



Best Practice in Tourism Development – Shared Attributes for Developing Indian and Papua New Guinea Tourism

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The Prime Minister, Hon. Peter O'Neill CMG MP, has highlighted the way in which India has developed a strong cross-sectoral approach to strengthen its tourism industry.

PM O'Neill made the comments following a visit to the World heritage listed Taj Mahal in the Indian city of Agra, and a briefing from India's Tourism Ministry.

"While our nations are different in population and landmass, India and Papua New Guinea share common attributes that are important for developing a strong tourism industry.

"India is a developing country that has worked to meet many of the logistical challenges that need to be overcome to bring visitors from around the world.

"Both countries have very rich and diverse cultures that are of great interest to foreign visitors.

"This includes different cultural practices, music, food and dancing.

"We both also have stunning coastlines and islands, as well as inland mountainous areas that are spectacular."

The Prime Minister said a significant way through which India has expanded tourism is by engaging with small and medium enterprises.

"India has achieved great success in the way it has developed a tourism sector that works with millions of SMEs.

"As our tourism sector grows in Papua New Guinea, SMEs are essential to our success.

"We must develop the right ways for SMEs to engage in our tourism operations.

"This includes a large range of businesses from the provision of transportation, tour guides, art production and operating retail stores.

"Papua New Guinea has many features that already attract tourists from around the world and we must grow this industry.

"From the very large backpacker market through to family holidays, and niche tourists such as people seeking adventure travel or fishing, we have a lot to offer.

"The aviation sector in India has also been opened to greater competition which has brought with it a lowering of the cost of travel.

"This directly increases the number of youth and family tourists who are able to visit the country as well as increasing domestic travel.

"We take note of the challenges and successes experienced by India in bringing the world to its shores and developing a very strong tourism sector."

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