

Israel Ministry of Tourism explores direct Goa–Tel Aviv connectivity in meeting with Goa Tourism

The Israel Ministry of Tourism (IMOT) recently held a productive meeting with Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Shri Rohan A. Khaunte, marking a significant step towards deepening tourism cooperation between Israel and Goa.

Proposal for a Direct Goa–Tel Aviv Flight

During the meeting in Panaji, the IMOT delegation—comprising Ms Galit Hoffman, Consul – Tourism Affairs for India, and Ms Amruta Bangera, Director of Marketing, IMOT India—expressed Israel's keen interest in exploring a direct air connection between Goa and Tel Aviv. The proposal was discussed as a means to enhance accessibility and cater to the steadily growing travel demand between the two destinations.

Hon'ble Minister Shri Rohan A. Khaunte acknowledged Goa's strong position within India's tourism landscape and reaffirmed the state's commitment to strengthening international connectivity. He also conveyed his readiness to support the process should an airline evaluate the route, including assistance with operational requirements.

Minister's Remarks on Enhanced Connectivity

Commenting on the proposal, Hon'ble Minister Shri Rohan A. Khaunte said, "Goa welcomes every opportunity to strengthen its global tourism partnerships. A direct connection with Tel Aviv has strong potential to boost two-way travel, and we are committed to extending all possible support to airlines assessing the Goa–Tel Aviv route."

Roadshow Discussions and Way Forward

The meeting also explored the possibility of organising a roadshow in Goa to showcase Israel's tourism offerings and engage key travel trade stakeholders.

The discussions concluded on a positive note, with both sides aligned on strengthening bilateral ties and continuing dialogue on direct air connectivity. Expressing appreciation for the Minister's proactive approach, Ms Galit

Hoffman, Consul – Tourism Affairs for India, IMOT, said,
“Goa has always held a special place for Israeli travellers, and enhanced connectivity will further strengthen this bond. We are optimistic about the potential of a direct Goa–Tel Aviv flight and look forward to continued collaboration with the Government of Goa. We sincerely appreciate the support extended by Hon’ble Minister Shri Rohan A. Khaunte.”

Goa’s Appeal for Israeli Travellers

Renowned for its beaches, vibrant culture, and warm hospitality, Goa remains a preferred destination for Israeli travellers to India. Of the approximately 50,000 Israelis who visit India annually, a significant number choose Goa, highlighting the strong cultural connection and enduring affinity between the two destinations.