

INDIA

With an approximate 15% fall in the number of new cases and an impressive 85.25% recovery rate, India is making a positive comeback.

Unlock 5.0 – MOVING FORWARD

The process of relaxing lockdown rules continues within the country with permissions to operate cinemas, multiplexes, and theatres at 50% capacity with effect from 15 October.

The government has further relaxed limits on public gatherings, both indoor and outdoor. B2B Exhibitions can be organised outside containment zones after 15 October as per directives issued by concerned authorities.

With the onset of festive season, most states in India have opened up for tourism and there has been a promising rise in domestic tourism. States like Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and others are witnessing a steady inflow of domestic tourists. Goa witnessed an unprecedented rise in domestic tourists over the long weekend of Gandhi Jayanti (02 October).

Keeping the spirits going, the Ministry of Tourism and Culture has decided to equip 75 iconic destinations of India with excellent visitor facilities. The project is slated to complete in time for India's 75th year of independence in 2022.

All monuments, entertainment parks, and similar places are now allowed to open and can operate as per the directives issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. State governments can decide on the final operational status.

Statistics: Number of cases reported in India stands at 6.8M, with 5.8M cases of recovery. India has reported a 1.5% death rate as on 08 October. For detailed and latest updates, please [click here](#).

BEING POSITIVE CAN BE A GOOD THING

"Happiness can be found in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." – Albus Dumbledore

While the world is terrified of being positive in today's pandemic riddled times, in the tourism industry we think positivity is our elixir.

In the midst of so much uncertainty and despair, hope still floats when we see initiatives within the travel community to survive. Hotels are reopening with updated security, health and safety measures, and incentivised travel plans.

The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts is all set to make its debut in the Pink City with its elegant and luxurious new property, The Leela Palace Jaipur.

We applaud the Taj Group for their #TravelforIndia initiative designed to inspire responsible travel and convey solidarity for the Indian tourism and hospitality industry that touches millions of lives.

In a heartening online survey conducted by the BOTT (Business of Travel Trade) Travel Sentiment Tracker, it was revealed that 71% millennials are willing to travel within the country in the next 6 months. This result comes as an extremely positive sign for the industry.

A total tiger count of 252 has been reported in Uttarakhand's Corbett Tiger Reserve as per the annual tiger population estimation exercise jointly conducted by the state forest department and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). This figure makes Corbett a region with the highest tiger density in the world!

So, all is not gloomy. There is definitely light at the end of this seemingly endless tunnel!

For details on our proposed post-Covid preparations, please [click here](#).