Dear Sir / Ma'am,

After conducting series of workshops in different States for the past three years, Ecotourism Society of India (ESOI) is pleased to invite you to its tenth workshop on “RESPONSIBLE TOURISM - ISSUES & PRACTICES” for the first time being held in the North East Region as follows:

March 23 & 24, 2012 : Greenwood Resort, Q.S. Road, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam
Timing: Day-1: 9am to 6:15pm; Day-2: 9am to 2:15pm

The workshop has been organised by ESOI with the support of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and Assam Tourism and in partnership with WWF-India. The logistics support is being provided by Tour Operators Association of Assam (TOAA).

The workshop aims at setting corrective and curative measures with regard to TOURISM practices with ecological sensitivity and conservation of nature and community development in the North East Region. The challenge for the tourism service providers is in implementing environmentally responsible and sustainable tourism practices. These practices will not only create a lighter footprint but will support local communities and conserve the environment.

Some of the eminent speakers expected to participate in the workshops are Mr. Mandip Singh Soin FRGS, Mr. Rakesh Mathur, Mr. C.B. Ramkumar of Our Native Village, Dr. Venu V. IAS, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Mr. Ajoy Bhattacharya, CEO of Madhya Pradesh Ecotourism Devt. Board, Ms. Seema Bhatt - Consultant Ecotourism, Biodiversity and Climate Change, Mr. Samir Sinha – TRAFFIC INDIA, Mr. Ritwick Dutta – Environmental Lawyer, Mr. Ramana Athreya – IISER Pune, Mr. Nima Tashi Bhutia, KCC, Ms. Mariam Dakhya – Architect, Prof. Sheila Bora – Dibrugarh University, Dr. Mrinmoy Sharma – Tezpur University, Mr. Pema Wangfe – WWF India.

Some of the key topics are:

1. Sharing models of International & Indian Best Practices.
2. Public - Private Partnership in Ecotourism initiatives
3. Protection of Natural and Cultural heritage
4. Balancing between Conservation and Tourism Development
5. Waste Management & Renewable Energy
6. Environmental Law and its relevance to the tourism sector
7. Need for Ecotourism Certification

We cordially invite you to join this noble initiative and register your name immediately. The draft programme schedule is attached herewith.

Subsidized registration/participation fee is applicable as follows:
Advance Registration Fee: Rs. 950/- per person (applicable only till March 22, 2012)
Spot Registration Fee: Rs. 1,500/- (subject to seat availability)
(Shall include 2-day’s lunch and refreshments. Accommodation extra at special rates).
All fees are non-refundable. Registration strictly on first-come-first basis.

Best regards,

Arvind K Balan
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