

Jharkhand State in India to reopen cinemas from 1 March 2021

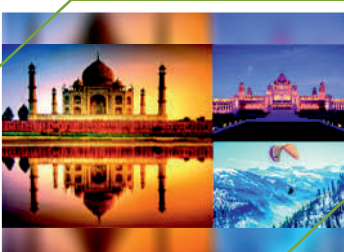
Jharkhand has permitted theatre operations from 1 March at 50% capacity. It was the only state in India that had not yet allowed cinema halls to reopen post the covid-19 lockdown.

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Home Affairs had allowed 100% occupancy in multiplexes and cinema halls, though individual state governments could take the final call on the same. The move came as a relief to movie theatres that were shut for seven months last year owing to coronavirus pandemic and have been struggling with low attendance and few new offerings since reopening in October.

(Source: www.livemint.com)



Ministry of Tourism seeks industry suggestions on restarting inbound travel



The Ministry of Tourism (MoT), Government of India, has started initial deliberations with the travel and tourism industry stakeholders on the modalities of reopening of the inbound tourism into India. According to tourism industry association sources, MoT officials held a meeting early this week of the industry association leaderships and sought their feedback on different proposals which can be taken up with the other ministries such as Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Top industry leaders revealed that the ministry has sought their feedback on selective reopening of inbound travel, which initially will entail only those tourists who've come through registered travel agencies with travel visas issued with the help of approved tour operators.

(Source: www.economictimes.indiatimes.com)

Water Kingdom's #BeMyValentine Contest was a hit on Instagram

Water Kingdom, one of India's largest themed Water Park ran week long contest #BeMyValentine on its Instagram Page. The user has to post a picture with their Valentine on Instagram, tag Water Kingdom along with #BeMyValentine and write why he or she is so special in the caption. The contest received an overwhelming response out of which 3 lucky winners stood a chance to win Water Kingdom Couple Passes.

"#BeMyValentine is not just a contest, it was a platform where we let our followers express their love for their partners. We have always got a positive response to our digital engagement activities and we shall keep coming back with more unique campaigns", said Mr. Paresh Mishra, Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing, EsselWorld & Water Kingdom.



Malpani Group's, one of India's Biggest International Amusement Park – Magic Mountain opened its doors to the visitors from 23rd January 2021 onwards. The park is following all safety norms. Staff was trained before the park reopening on which precautions are to be followed on daily basis. Safety signages have been put up across the park.



Visitors as well as staff are screened at the time of entry on daily basis. Sanitisation stations have been put up at various points. Guest are advised not to crowd any place. Rides are sanitised frequently. Restaurant seating has been rearranged such that families can sit at a safe distance from each other. The park is operating from every Friday to Sunday for the time being.

Mr. Abhikendu Gupta, COO, quoted that the Visitors to the park are also well aware about the Covid Safety precautions, and are enjoying their day out to its full extent, after getting stuck at home for several months.

Kochi gets modern international cruise terminal



February 15, 2021 : Kochi has got a new international cruise terminal. Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the facility to the nation yesterday. The modern cruise terminal was completed at a cost of INR 25.72 cr at the Ernakulam wharf by the Port Trust. The Sagarika International Cruise Terminal, as the facility is called, can accommodate 5,000 cruise tourists at a time. The upgraded cruise ship dock at Kochi is equipped to welcome large luxury cruise ships up to 420 mtr.

A popular destination for many luxury cruise ship companies, more than 40 cruise ships call on Kochi in an average year. Between 2017 and 20 there has been over 40% growth in cruise tourists to Kochi and Kerala.

(Source: www.economicstimes.indiatimes.com)

Philippines will soon allow cinemas, theme parks to resume

The Philippines will soon allow cinemas, theme parks and conferences to resume as it seeks to further reopen an economy that suffered a record contraction last year. It will also expand the seating capacity of religious gatherings to a maximum of 50% from the current 30% starting February 15, presidential spokesman Harry Roque said in a statement on Friday. President Rodrigo Duterte is worried about the economy and aims for an immediate recovery, Roque said earlier this week.



The country's task force overseeing measures to curb the coronavirus pandemic also approved the reopening of driving schools, interactive-game arcades, libraries, museums, and cultural centers. Their resumption, along with cinemas, parks and conferences are subject to guidelines by agencies and local governments where they operate, according to Roque. He didn't specify a date for the reopening of these sectors.

(Source: www.hindustantimes.com)