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As part of our Corporate Social Responsibility, we support some projects and are happy to share and recommend the few we feel could give our mutual clients a meaningful experience in India.

**From the CEO's Desk** We bring to you our first issue of the year which features new and innovative topics pertaining to the essence of travel in India. This year we will be concentrating on... [read more](#)

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## From the CEO's Desk



Dear Partners,

We bring to you our first issue of the year which features new and innovative topics pertaining to the essence of travel in India. This year we will be concentrating on varied topics, one such being, responsible tourism. We take innovative action to always ensure that each element of travel service provided, respects the land and its people and falls under the overall mandate of responsible tourism. Corporate Responsibility is part and parcel of our core business activities.

An element of lifestyle has also been included from this issue onwards which will highlight not only the cuisine of India but also its art and cultural.

Next issue onwards we will bring to you a destination insider aspect of cities which can be explored in a unique yet accessible manner. As the year progresses we will continue to reinvent ourselves and bring to you different aspects of travel in India.

I do hope you enjoy reading this issue and look forward to receiving some valuable feedback.

Regards,

Dipak Deva



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## Stay At *Amarya Shamiyana*

Amarya Shamiyana, a beachside hideaway on Asvem Beach, Goa, offers lavish Moghul inspired tents with all the comforts of a modern luxury hotel while indulging the guests with a sleep closer to the shores and to the stars. Each of the tented suites is replete with its own veranda. Designed in individual & bold colour palates, modern funky décor, hand painted tapestry murals, plush fabrics and comfy furnishings, all the suites at Amarya Shamiyana are made fit for a modern-day royal stay.

### *Flame of the Forest*

Located in the beautiful Kanha National Park, Flame of the Forest is a dream hideaway for nature enthusiasts with an extra inch of style. Nestled right next to the Banjar River, the lodge offers absolute privacy with a stunning view over the river, deep into the Jungles. Away from the man-made noise listen to the calls of various nocturnal animals and birds and stargaze into the clear night skies. There are four exclusive cottages, each cottage has a deck with a stunning view overlooking the river and the forest beyond. The en-suite bathroom contains an AI fresco bath which is yet another interesting feature. The cottages are airy and eco-sensible designed. One cottage has been designed disable friendly without compromising on luxury or style.

### *Blue Mango in The Himalaya*

Blue Mango in The Himalayas, is the highest spiritual retreat in the world. Its location has been carefully chosen to provide seclusion, peace and solitude right in the heart of the Trans Himalayan Range, bordering Tibet. The retreat is an opportunity to deepen your awareness of yourself, of other people, and the world around you. It is a challenging, life changing experience. An expedition into your inner soul. The Retreat is in Spiti which is also known as 'the roof of the world'. It lies isolated in deep valleys, where its unique culture has developed undisturbed. Home to some unimaginable topography - enthralling peaks, gorges, rivers and lakes.



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## Lifestyle



### *Emperor's Kitchen Restaurant*

Emperor's Kitchen a new exotic venue in Delhi offers exquisite Pan Asian cuisine against the magnificent view of the Qutab Minar and lush green foliage. Designed and styled by Mike Knowles, Emperor's Kitchen takes pride in serving the most sumptuous Oriental (Thai & Chinese) with an extensive Dim Sum menu. The plush tents amidst the green canopies of trees offer a special terrace grill menu. The restaurant offers varied dining experience specified spaces like the veranda, the courtyard, the fine dining space and the bar.



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## Responsible Tourism



### *Responsible Tourism*

India is a growing economy which very recently entered the 12 economies to have crossed a company sensex mark of 20,000. However, it is still a highly fragmented society with more than 65% of its population living in Rural India, which is not showing the spectacular growth as yet. Even the basic services like sanitation, education, health services, issues like women empowerment and livelihood generation can use positive interventions in rural India. In the last one decade, a lot of good NGOs / Corporates / Institutions and even government have started working on improving the quality of some of these basic services. However, there is a scope for significant improvement and these institutions are in continuous search for good quality human resources (full time/part time/ interns /volunteers) and finances to help them in building a stronger India.

Tourism world-wide has become more responsible and locally sustainable. We are very aware of the conditions of the country we work in and try to do our little bit!

As part of our Corporate Social Responsibility, we support some projects and are happy to share and recommend the few we feel could give our mutual clients a meaningful experience in India.

Our involvement in the recent Ganges Expedition shows our keen commitment to developing and maintaining responsible tourism in India. The expedition saw an international team of specialists travel the length of India's holiest rivers, the Ganges from source to the mouth, on foot and by boat, in 35 days. The venture was intended to highlight the many environmental threats to the river and its surroundings, to emphasise the kind of sustainable solutions that might be adopted, and to illustrate the possible form and feel of tomorrow's tourist travel.

We will continue to bring to you ideas and our initiatives every month. Please write to us if you wish to participate with us in any of our projects.



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## Fairs and Festival



### *Surajkund Crafts Mela, Haryana 1st - 15th Feb*

The Surajkund Crafts Mela is an annual event that highlights some of the finest handloom and handicraft traditions of the country. From 1st to 15th February, rural India basks in the warmth of admiration at Surajkund mela village that lies some 8 km from South Delhi. The Mela also celebrates the rhythms of folk theatre.

### *Elephanta Festival, Mumbai 15th -16th Feb*

The Elephanta Festival is organized every year in the month of February by the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation. The festival is held at Elephanta Island, which is popular for a cave shrine of Lord Shiva. These caves were formerly known as Gharapuri, meaning the tranquil abode of Lord Shiva. Later on, they were renamed as Elephanta caves by the Portuguese. The shrine is decorated with large pillars and nine fabulously sculptured panels. These sculptures demonstrate the varying moods of Lord Shiva. The major attraction of the Elephanta Festival of Mumbai consists of the elegantly illuminated Maheshmurti, the Shiva idol in the main cave of the Elephanta island. Other attractions include the folk dances of the local fishermen and exotic local cuisine. Distinguished dancers and musicians from all over the country take part in the Elephanta Festival and perform outside the caves.

### *India International Leather Fair, Chennai 31st Jan-3rd Feb*

The Indian Leather Industry has been touching new heights of anticipated success in the past and is expecting a great high in the nearing future as well. No wonder that this industry has US\$4 billion share in the market worldwide. The second largest manufacturer of leather garments and footwear, this industry has remarkably maintained its performance consistently. This has hastened the growth of business to such an extent that acclaimed international and national clients are looking forward to trade with India.

Most of the Festival dates are decided by Solar / Lunar calendars practiced in India, due to which the dates are subject to change. You may plan some special departure based on these festivals.

For any assistance please contact us.



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December 15, 2009

Dear Ekta Sawhni,

The 8th ASEM conference of Directors General of Immigration on management of Migratory flows between Asia and Europe was successfully organized by this ministry on 1-2nd December, 2009 at Goa.

The Foreign Delegates were all praise for the hospitality extended to them and the excellent arrangements made during the conference. This has been possible due to the sincere efforts and hard work put in by you. The support and services rendered by you were quite impressive.

On behalf of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Govt. of India, I wish to place on record the good work done by you.

Yours sincerely,

Mithlesh Kumar  
Deputy Secretary  
Government of India  
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs  
New Delhi