



TAAN hosts luncheon for Tibetan delegates

Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN) hosted a luncheon for the delegates of 9th Nepal Tibet (TAR- PR China) Joint Tourism Coordination Committee in Bhaktapur on June 28.

The committee is a bilateral forum of tourism stakeholders of Nepal and Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of People's Republic of China.

TAAN President Chandra Prasad Rijal as well as officer-bearers and executive members welcomed Tibetan delegates, who are in Kathmandu to attend the 9th meeting, by offering khadas. He also offered 'Nepali Dhaka Topi' and 'Palpali Karuwa' as souvenirs to the delegates.



Nepal and the Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China have signed a 16-point memorandum of understanding for bilateral tourism promotion.

The agreement was reached at the end of the 9th meeting that concluded here on June 28. Both the sides reviewed the progress achieved on the understandings made in the previous meetings. The two sides also emphasized the need for further promoting tourism cooperation by exploiting tourism potentials in both Nepal and Tibet.

Nepal and Tibet have agreed to start talks for making uniform rules and regulations regarding age limit, disabilities etc in climbing border mountains.

The Nepali delegation in JTCC was led by Director General at the Department of Tourism Sudarshan Prasad Dhakal and while Vice Director General of the Tibet Tourism

TAAN Departments

Nepal Promotion & Exhibition

Coordinator
Ngima Ngawa Sherpa

Printing, Publications, Media & Communications

Coordinator
Surya Bahadur Ghimire

Search, Rescue and Crisis Management

Coordinator
Devi Pandey

Sports & Event Management

Coordinator
Ram Prasad Sapkota

Sustainable Tourism & Development

Coordinator
Pemba Sherpa

Human Rights & Trade Union Affairs

Coordinator
Basu Lamsal

TIMS Management

Coordinator
Taranath Lamichhane

Development Committee Ga Ma Ze Deng led the Tibetan delegation.

The 10th meeting of the Joint Tourism Coordination Committee will be held in TAR of China in 2017.

Representatives from Department of Tourism as well as different travel trade associations were present in the program.



Similarly, TAAN First President Tej Bahadur Gurung, 2nd Vice President Ram Prasad Sapkota, General Secretary Karna Bahadur Lama, Joint Treasurer Krishna Man Shrestha as well as Executive Committee members Sarita Lama, Nawang Nima Sherpa, Devi Prasad Pandey, Wangchu Sherpa, Taranath Lamichhane 'Dinesh', Pemba Sherpa 'Sangam', Surya Bahadur Ghimire, Dawa Lama Tamang and Shital Chandra Dharel were also present in the program.

Adventure Travel Guide training concludes

A weeklong 'Adventure Travel Guide' training organized by SAMARTH-NMDP in association with Adventure Travel Trade Association (ATTA) and Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN) concluded in Kathmandu on June 20.

Altogether 22 trekking guides associated with different trekking companies participated in the training. Theoretical classes were conducted at TAAN Secretariat in Maligaun while practical classes were held in Shivapuri National Park. Wilderness First Aid Training was also organized for the participants along with the Adventure Travel Guide training.



Certificate of completion was handed over to the participants in the closing ceremony organized in Kathmandu. Minister of State for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Bal Bahadur Mahat handed over training certificates to the participants. Speaking at the program, Mahat urged all the participants make best use of the training. "Production of trained hands for the adventure tourism industry is always good news. I thank TAAN and SAMARTH-NMDP and TAAN for taking the initiative," he added.

Similarly, Sudarshan Prasad Dhakal, director general of Department of Tourism, thanked

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Village Tourism & Home Stay

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Coordinator
Sarita Lama

International Relations

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Krishna Man Shrestha

Mountaineering

Coordinator
Dawa Lama Tamang

Welfare & Humanitarian Works

Coordinator
Rudra Jung Adhikari

Human Resources & Training

Coordinator
Shital Chandra Dharel

the institutions involved in organizing the training. "We are in the process of amending different laws related to tourism sector. In the amendments, we will all the burning issues of the tourism industry," he added.

TAAN President Chandra Prasad Rijal said the training was TAAN's yet another effort to produce trained manpower for the adventure tourism sector. "We have been organizing series of trainings on mountain safety, photography, first aid, business correspondence and SEO, among others, for people involved in trekking industry. These training not only enhances their professionalism but also improves our service delivery," he added. "As guides are the true ambassador of tourism industry, their capacity must be developed to better serve tourists." He also said he was hopeful that the trained guides will bring to use what they learn during the training.

The 'Adventure Tourism Guide' is certified by ATTA and it is recognized throughout the world. Similarly, the license of Wilderness First Aid Training is valid till July 2019.

Earlier, Shital Chandra Dharel, coordinator of Training & Human Resources Department of TAAN, welcomed all the participants and said he was hopeful that the training has instilled confidence on guides to handle groups in even the harshest scenario.

Representatives of Nepal Association of Travel and Hotel Management, SAMARTH-NMDP and ATTA were present in the program emceed by TAAN Secretary Mukti Poudel. TAAN 1st Vice President Tej Bahadur Gurung, 2nd Vice President Ram Prasad Sapkota, General Secretary Karna Bahadur Lama, Joint Treasurer Krishna Man Shrestha and Executive Members Sarita Lama, Ngawang Nima Sherpa, Wangchu Sherpa, Tara Nath Lamichhane, Pemba Sherpa, Dawa Lama Tamang and Surya Bahadur Ghimire were also present at the program.

2nd National Canyoning Rendezvous held

Nepal Canyoning Association (NCA) organized 2nd National Canyoning Rendezvous 2016 in Chahare Jharana of Nuwakot district on June 3 and 4.

The two-day event was promoted by Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) and Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN). TAAN 2nd Vice President Ram Prasad Sapkota inaugurated the event amid a function held on June 3.

Before the inauguration ceremony, locals with traditional musical troupe escorted the Chief Guest, other guests and members of the organizers, and media persons to the canyoning site.



Inaugurating the event, Sapkota said canyoning needs to be promoted effectively in national and international market as the adventure sport holds great tourism potential. He also said TAAN would do its bit to promote canyoning in Nepal. TAAN Secretary Mukti Pandey was also present in the inauguration ceremony. He also enjoyed canyoning in the

Information about TIMS

Why is TIMS necessary?

- To maintain database of trekkers.
- To trace location of trekkers during emergencies
- To ensure safety and security of trekkers
- To discourage illegal operation of trekking business by unauthorized groups

Where to obtain TIMS?

(For group trekkers)

- TIMS Counter at TAAN Secretariat, Maligaun. (Opening hours 10 am till 5 pm)
- TIMS Counter at Satghumti, Thamel (Opening hours 7 am till 6 pm. Saturdays and public holidays: 10 am to 12:30 pm)
- TIMS Counter at TAAN Pokhara Secretariat

(For FITs)

- Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikuti Mandap
- Nepal Tourism Board, Pokhara

DHUNCHE

Debendra Lamsal
9841903483
Bhim Kumar Ghale
9843357299

BESHISAHAR

Mina Gurung
9846192002
Nandaraj Bhatta
9841028159

DHAMPUS

Ramkaji Gurung
9846606507
Monoj Gurung
9846036814

TATOPANI

Shyam Parayar
9846528178

BIRETHANTI

Nirupa Gurung
9818058416
Sona Shrestha
9805195871

MONJO

Sonam Sherpa
9803239745

Chahare Jharana.

Later in the day, 2nd Vice President Sapkota gave away certificate of participation to 25 Nepali as well as foreign canyoneers.

Similarly, TAAN General Secretary Karna Bahadur Lama, who was the Chief Guest of the closing ceremony, said there are plenty of canyoning spots in the mid-hills yet to be explored. "It is good to know that people have started enjoying canyoning. Nepalis as well as foreigners are enjoying this adventure sport," he added.

Likewise, Rajendra Lama, president of NCA, said the rendezvous is their effort to develop canyoning as an adventure tourism product. "Along with promoting this adventure sport, we are also producing guides because we are going to need more guides when this sport becomes popular," he added. He also informed that NCA trained 10 guides in the Chahare Jharana.

Lama also thanked NTB and TAAN as well as other supports and sponsors who helped to make the event a grand success.

Khatri, Syangbo win Langtang-Gosainkunda Half Marathon

Bharat Khatri of Nepal Army and Phul Maya Syangbo have won the men and women categories, respectively, of 1st TAAN Langtang-Gosainkunda Half Marathon 2016 held in Rasuwa district on May 29.

Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN) organized the event on the occasion of 38th Establishment Day to disseminate the message that the Langtang-Gosainkunda region, which was devastated by the earthquakes of 2015, is now safe for tourism activities.

Khatri completed the 21-kilometer half marathon in 1 hour 22 minutes and 55 seconds. Similarly, Homlal Shrestha (1 hour 23 minutes 35 seconds) and Govinda Prasad Adhikari (1 hour 23 minutes 46 seconds) finished second and third, respectively. Similarly, Syangbo, who won the women's category, finished the race in 2 hours 7 minutes and 26 seconds. Kamala Tamang clinched the second position with the timing of 2 hours 18 minutes and 53 seconds while Binda BK, who clocked 2 hours 21 minutes and 17 seconds, finished the race in third position.



The 21-kilometer half marathon began from the sacred Gosainkunda Lake and went through Lauribina, Cholangpati, Chandanbari, Dimsa, Deurali and Ghattekhola before concluding at Dhunche. TAAN Secretary Mukti Pandey, who was a participant himself,

inaugurated the half-marathon by cutting ribbon at the Gosainkunda Helipad. TAAN Executive Members Ngawang Nima Sherpa and Taranath Lamichhane also participated in the event as athletes.

Assistant CDO of Rasuwa Deepak KC handed over checks, medals and certificates to winners and runners-up. While winners in both the categories took home medals, certificates and Rs 50,000 each, while 1st runner-up and 2nd runner-up in both the



Photo Courtesy: Dipesh Shrestha/Nagarik

categories received cash prize of Rs 30,000 and Rs 20,000, respectively, along with medals and certificates. Speaking at the program, Assistant CDO KC thanked TAAN for organizing such a grand event in Rasuwa district. In her welcome speech, TAAN Executive Committee Member Sarita Lama said that the half-marathon was a part of TAAN's initiative to promote tourism in Langtang-Gosainkunda region.

TAAN Executive Member Surya Bahadur Ghimire emceed the program. TAAN Executive Member Pasang Sherpa 'Sangam' was also present at the program. Temba Singh Tamang, chairman of District Sports Development Committee, said they were eager to join hands with TAAN to give continuity to the event in coming years.

Presiding over the program, 1st Vice President Tej Bahadur Gurung, who chaired the program, said TAAN was encouraged by the immense success of the half-marathon despite short preparation time. "Support and cooperation extended by locals and concerned stakeholders of Rasuwa have encouraged us to make the event bigger in the coming years," Gurung said.

Edited and published by:
Marketing & Communications Department
Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN)

Upcoming Events

World Tourism Day 2016
Kathmandu
September 27, 2016

38th AGM of TAAN
Kathmandu
September-October, 2016

Int'l Mountains Day
Kathmandu
December 11, 2016

Lhosar Cultural Festival
Kathmandu
February 17, 2017

Langtang Marathon
Rasuwa
April 25, 2017

TAAN Day
Kathmandu,
May 29, 2017

Int'l Sagarmatha Day
Kathmandu
May 29, 2017

World Environment Day
Kathmandu
June 5, 2017