

Mandip Singh Soin

Founder, Eco Tourism Society Of India

Mandip Singh Soin is a prominent Indian mountaineer, explorer, adventure travel expert, environmentalist, speaker and a <u>Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society</u>. He has spent overforty years in the field of adventure, having gone on expeditions to all the seven continents of the world. His mountaineering ascents and explorations include several Indian "firsts" like the first Indian ascent of <u>Mount Meru</u> in 1986 in the <u>Himalayas</u> as well as several first Indian ascents in the French and <u>Swiss Alps</u>, Italian Dolomites, <u>Wales</u> and <u>Scotland</u>. He is a strong advocate of responsible tourism and Founder President of the Ecotourism Society of India

Mandip has campaigned for the cause of environmental protection with concern for forests, wildlife, nature, communities and sustainable tourism in <u>India</u>. He is the Honorary Founder President of the <u>Ecotourism</u> Society of <u>India</u>, and former member of international committees such as the <u>Pacific Asia Travel Association</u>,^[14] Member of the <u>World Travel</u> <u>Market</u>(WTM) Responsible Tourism Day's advisory panel and a Trustee of the Himalayan

Environment Trust. For the last three decades, he has visited over 50 National Parks and sanctuaries all over <u>India</u>, <u>Sri Lanka</u>, South Africa etc to assess the <u>Ecotourism</u> potential and lay out strategies for the Government & the tourism industry in India and worldwide. As Chairman of <u>Pacific Asia Travel Association</u> India Chapter's Environment & <u>Ecotourism</u>

Committee, he was successful in getting the Indian travel industry to sign an environmental pledge in 1992