

KTS Chronicle

October – December, 2023

Volume 1, Issue 2



New Year! New Resolutions!



As the New Year unfolds, I wish each one of our KTS Members, their families and their employees a very Happy New Year! May 2024 turn out to a fabulous one for each one of you, personally as well as on the business front.

Sentiments expressed by various Indian tourism pundits indicate that the Indian tourism industry is gearing up for a robust fiscal year in 2024, with various segments poised to drive demand. Notable contributions to this growth are expected to be experiential travel, domestic tourism including corporate travel and of course international leisure travel sector.

Much of this growth couldn't have been possible if not for generous investments by the Government in building capacity, improving existing and creating new infrastructural in the tourism sector by way of improvements in rail network, improved transport facilities, road connectivity, airports, etc. While one may always say 'oh, but there's so much more to be done' be it in improvement of infrastructure and regulatory

and policy framework (which I totally agree), I believe the onus will always be on oneself in the Tourism sector to see how we can capitalise existing situation to maximise business opportunities.

At the KTS, that is exactly what we constantly strive to focus on. For starters, lots of marketing programs are planned to be rolled out in collaboration with the Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka to create B2B networking opportunities so that we, that is Karnataka's tourism stakeholders can create business developing connections, reach newer markets, new segments – to showcase Karnataka and generate business for all of us. We have CONNECT 2024 meets planned across Karnataka, the Karnataka International Travel Mart 2024, the ITB Berlin 2024, and much more coming up.

I therefore urge you all to be active participants of our Society as well as introduce other fellow-stakeholders to join the KTS so that we can all ride the success wave in 2024. Happy New Year!

S Mahalingiah
Secretary

KTS welcomes new Principal Secretary to Dept of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka

In early Oct, 2023 the KTS Members held a felicitation meet to give a send-off to the out-going ACS, Mr. Kapil Mohan, IAS. The new Principal Secretary, Mr. A K Anil Kumar, IAS was also cordially welcomed by the President, Mr. Syama Raju, President on behalf of all KTS Members. Both were presented a ceremonial shawl and a memento.



Outgoing ACS, Mr. Kapil Mohan, IAS being felicitated by Mr. Syama Raju



Incoming Principal Secretary, Mr. AK Anil Kumar, IAS being welcomed by Mr. Syama Raju

CONNECT – Outreach program for Tourism stakeholders in Karnataka

This year too, KTS is planning to hold 10 CONNECT meets in collaboration with the Dept of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka. CONNECT is an outreach program to network with all key stakeholders at different destinations and clusters in Karnataka to discuss challenges and to find solutions to take the industry forward. Airport Managers,

Railways Divisional Managers, key officials from the Dept of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka, Tourism Committee Members from the DC's office and also Regional Transport authorities will be invited to take their suggestions in tapping the tourism potentials including identifying the lesser know destinations that can be promoted. You will get a change to interact with all above officials.

CONNECT Meets are planned in following 10 Cities:

BELAGAVI

Belagavi

BENGALURU

Bengaluru (Urban & Rural)-
Ramanagara –Kolar-Chikballapura – Tumkur

VIJAYAPURA

Vijayapura - Bagalkote

HUBBALI

Dharwad - Gadag – Haveri – Uttara Kannada

MANGALURU

Dakshina Kannada - Udupi

MADEKERI

Kodagu

MYSURU

Mysuru – Mandya - Chamarajnaraga

BIDAR

Bidar Kalburgi - Raichur

HOSPETE

Vijayanagara – Ballari - Koppala

SHIVAMOGGA

Shivamogga Chickmagalur – Hassan
Chitradurga - Davanagere

Calling all Tourism stakeholders of Karnataka to participate in CONNECT 2023 Meets

We have pleasure to inform you that Karnataka Tourism Society will be holding CONNECT 2023 meets across Karnataka in Dec 2023 and Jan 2024 in association with Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka.

These meets are being held with the specific intention to facilitate networking opportunities for tourism stakeholders and to invite your views and feedback on how to promote Karnataka. You will also get an opportunity to interact with policy makers from the Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka.

Cities and districts covered for CONNECT 2023 Meets are as follows:

1. BENGALURU: Bengaluru Urban & Rural – Ramanagara – Kolar – Chikballapura – Tumkur
2. BELAGAVI: Belagavi
3. VIJAYAPURA: Vijayapura – Bagalkote
4. HUBBALI: Dharwad – Gadag – Haveri – Uttara Kannada
5. MADEKERI: Kodagu
6. MYSURU: Mysuru – Mandya – Chamarajnaraga
7. MANGALURU: Dakshina Kannada – Udupi
8. SHIVAMOGGA: Shivamogga – Chickmagalur – Hassan – Chitradurga – Davanagere
9. BIDAR: Bidar – Kalburgi – Raichur
10. HOSPETE: Vijayanagara – Ballari – Koppala

During the CONNECT Meets, we and the Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka also aim to share with you details regarding the forthcoming mega event planned to be held in Bengaluru during March 2024 – the long-awaited KARNATAKA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MART 2024 (KITE 2024).

SO, DO NOT MISS TO ATTEND THE CONNECT MEETS.

To facilitate us to send you an invitation, kindly click here to share your details immediately:

<https://forms.gle/uxrKSZoEbetUwyy9u9>

To participate in the CONNECT Meet in your respective regions, kindly register with the KTS. Click on link provided here below to provide all necessary information required for us to share an invitation:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0477rLbM2D5QILWSDhsLRzkbj6IU4VZPAgz6afJWoBQeMcQ/viewform?pli=1>



KTS Subcommittees:

In the 5th Executive Committee Meeting held on 16th Oct, 2023 your Society decided to form various sub-committees to drive projects and initiatives that the KTS will want to undertake for the benefit of the Society Members. Following sub-committees were formed under the chairmanship of Members mentioned alongside the Committee names:

Chairmen of various Sub-Committees



G K Shetty
Membership Development
Committee



Mr. S Mahalingaiah
MICE & Bangalore Convention &
Visitors Bureau Committee



P C Rao
CONNECT 2024;
and Media & PR Committees



Ayappa Somaiah
KITE 2024 Committee



H T Ratnakar
Government Liaison
Committee



Manoj Mathew
Fund Raising
Committee



Vineet Verma
Newsletter
Committee



Radhakrishna Holla
Transport Committee



K N Prashanth
Dasara Committee



Rohit Hangal
Website & Social Media
Marketing Committee



H Jagadeesh
Destination Promotion
Committee

Any Member who would like to be part of a KTS Sub-Committee may write an email addressed to the respective Chairman at karnatakaturismsociety@gmail.com

Karnataka International Travel Mart 2024



A meeting with the Hon'ble Tourism Minister, H K Patil was recently held in which, it was decided to hold KITE event in August 2024 in Bengaluru. As a first step, various sub-committees were formed to allocate roles and responsibilities so that preparatory work can start immediately. Following committees have been formed:

KITE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

CHARIMAN: Hon. Minister for Tourism, GOK
Organising Secretary: PS – DOT, GOK
Member Secretary: Director, DOT, GOK
MD. JLR
MD. KSTDC
RD. South, India Tourism, Chennai
Director, India Tourism, Bangalore
Director, IHM, Bangalore
President - KTS
Chairman – IATO, Karnataka Chapter
Chairman – TAAI, Karnataka Chapter
Chairman – TAFI, Karnataka Chapter
President - KTF, Bangalore
Chairman- ETAA, Karnataka
President, FKCCI
Chairman – BCIC – Tourism Committee
President – SIHRA
Chairman – KPHRAI
Chairman – BHRA
Chairman – KSTOA
President – SKAL – Karnataka Chapter
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah, Chairman KITE
Vice President – Marketing - KIAL
Dr. Issac Mathai, KTS

REGISTRATION, RECEPTION & PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

CHARIMAN: Director, DOT, GOK.
Regional Director, India Tourism, Chennai
Director, India Tourism, Bangalore
Mr. K. Shama Raju, President, KTS
Mr. P.C. Rao, EC Member KTS; President, BBHRA
Principal, IHM.
Mr. Vice President, Marketing - KIAL.
Ms. Ramya Ravindra, Member KTS
Joint Commissioner, DOT, GOK
General Manager, JLR
General Manager – Admin, KSTDC

ACCOMODATION COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: MD, JLR
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah Member KTS & SKAL
Mr. Vineet Verma - Vice President, KTS
Mr. K. Shama Raju - President, KTS
Mr. P. C Rao, Member KTS & KPHRA
Mr. Manoj Mathew, Member KTS & SKAL
Mr. Mr. G.K. Shetty, EC Member KTS
Mr. H.T. Ratnakar, KTS
Deputy Director – Admin. DOT, GOK
General Manager – Finance. KSTDC

DOMESTIC BUYERS SELECTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: MD, JLR
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah Member KTS & SKAL
Mr. Vineet Verma - Vice President, KTS
Mr. K. Shama Raju - President, KTS
Mr. P. C Rao, Member KTS & KPHRA
Mr. Manoj Mathew, Member KTS & SKAL
Mr. Mr. G.K. Shetty, EC Member KTS
Mr. H.T. Ratnakar, KTS
Deputy Director – Admin. DOT, GOK
General Manager – Finance. KSTDC

INTERNATIONAL BUYER SELECTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: S. Mahalingaiah, KTS
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah, KTS
Mr. Thomas Cherian -Member - KTS
Mr H.T. Ratnakar, Member - KTS
Mr. Sanjar Syed Asghar Imam, Member KTS & KTF
Chief Naturalist, JLR
Joint Director (P & P) ,DOT, GOK.
Mr. Tarun Giri, Member KTS

SELLERS SELECTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Amish Desai, Member KTS
Chairman, Tourism Committee, FKCCI
President - Coorg Home Stay Association
Mr. Rohit Hangal, Member, KTS
President, Udupi Tourism Association
JD, (P7P) DOT, GOK
Dr. Mruthunjaya Swamy, Member KTS

FAM TOUR COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ravindra , Member KTS
Mr. S. N. K. Chidambara, Member, KTS & IATO
Mr. Radhakrishna Holla, Member, KTS, BTTOA
Mr. B. S. Prashanth, Member, KTS, & MTA
Mr. Ramya, KTF
Mr. Sripada, KTS Member from Hospet
Mr. Gururaj , KTS Member from Shimoga
Mr. Roshan Pinto, KTS Member, Mangalore
Manager, Tours, KSTDC
Mr. Praveen Kumar, Mysore, Member, KTS

CULTURAL PROGRAMME, PR, SECURITY, FIRE & MEDICAL COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: Director, Tourism, GOK
Nominee - Police Department Govt.
Nomine - Fire Depart Govt.
Nominee - Health Department
Nominee - Information Department
Nominee - Kannada & Cultural Department
Nominee - BBMP

TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Mr. R. Radhakrishna Holla
Mr. H. Jagadeesh KTS EC Member
Mr. Harish Upadya, Member, KTS
Managing Director, SRS Travels
Mr.S.N.K. Chidambaram, KTS & IATO
Mr. Gangadhar, Safeway Travels
Mr.Naveen , MD. Sam Tours
Mr. Mahesh, MD. Siddaganga Tours
Representative from DOT, GOK
Representative from JLR
Representative from KSTDC

B2B APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sanjar Syed Asghar
Imam, KTS & KTF
Mr. Rohit Hangal - Member, KTS
Mr. S. Mahalingaiah, KTS & IATO
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah,
Mr. Thomas Cherian
JD, (P & P) DOT, GOK
System Manager, JLR
System Manager, KSTDC
Mr. Vijay Nair, Member, KTS
Mr. G.K. Shetty, Member, KTS

FINANCE, BUDGET & SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE:

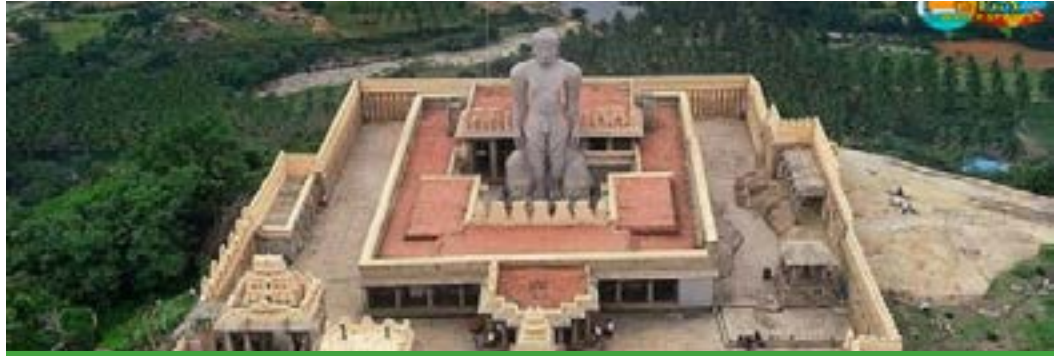
CHAIRMAN: ACS, Secretary , Tourism, GOK
MD KSTDC
MD. JLR
Director, Tourism, GOK
RD. South, India Tourism, GOI
Mr. K. Shama Raju, President, KTS
Mr. Vineet Verma, VP. KTS
Mr. Ayappa Somaiah, Chairman KITE
Mr. G.K. Shetty, Member, KTS

Karnataka pitches for more heritage sites to be recognised by UNESCO

Just earlier this year, the sacred ensembles of Karnataka's Hoysala Temples secured a place in the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage list taking the total number of such sites in Karnataka go up to 4.

And now, there is news that two more sites in Karnataka are set to be proposed for tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage sites; viz., Shravanabelagola in Hassan and Lakkundi in Gadag.

Of course, the procedure for inclusion in the list of world heritage sites is a long one and the final selection would certainly take some time. That said, the mere fact that Karnataka has many heritage sites worthy of being considered to be inducted in this elite list is a testimony to the rich cultural richness prevalent in our state. Cultural tourism is big draw attracting hordes of tourists, both domestic and international into Karnataka.



The Colossal statue of Lord Gomateshwara, considered as one of the largest monolithic statues in the world towers over Shravanabelagola town



Manikeshwara Temple in Lakkaundi in Gadag

DOT, Govt. of Karnataka participates in Domestic & International Travel Exhibitions

The DOT, Govt. of Karnataka made impactful presence in four exhibitions during Oct-Dec 2023 quarter. Many tourism stakeholders from Karnataka, including KSTDC and Jungles Lodges & Resorts joined in as SELLER co-participants and benefited from it along with Details of participants are as follows:

IITM - Mumbai
12 – 14 Oct, 2023

AB Travels South India
Welwvet Travels Pvt. Ltd.
Rivido Hotels & Resorts LLP
Insight Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd
Aglaonema Resort & Spa0
Mysore Int. Travels Pvt. Ltd
Hotel VBR Grand Inn
VHF Resort
SBIT Travels Pvt. Ltd.
TGI Hotels & Resorts
The Quorum Hotel
Quality Holidays & Cars
Holiday Monk
Karan Tourist
IBNI SPA Resort Pvt. Ltd.

IITM - Hyderabad
1 – 3 Dec, 2023

The Arum Hotels & Resorts
Tripbanao
Five Sanctuaries Safari LLP
Hotel Malligi Pvt. Ltd.
Mysore International Travels Pvt. Ltd.
INTERSIGHT Tours & Travels
The Yellow Bamboo Resort
Niraa Wellness
Hotel VBR Grand Inn
BookForUs
Turquoise Holidays
SBIT Travels Pvt. Ltd.

World Travel Mart, London
6 – 8 Nov, 2023

Mookanana Resorts, Sakleshpur
SafeWheels Tours and Travels
Skyway International Travels
Taxiwala Mysore



Mr. Vikram Doraiswami, High Commissioner of India to the U.K. inaugurated the Karnataka Tourism Stall co-jointly with Mrs. V. Vidyavathi, Secretary, MOT, GOI. Karnataka Tourism exhibited in WTM London, from 6th-8th Nov 2023. Skyway International Travels, co-exhibited with Karnataka Tourism



1st Cruise Ship of the season arrives in Mangaluru in December

THE 1st of 10 cruise ships to arrive in this year, the majestic 'Seven Seas Navigator' called on Mangaluru Port in early December 2023 bringing with her 500 tourists and team of 350 crew members. The momentous occasion signifies a resurgence of maritime tourism in the region, much to the delight of local businesses and stakeholders.



This season's 1st cruise, The Seven Seas Navigator docked at New Mangaluru Port in early Dec 2023

The Seven Seas Navigator arrived from the Middle East, touching the ports of Mumbai and Goa. After spending one day packed with exciting site seeing and experiential activities she proceeded to Cochin and then onwards to Colombo and to the Far East.

While in Mangaluru, tourists were exposed to cultural programs, taken to touristic sites in and around Mangaluru including, to Moodabidri, Karkala, iconic religious sites, served delectable local cuisine and also taken around for shopping at some famous local eateries. The day was well spent soaking the local sights and experiences, hopefully sufficient to create a lasting impression on our visiting guests about that part of our State.

With 10 cruise vessels scheduled to arrive at Mangaluru during the current season, it is indicative of the growing popularity of New Mangalore as a compelling cruise destination. This influx of tourists via waterways at the port, is anticipated to contribute significantly to the local economy, generating revenue for various sectors, including tourism, hospitality, and transportation.

Bengaluru Airport scores on business, and also in aesthetics

THE Civil Aviation Ministry recently stated that Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport is the 3rd busiest airport in India after Delhi and Mumbai, handling over 31 million passengers during 2022-23. The other airports doing exceedingly well in Karnataka are Mangaluru International Airport that handled over 1.8 m passengers (76% growth over last year) followed by Hubballi and Belagavi airports which handled over 300,000 and 200,000 passengers respectively.

The new terminal (T2) at the Bengaluru International Airport also has been getting raving reviews from not just international travellers but also winning awards and recognition at international level. KIA's second terminal, T2 is referred to as 'Terminal in a Garden' and has been designed as a tribute to the "Garden City" of Bengaluru.

The latest award to be bestowed on KIA is a special prize at UNESCO's 2023 Prix Versailles. The award recognizes the intelligent sustainability as a cultural driver, innovation, creativity, reflection of local heritage, ecological efficiency and values of social interaction in the designing of the T2 terminal at KIA.



Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport's Terminal 2 has won the World Special Prize for an Interior 2023, making it the 'World's most beautiful airport'

Contact details of key Departmental officials in the Tourism Ministry and Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka:

Name	Designation	Email Id	Phone
H K Patil	Minister for Tourism, Government of Karnataka	lawministergok@gmail.com	080 22250637
T K Anil Kumar, IAS	Principal Secretary, Dept. of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka	acs-tour@karnataka.gov.in	080 22255482
Dr Ram Prasath Manohar V, IAS	Director, Dept of Tourism	director@karnatakaturism.org	91485 68868
Mr. Janardhana HP	Joint Director, DOT	tourismkarnatakapublicity@gmail.com	96119 21927
Mr. Jagadeesha G, IAS	MD, KSTDC	md@kstdc.co	94486 73876
Mr. Manoj Kumar, IFS	MD, Jungle Lodges & Resorts	md@jungl lodges.com	94483 43336

Placement of Advertisement and/or Advertorial

Karnataka Tourism Society will be happy to carry your advertising and promotional messages in the KTS Chronicle. Our Newsletter reaches focussed audiences comprising of over 10000 member institutions from across the Indian Tourism fraternity. The KTS Chronicle is published every Quarter and circulated among Members of the KTS as well organizations: SHIRA, IATO, BCIC, FCCI, TAFI, ETTA, SKAL, KTF, KSTOA, MTA, Dept of Tourism Govt. of Karnataka, JLR and KSTDC office and the Minister of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka's office as well.

Advertisements can be carried in following sizes and positions. The tariff is as follows:

Size/ Position	Cost/ Ins (in ₹)
Back cover (full page)	15000/-
Full page (inside pages)	10000/-
Quarter page (front page (solus)	10000/-
Half Page (inside pages)	5000/-

Kindly Note:

- The above rates are valid for both, advertisements as well as advertorial content
- Client to provide content in digital format.
- Above costs are exclusive of GST, as applicable
- Material to be provided at least 15 days prior to date of publication.
- Payment to be made in advance and may be paid along with ad content to be published.
- Ad cancellation will not be entertained within 15 days from publication date.
- KTS will not be responsible for authenticity or veracity of ad content. Any disputes or legal resulting in lieu of the same will be borne by the Advertiser.
- All payments to be made via check only and in favour of Karnataka Tourism Society.

For all enquiries with regard to placement of advertisements/advertorials are to be addressed to: The Secretary, Karnataka Tourism Society at karnatakaturismsociety@gmail.com

