



2021 HOSPITALITY #BounceBack

3rd Edition



Budget 2021: Hospitality, tourism sectors rue lack of support



The hospitality and tourism sector expressed disappointment as the Union Budget 2021 did not offer any relief measure to an industry hit hard by the Covid-19 crisis. On the contrary, the allocation for the ministry of tourism has been slashed by Rs 474 crores. The only silver lining: Government's promise to develop transport infrastructure, may encourage Indian travellers to focus on domestic tourism and thereby bolster the hospitality industry in the long run.

Credit flow improved: Economic Survey

The Economic Survey 2021 put out by the Central Government said that the government has been able to ensure adequate credit flow into different stress sectors including hospitality since October 2020. This may help a section of the industry to combat the liquidity crisis hovering over the sector, highly affected by the pandemic.



Fern property at Gangtok



The Fern Hotels & Resorts, India's leading eco-friendly hotel chain will be opening 8 new hotels in the first half of 2021 in India, including a 70-room The Fern Denzong Hotel in Gangtok. The hotel features a luxurious spa, a range of massages and treatments and a well-furnished gym.

Budgetary allocation of Rs 25,000cr for Bengal economic corridor



An economic corridor linking Calcutta to Siliguri with an investment of Rs 25,000 crore was among several projects announced for the poll-bound Bengal in the Union Budget 2021. The Rs 25,000 crore investment will be used to upgrade the existing 675km road between the Northern and Southern regions of southern Bengal, enabling easier movement of tourists between these regions.

7th International Young Chef Olympiad kickstarts



The grand online opening ceremony of the 7th edition of Young Chef Olympiad commenced on January 31 in Kolkata. The world's biggest Virtual Culinary Battle for Hope, organized by the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM), connected 50 countries across 24 time zones. "We are separated by space and time, but we are connected together by YCO 2021. This is a global first in any category to organise something as huge as YCO on the online platform. YCO will always go on and nothing can stop it. I am awestruck by the scale of the competition and IIHM takes the lead to break barriers every year. The support of judges from all across the world. This is not just a competition, it is a friendship that is created at YCO every year," said Padma Shri Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, Principal Judge of YCO. Mr. Sudesh Poddar, the President of HRAEI, was conferred with "Jewel of Bengal" Award in the ceremony.

70% seek sustainable travel options

With the rise of responsible travel, a Booking.com survey reveals 78 per cent of Indian travellers expect the travel and hospitality industry to offer more sustainable travel options. Those planning to travel in 2021 also expressed a wish to avoid other tourists, with a spike in interest towards exploring lesser-known destinations this year.



सत्यमेव जयते
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

The ministry of information and broadcasting (MIB) has asked many hotel associations, such as FHRAI and HAI, to examine whether member hotels are providing mandatory TV channels to their guests. The non-carriage of mandatory channels is likely to attract punitive action.

MIB seeks report on mandatory TV channels

Minister asks IHMs to review curriculum

Chairing the General Body Meeting of the NCHMCT, Prahlad Singh Patel, Union Minister for Culture & Tourism asked the Council to review and modify the National Council Curriculum in tune with the new National Education Policy, giving priority to start-ups. There are 88 IHMs in the NCHMCT network currently across India.



Lake Chilika in Odisha, closed during the pandemic, has been witnessing sites of hundreds of endangered Irrawaddy dolphins. Tourists are visiting the Lake in hordes infusing hopes in people involved in the Tourism and Hospitality sectors in the area.

HRAEI President Sudesh Poddar gets 'Jewel Of Bengal' award



Mr Sudesh Poddar, the President of HRAEI, was conferred with the prestigious 'Jewel of Bengal' award for his outstanding contribution to the hospitality sector during the Covid-19. Mr Poddar co-ordinated with the State Government to convert many hotels to quarantine centres, took the initiative to adopt Lansdowne Market in a sanitisation drive, sought permission for increasing the headcounts in banquets from 50 to 200 during unlocking, setting up help-desk at Kolkata Airport in the Central Government's Bande Bharat mission, sending letters to all State Governments to extend help to hotels and restaurants during the pandemic etc. The award was given to him by 'Stepping Out' and 'Dine Out' in a glittering ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Calcutta on January 30.