mr. C. B. Ramkumar**

MD, Our Native Village

E-mail: [cbramkumar@nativeresorts.com](mailto:cbramkumar@nativeresorts.com)

Subject: **Practicing responsible tourism/Our Native Village - a case study**

Speaker three:

**Mr. Steve Borgia**

Subject: **Responsible Rural Tourism as an aggressive and impressive business model.**

E-mail: [steve@indecotels.com](mailto:steve@indecotels.com)

Discussion

11:20 - 11:35 PM

Tea break

11:35 - 12:55 PM

## Technical session – TWO

### CURRENT SCENARIO AND FUTURE RESPONSIBILITY OF HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN TAMIL NADU AND PUDUCHERRY

Moderator: Mr.Mandip Singh Soin

Speaker one:

#### **Mr. Aman Nath**

MD, Neemrana

E-mail: [aman@neemranahotels.com](mailto:aman@neemranahotels.com)

Subject: **Converting national waste into assets: Whose responsibility?**

Speaker two:

#### **Mr. S. Muthiah**

Historian & Columnist, the Hindu

E-mail: [smuthiah.mes@gmail.com](mailto:smuthiah.mes@gmail.com)

Subject: **Aspects of conservation and restoration of heritage buildings: a Tamil Nadu perspective.**

#### **Mr. Mathew Samuel,**

Director of Tourism, Govt. of Puducherry

Subject: **Conservation and restoration of heritage zones – The Puducherry perspective**

Speaker three:

Discussion

12.55 - 2.00 PM

LUNCH

2.00 - 3.20 PM

# Technical Session – THREE

## RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES/ GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE, GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Moderator: **Mr. Francis Wacziarg**

Speaker one:

**Mr. Jose Dominic**

Subject: **Defining adverse tourism projects and tourist behavior.**

E-mail: [josedominic@cghearth.com](mailto:josedominic@cghearth.com)

Speaker two:

**Mr. Niranjan Khatri**

GM. ITC Hotels

Email: [niranjan.khatri@itcwelcomgroup.in](mailto:niranjan.khatri@itcwelcomgroup.in)

Subject: **ITC Initiative**

Speaker three:

**Mr. Ashok Panda**

INTACH, Puducherry

E-mail: [ashokpan@yahoo.com](mailto:ashokpan@yahoo.com)

Subject: **Institutional Support for conservation & preservation and the INTACH Puducherry experience,**

Discussion

3:20 - 4:40 PM

# Technical Session – FOUR

## IMPACT OF TIMESHARE AND OTHER MASS TOURISM PRODUCTS

Moderator: **Mr. Steve Borgia**

Speaker one:

**Ms. Radhika Shastry**

MD, RCI, INDIA

E-mail: [indiarci@rci.com](mailto:indiarci@rci.com)

Subject: **RCI Initiative**

Speaker two:

**Mr. Peter Martin**

Head, Operations, Mahindra Holidays

E-mail: [peter.martin@mahindraholidays.com](mailto:peter.martin@mahindraholidays.com)

Subject: **The Club Mahindra Group Vision**

Speaker three:

**Dr. M. K. Ajith Kumar.**

MD, Global Conference Management Group, Chennai

E-mail: [ajit@gcmg.in](mailto:ajit@gcmg.in)

Subject: **Destination carrying capacity and impacts of irresponsible tourism.**

Discussion

4:40 – 4:55 PM

Tea Break

4:55 – 5:15 PM

# Technical Session – FIVE

## ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS IN RELATION TO TOURISM SECTOR AND CASE STUDIES

Moderator:

**Mr. R. Chandramohan** IAS

Chief Secretary, Government of Pondicherry

Speaker one:

**Dr. P. Jeganathan**

Wildlife Scientist, Nature Conservation Foundation

E-mail: [jegan@ncf-india.org](mailto:jegan@ncf-india.org)

Subject: **Sustainable & Eco-friendly tourism – Western Ghats**

Speaker two:

**Mr. N. L. Rajah**

Trustee, Citizen Consumer & Civic Action, Chennai

E-mail: [nrajah.advocate@gmail.com](mailto:nrajah.advocate@gmail.com), [nlraja@sify.com](mailto:nlraja@sify.com)

Subject: **Environmental Laws and case studies**

Speaker three:

**Mr. Mohandas**, IFS

Asst. Superintending Archeologist, ASI

Subject: **Tourism & Cultural Heritage – Monuments @ Mahabalipuram**

Discussion

6:15 - 7:35 PM

8:00 PM

Gala Dinner

## Day 2

27<sup>th</sup> November 2010, SATURDAY.

9:00 – 10:20 AM

## Technical Session – SIX

### INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATION & PRESERVATION & RURAL PROJECTS

Moderator:

**Mr. Sujith Banerjee** IAS

Former Secretary of Tourism, Government of India

Speaker one:

**Mr. M.G. Rao**

Chief Conservator of Forests, Puducherry

E-mail: [grmasina@yahoo.co.in](mailto:grmasina@yahoo.co.in)

Subject: **Managing Regions Flora & Fauna and Eco-sensitive Destinations**

Speaker two:

**Mr. Dharmalingam Venugopal**

Environmentalist, Save Nilgiris, Ooty

E-mail: [dvenu@vsnl.net](mailto:dvenu@vsnl.net), [dharmalingamvenu@gmail.com](mailto:dharmalingamvenu@gmail.com)

Subject: **Promoting Responsible Tourism in the Nilgiris**

Speaker three:

**Mr. Mandip Singh Soin**

President ESOI

E-mail: [mandipsinghsoin@gmail.com](mailto:mandipsinghsoin@gmail.com)

Subject: **Global Best Practices in Tourism**



Discussion

10:20 – 11:40 AM

## **Technical Session – SEVEN**

### **MEDIA'S ROLE IN PRACTICING RESPONSIBLE TOURISM**

Moderator: Mr. C.B. Ramkumar

Speaker one:

#### **Mr. Nirmal**

Chief, Exnora

E-mail: [mbnirmal@gmail.com](mailto:mbnirmal@gmail.com)

Subject: **Practicing responsible tourism – A community approach.**

Speaker Two:

#### **Ms. Soma Basu**

The Hindu

E-mail: [sirishoma@gmail.com](mailto:sirishoma@gmail.com)

Subject: **Media's role in practicing responsible tourism**

Speaker three:

Mr. Niranjan Khatri

E-mail: [niranjan.khatri@itcwelcomgroup.in](mailto:niranjan.khatri@itcwelcomgroup.in)

Subject: **Creativity and Viral Strategy in ITC Hotels**

Discussion

11:40 - 11:55 AM

Tea break

11:55 – 1:15 PM

# **Last technical session – EIGHT**

## **MANAGING ECOLOGY; CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES**

Speaker:

Dr. Venu V.

E-mail: [venu@nic.in](mailto:venu@nic.in)

Secretary, Kerala Tourism

Subject: **Case Studies on Kerala RT initiatives**

Discussion

Open House

Workshop Ends