



HAN Holds Dialogue with PM Shah on Hospitality Issues



Prime Minister Mr. Balendra Shah has stated that the concerns of hotel entrepreneurs will now end as work has started at a rapid pace for the promotion of tourism in Nepal at a special meeting held at the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers on 15 July 2026 with HAN representatives.

Prime Minister Shah also urged the HAN officials to fulfill their business responsibilities by obeying the law, to bring small and medium-sized hotels under the tax net by registering them with the Department of Tourism and to study possible collaborations that can be done in a public-private partnership model.

Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Khadak Raj Poudel also attended the program. In the meeting, HAN informed that the hotel industry of Nepal is fully capable of serving 4 million tourists annually. Stating that only 1.2 million tourists are currently entering annually, the entrepreneurs said that the hotel industry will be a strong medium to create unprecedented growth in domestic employment and prevent Nepali youth from going for foreign employment as tourist arrivals increase.

Highlighting that there is immense potential for health tourism, destination weddings, and cross-border tourism in Nepal, they presented some policy demands to the government. HAN demanded from the Prime Minister to provide concessions in electricity tariffs like other manufacturing industries and to amend the provision of Brief Environmental Study for small and medium-sized hotels up to 25 beds, which is impractical and should be revised.

Similarly, HAN urged to fully operate the Pokhara and Bhairahawa airports and improve the services of Nepal Airlines, to amend the provision in the Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer Act, 2075, which states that the royalty or fee amount for trademark use under technology transfer should not exceed 5 percent of the total sales value, excluding applicable taxes, among others.

HAN also requested to facilitate the process of bringing jewelry for destination weddings and to arrange packages with 'full storytelling' and experts for the promotion of health tourism, not just photos and videos.

Officiating President Mr. Dinesh Tuladhar, Secretary General Mr. Sajan Shakya, Treasurer Mr. Youb Raj Shrestha, Executive Committee Members Mr. Jaydin Shrestha and Ms. Ashlesha Karki participated in the program.

HAN Holds Hospitality Dialogue with the Tourism Minister



Hotel Association Nepal hosted a face-to-face interaction program with Mr. Khadak Raj Poudel, Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, on 20 July 2026 at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur. The dialogue brought together owners, CEOs, general managers and senior executives of four and five-star hotels from across Nepal to discuss key issues affecting the country's hospitality and tourism industry.

During the interaction, industry representatives highlighted several priority concerns, including customs reforms to facilitate destination weddings, revisions to the luxury tax system, skilled workforce development, enhanced international tourism marketing, and other policy measures aimed at strengthening Nepal's tourism competitiveness.

Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest, Minister Poudel stated that the Government of Nepal is reviewing and updating decades-old tourism-related laws and policies to create a more tourism-friendly and investment-friendly environment. He emphasized that enhancing the overall visitor experience remains a national priority through the modernization of international airports, expansion of air connectivity, and improvement of road infrastructure, enabling easier access to Nepal's diverse tourism destinations.

Mr. Prabin B Panday, officiating President, highlighted the significant contribution of the hotel industry to Nepal's economy through employment generation and foreign exchange earnings. He, however, noted that increasing global competition demands policy stability, modern tourism management and a more investment-friendly legal framework.

Director General of the Department of Tourism, Mr. Ramkrishna Lamichhane, assured that the department is committed to simplifying administrative procedures and working closely with the hospitality industry to resolve operational challenges.

Secretary General Mr. Sajan Shakya, expressed confidence that continued government support, policy reforms, and enhanced public-private partnerships will strengthen Nepal's tourism and hospitality industries.

HAN - Bagmati Province Ad Hoc Committee Formed

Hotel Association Nepal has formed HAN-Bagmati Province Ad-Hoc Committee with the objective of strengthening, organizing and enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the hospitality industry in the province. The committee was announced during a formal ceremony in Kathmandu as part of HAN's ongoing campaign to expand its organizational structure across provinces with high tourism potential.

Delivering the welcome remarks, Mr. Prabin B Panday, Officiating President, expressed confidence that expanding the Association's organizational structure at the provincial level would play a pivotal role in strengthening Nepal's tourism industry, enhancing hospitality service standards and fostering a more organized, professional and competitive hotel sector across the country.

He also highlighted that nearly 30 percent of tourists are still staying in unregistered accommodation establishments, emphasizing the need to bring all hospitality establishments under the legal framework. He further announced HAN's plan to introduce a digital information system containing verified details of member hotels to provide tourists with reliable accommodation information and promote legally registered establishments.

Prof. Dr. Gandhi Pandit, Legal Advisor stated that the formation of HAN- Bagmati Province Ad-Hoc Committee is an important step toward restructuring the Association in line with Nepal's federal governance system. He noted that despite the hotel industry's significant contribution to investment, employment generation, and foreign exchange earnings, it has yet to receive adequate policy priority and institutional support from the government followed by announcement of the names and sworn-in ceremony.

President of the HAN-Bagmati Province Ad Hoc Committee, Mr. Ram Sundar Bake pledged to prioritize resolving the common issues faced by hotel businesses across the province. He outlined plans to modernize the hotel industry through technology-driven services, digital information systems, improved service quality and stronger coordination among hoteliers. He emphasized that close collaboration between the government and the private sector is essential to enhance Nepal's competitiveness as an international tourism destination.

Chief Guest Mr. Dipendra Subedi, Secretary of the Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Labor and Transport, Bagmati Province, said that the provincial government has been implementing strategic plans to develop tourism as one of the major drivers of economic



growth. He explained that the ministry is giving high priority to promoting religious, cultural, natural and adventure tourism, identifying new tourism destinations, and developing tourism infrastructure.

Mr. Subedi said that the ministry has been effectively implementing projects related to tourism promoting and destination development. He added that the provincial government is actively working with the private sector to attract investment, coordinating with local governments to link tourism with employment and income generation. He also reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to policy reforms, service quality enhancement, capacity building for tourism entrepreneurs and creating a tourist-friendly environment for sustainable tourism development.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Sajan Shakya, Secretary General of Hotel Association Nepal, expressed confidence that HAN-Bagmati Province would play a leading role in strengthening the Association as HAN celebrates its Diamond Jubilee.

The newly formed Bagmati Province Ad Hoc Committee comprises Chairperson Mr. Ram Sundar Bake, Vice Chairperson Mr. Netra Jung Thapa, Secretary General Mr. Shivraj Duwadi (Madhav), Treasurer: Ms. Lina Khadka and Members: Mr. Rajaram Silwal, Mr. Samir Lama and Mr. Binod Jirel. The Advisory Council consists of Mr. Ghanshyam Shrestha, Mr. Gyanendra Kumar Bista, Mr. Prem Kantha Shrestha and Mr. Satya Ram Suwal.

The formation of the Bagmati Province Ad Hoc Committee marks another significant milestone in Hotel Association Nepal's nationwide organizational expansion aimed at strengthening provincial representation, improving hospitality standards, and supporting the sustainable growth of Nepal's tourism industry.





An Interaction Program organized by the HAN Thamel Special Zone under the coordinatorship of Secretary General Mr. Sajan Shakya on contemporary issues of the Thamel Area. The Program was attended by the Board Member of NTB Mr. Sahadev Dhamala, Tourist Police DSP Mr. Bishow Raj Adhikari, Inspector of Sorakhette Mr. Upendra Bahadur Budhathoki, West Thamel President Mr. Santosh Pandey, Secretary General of TTDC Mr. Pashupati Kandel, HAN Board Member Mr. Ram Kumar Puri, Laxman Aryal, Thakur Pokharel and the Members of Thamel Special Zone.

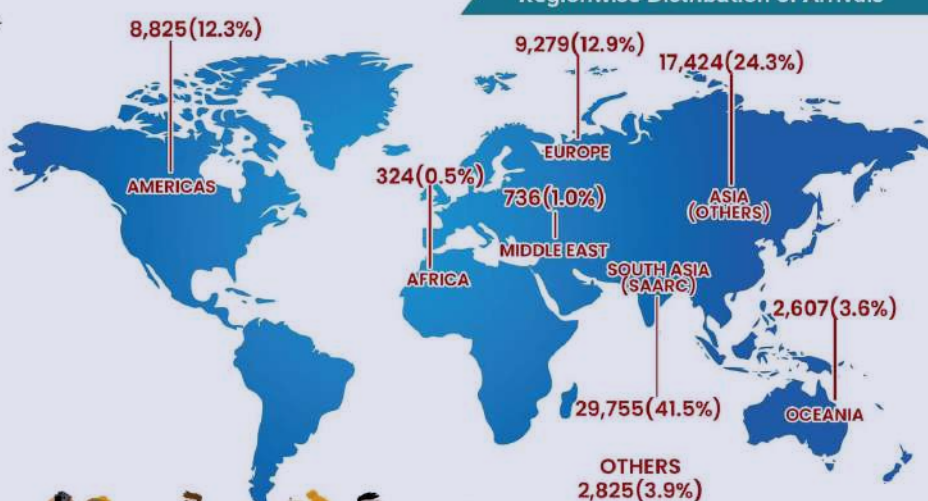
INTERNATIONAL VISITOR ARRIVALS JULY 2026 71,775



TOP 10 Source Market Countries



Regionwise Distribution of Arrivals



Source : Department of Immigration

Prepared by : Nepal Tourism Board

* This report is based on preliminary monthly raw data provided by Department of Immigration



Hotel Association Nepal (HAN)

Home of Hospitality

National Federation of Hotels/Resorts

P.O. Box: 2151, Subarna Shamsher Marg, Gairidhara, Kathmandu, Nepal,

Tel No : +977-1-4512705, 4510288,

Email: han@ntc.net.np, hanmembers@gmail.com

Website : hotelassociationnepal.org.np