

**Welcome  
New Members**

**Grand Patron Member:**



**Corporate Members:**



**Associate Corporate  
Member:**



**Individual Member:**

**Dr. Rohini Chaturvedi**



*Expert on Conservation Policy and  
Resource Governance, U.K.*

**Announcements**

**Upcoming Publications:**

**Handbook On Ecotourism And  
Environment – A Ready Reck-  
oner for Practitioners**

The handbook is compiled by ESOI and shall be published in its fourth edition soon. The book introduces the reader to different issues in practicing sustainable tourism, it shows good practices, guidelines and national/international standards for the same and includes a comprehensive register of organizations, institutions and businesses who are involved in this field.

**“Responsible Tourism Issues  
And Practices: Lessons From  
Guwahati and Aurangabad  
Workshops”**

Contains the inputs of 25 speakers, which were made during the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> ESOI workshops in Guwahati and Aurangabad.

**Activities since April 2013**

**Tourism Minister meets Travel and  
Trade Associations**

On 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism invited India's travel and trade associations as well as



State Tourism Departments to Delhi. Mr. Mandip Singh Soin along with Mr. Toby Sinclair on behalf of ESOI used this opportunity to highlight its objectives and activities.

**First Meeting of the Odisha Eco-  
Tourism Board**

At the first meeting of “Odisha Eco-Tourism Board” which was held on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 in Bhubaneswar, Mr. Mandip Singh Soin was invited to give a presentation on Ecotourism to the State Govt of Odisha.

He gave an overview and inputs on issues in ecotourism in India. By identifying areas for ecotourism projects, and formulating an ecotourism policy and a related action plan for Odisha, the board with support of ESOI has paved its way for successfully developing Odisha as an upcoming ecotourism destination in India.

Mr. Soin also invited Odisha Government to be on board as ESOI Grand Patron Member, and also proposed to hold a workshop between November—March for the Govt and Industry stakeholders.

**Meeting on Investment Promotion  
for Ecotourism in Jharkhand**

On 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, ESOI participated in a dialogue with stakeholders of promoting nature and culture tourism that was organized by the Government of Jharkhand in Delhi. The discussion aimed at identifying steps



to promote hospitality and tourism investments that contribute to sustainable tourism-driven development in the State of Jharkhand. Ms. Seema Bhatt on behalf of ESOI made a short presentation on ESOI activities and also offered ESOI consultation and to hold 2-day workshop in Ranchi with State funding support. She also invited the State to become ESOI Grand Patron Member.

**Bhopal International Conference on  
Sustainable Tourism BICST2013**

Ecotourism Society of India and Madhya Pradesh Tourism supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India jointly hosted Bhopal International Conference on Sustainable Tourism (BICST 2013) from 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013. The conference was inaugurated by Mr. R. Parasuram, Chief Secretary,



Madhya Pradesh. During the two-day conference, 27 international and national speakers shared their experiences and ideas on the topic “Tourism: Enabler for Conservation, Livelihood and Sustainable Growth” with 150 national and international delegates. In a variety of technical sessions and interactive discussions the national level ecotourism framework in India as well as international best practices of multi-stakeholder involvement were emphasized. ESOI also circulated the conference proceedings document to all delegates and speakers, post the conference.

**Meeting on Certification**

In the context of our larger objective of certification of service providers, a round table meeting was held at WWF India Secretariat on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 with senior executives of TOFT and SYCOM



Projects Consultants (who conduct Pugmark rating on behalf of TOFT).

The meeting aimed at intensifying cooperation between TOFT and ESOI and to jointly develop a Sustainable Tourism Certification.

Subsequently, a core meeting was held on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 to review various criteria as available such as STCI, so as to narrow down the same to make it as relevant and implementable as a baby step towards certification.

**Expression of Interest: Preparation of  
Eco-Tourism Management Plan for  
Vedaranyam area in Tamil Nadu**

A joint proposal for Expression of Interest with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) was submitted to Integrated Coastal Zone Management of Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India for preparation of Ecotourism Management Plan for Vedaranyam area in Tamil Nadu in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August, 2013.

**ESOI office shifted to Safdarjung  
Enclave in June 2013**

In order to have a more self-contained environment at lesser costs, ESOI shifted its office from Bhikaji Cama Place to B-2 Block, Safdarjung Enclave, South Delhi.

**New Recruitment**

Mr. Rakesh Suri has been appointed on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 as Executive—Admin & Support. He shall be handling member communication and support. Email: [support@ecotourismsocietyofindia.org](mailto:support@ecotourismsocietyofindia.org).

**Governing Body Members (for the period 2011-2013)**

**Mr. Mandip Singh Soin FRGS**  
*Managing Director, Ibex Expeditions Pvt. Ltd.*

**President**

**Mr. Rakesh Mathur**  
*Director & Principal Advisor – Zinc Hospitality and Cross Roads Hotels, Speciality Restaurants*

**Vice President**

**Mr. Toby Sinclair**  
*Wildlife Film Maker*

**Vice President**

**Ms. Seema Bhatt**  
*Independent Consultant, Biodiversity, Ecotourism & Climate Change*

**Honorary Secretary**

**Mr. Krishna Kumar Singh**  
*Former-MLA, Madhya Pradesh, and Environmentalist*

**Treasurer**

**Mr. Steve Borgia**  
*MD, Indeco Hotels, Tamil Nadu*

**Mr. Jose Dominic**  
*MD, CGH Earth Hotels, Kochi, Kerala*

**Mr. Suhail Gupta**  
*CEO, India Safari & Tours Pvt. Ltd*  
**Dr. Venu V. IAS**  
*Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India*  
**Mr. Anirudh Chaoji**  
*Director, Pugmarks Ecotours, Pune*

**Ecotourism Society of India**

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