

Online sports betting can boost tourism: AIGF

GANGTOK, Nov 20: All India Gaming Federation (AIGF) today said looking at Sikkim which has legalised online sports betting, other States too can opt for legalising betting. This can also attract huge numbers of tourists, it said.

Shortly after Sikkim legalised gambling in July last year, tour operators in Delhi and Mumbai began hard-selling off-season five-night package tour to Gangtok, said Jay Sayta, Legal Advisor to AIGF.

The move is likely to boost tourism in the scenic North eastern State of Sikkim, Sayta said.

Two companies have already opened shop in Gangtok. Golden Gaming is giving finishing touches to its 6,000 sq ft "gaming zone" in Gangtok. "We are offering Keno and virtual horse racing to our clients," said Sayta.

The government has signed a profit-sharing agreement under which licence-holders would pay 10 per cent of their profits, or Rs 5 crore to the government, he said. - A Correspondent