



Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries

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To,
Shri Vishal Kumar Dev, IAS,
Commissioner - cum – Secretary
Tourism Department
Government of Odisha

Sub: Request for Reopening of Entertainment Parks (Amusement Parks) in Odisha

Respected Secretary Sir,

Namaskar and 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. IAAPI is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in development of tourism sector. Founded in 1999, IAAPI is India's premier business association having 461 members from private sector, including small and medium enterprises and comprising park operators and equipment manufacturers.

In this regard, I wish to apprise your good self that in the State of Odisha, the Amusement Parks, Theme Parks and Indoor Amusement Centres have still not been allowed by the State Government to be reopened, even when majority of States in the country have allowed their reopening from 15th October 2020, subsequent to the Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) dated 30th September, 2020. The States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand have reopened the Parks long back and Maharashtra, which was one of the worst affected States during pandemic, has also allowed reopening of amusement parks from 23rd December, 2020.

Over the last 10 months, a large number of people employed in the amusement industry have lost their jobs and there has also been closure of many businesses related to amusement industry. In this context, Indian Association of Amusement Parks & Industries (IAAPI), earnestly requests you to support our Industry by kindly allowing reopening the Parks in the State of Odisha at the earliest.

Today in Odisha, Religious places of worship and all major sectors such as Hotel, Bar & Night Clubs, Resorts, Malls, & Gymnasiums have been allowed to open following Unlock-5 guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on 30th September, 2020. We wish to bring to your kind attention that under the same guidelines of MHA, Entertainment Parks, which include Amusement Parks, Theme Parks, Water Parks and Indoor Amusement Centres, were also allowed by Govt of India, to re-open from 15 October, 2020.

Odisha has more than 5 Amusement parks and Indoor Amusement Centres (IAC) which operate out of malls and shopping centres across Odisha, generating approx. 2500 direct and 5000 indirect jobs. We therefore once again request you to kindly extend your kind support to us, for survival of our industry, which is integral part of Odisha's Tourism industry, by allowing reopening of the amusement parks at the earliest

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

Yours Sincerely,

Ajay Sarin
Chairman - IAAPI