



Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries

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10 October, 2020

To,
Shri Naveen Patnaik
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Odisha

Sub: - Re-Opening of Amusement and Entertainment Parks from 15th October, 2020 as per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 30th September, 2020.

Dear Hon'ble Chief Minister,

Kindly accept warm greetings from Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries (IAAPI), a National Apex body of Amusement, Theme Entertainment Parks and Indoor Amusement Centres of the Country.

This is further to our letter dated 21st September, 2020 to Chief Secretary office requesting for re-opening of Amusement and Entertainment Parks in the new Unlock guidelines, beginning 1st October, 2020. In the light of UNLOCK-5 guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 30th September, 2020, vide which Entertainment Parks, which include Amusement Parks, Theme Parks, Water Parks and Indoor Amusement Centres have been allowed to re-open in the entire Country. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also issued SOP on preventive measures to be followed in Entertainment Parks dated 8th October, 2020 which is attached for your kind perusal. IAAPI requests your good self to kindly issue necessary guidelines and instructions from State Government with regards to re-opening of Amusement Parks, Theme Parks, Water Parks and Indoor Amusement Centres - (Entertainment Parks) in the State, wef 15th October, 2020 as per aforesaid order of Ministry of Home Affairs.

I am pleased to inform you that, IAAPI has already prepared SOPs under guidance of professionals from the medical fraternity following proper methodology and process towards safety of guests and employees (copy is once again attached for your kind perusal) and we assure that the Amusement Industry will strictly follow all the guidelines and SOPs set by the Government and Local administration.

As per MHA notification, Union Government has reopened almost all the sectors and activities such as Hotel, Resorts, Malls, Gymnasiums, Religious Places, Metros and Museums. Union Government has further relaxed guidelines related to social, academic, sports, entertainment, cultural, religious and political functions and congregations wef, 15th October, 2020 in non-containment zones.

Over the last 6 months, industry has seen job losses, salary reductions, closure of many businesses related to the amusement sector. The amusement industry is a very high CAPEX industry employing a large number of people. Reopening of the amusement industry which is still in its nascent stage needs the support of the Government now more than ever to tide over this crisis.

The industry has lost its biggest peak season from April – June, 2020 due to lockdown, during which it generates around 60% to 65% EBITA. With the festive season of Dussehra and Diwali approaching, reopening of amusement park will help industry to get back on its feet and work for its revival. We earnestly need immediate support of the State Government for survival and revival of amusement industry in the state of Odisha. Re-opening of Amusement Industry will also help the State to accelerate its domestic tourism and will add to the economic growth of the State.

I also wish to bring to your kind notice that IAAPI has made similar request to State Chief Secretary, State Tourism Minister and Tourism Secretary, Government of Odisha for re-opening of Amusement Park (Entertainment Park) in Odisha, wef. 15th October, 2020.

In anticipation of an affirmative response for the benefit of the entire amusement industry.

Yours sincerely,

Ajay Sarin
Chairman - IAAPI