



2021 HOSPITALITY
#BounceBack



12th Edition

Vaccine drive for hospitality workers in Calcutta

HRAEI has joined hands with the state tourism department to start a mass vaccination drive for hospitality workers from last week. HRAEI president Sudesh Poddar said the state is providing the vaccines while the association provides the venue, doctors, support staff, ambulance and other logistics. The first venue for this drive was Park Hotel while some more star hotels have agreed to host the vaccination programme for hospitality workers in order to reopen business soon. Poddar added that state tourism minister Indranil Sen and tourism secretary Nandini Chakravorty attended the first day of the vaccination drive. The State Government has set a target to vaccinate six lakh people from the hospitality sector in phases in order to reopen the industry. Initially, it has set a target for inoculating 80 lakh people from the sector as soon as possible.



Day 1 a hit at Kolkata restaurants & bars

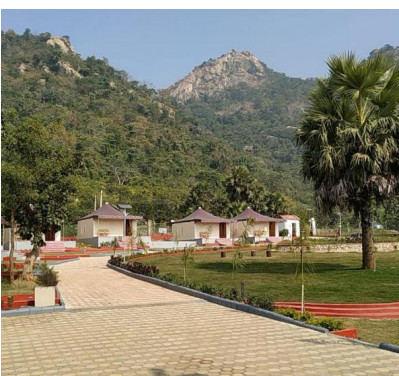
The first-day-first-show for city restaurants and bars after a gap of 45 days was a moderate hit on June 16. For some popular restaurants, it was a bigger event considering the fact that all were operating with Covid protocols and 50% seating arrangements. 'Jamai Shashthi' came in handy for the restaurants, offering a slight boost. HRAEI president Sudesh Poddar said "The response is overwhelming and we have done good business, considering the fact that capacity was 50% and we got two hours of prime time compared to five hours in the evening. And if this trend continues, it will be good for the industry as home delivery and takeaways constitute only 10%-15% of revenue of most players." Source: Times of India.

Hospitality sector seeks relief from PM Modi



Representatives of the sector have appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for immediate intervention to provide relief to the hospitality industry which is on the verge of collapse. They have appealed for support in five key areas to save the sector from collapsing: one-time settlement of loans and extension of loan moratoriums till September 2021, waiver of all statutory liabilities at Centre, state and municipal levels for the pandemic period, stimulus package subsidising of salaries of hotel employees, and 'Infrastructure Status' to bring tourism and hospitality to the concurrent list of the Constitution. The representatives, in their appeal, highlighted that more than 40% of hotels have shut or are on the brink of closure and 70% of overall jobs are now in danger.

Policy push for private players inside forests



promoters to promote more opportunities for nature and adventure tourism in protected areas.

In what could mean a boost for those operating lodges around wildlife reserves and reserve forests in India, private operators may soon be able to operate eco-tourism activities within forest areas if the proposed draft national strategy and roadmap for sustainable tourism of the Ministry of Tourism gets implemented. The draft proposes 'ecotourism blocks' to be developed and managed by private

Maharashtra mulls RT-PCR exemption for vaccinated travellers

After states such as Punjab and Chandigarh announced that travellers could reach there without an RT-PCR test if they had had one dose of Covid-19 vaccine, travel industry stakeholders have been pushing for a similar exemption in Maharashtra. The requirement for an RT-PCR test to enter Maharashtra is preventing thousands of business and emergency travellers from heading out, as they need the test to return. RT-PCR tests are costly and inconvenient. Since many travellers have now received at least the first jabs, the Maharashtra government should think on the lines as some other states in India

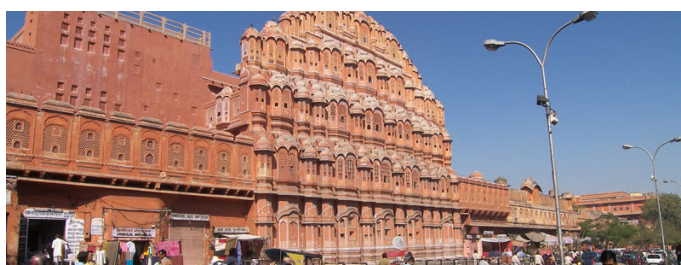
Revised ECLGS will help hotels, aviation, tourism

Businesses like hotels, civil aviation and tour operators, which are the hardest hit by the second wave of Covid-19, will get help through the expanded Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), a report by credit ratings agency Crisil said. The scheme was first announced in May last year, when the deep economic impact of the pandemic was becoming evident. The latest version of the scheme is valid till end September 2021 or till the INR 3 lakh crore outlay gets exhausted.

Industry status in Bengal, CM sounds receptive

In a meeting with the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee, representatives of tourism and hospitality, requested to grant their respective sectors an industry status to ensure its fast recovery. Acknowledging the efforts of industry stakeholders Banerjee accentuated the need to work towards realizing the industry potential by thinking innovatively, promoting unexplored destinations and utilizing the available schemes. She also asked to promote religious tourism, experiential tourism and cultural tourism. To ensure speedy vaccination of all the tourism and hospitality stakeholders, she has asked Tourism Secretary, Nandini Chakravorty to create a data bank enlisting all employees. Source: ETTravel World

Rajasthan Govt waives 25% liquor licence fees



In what would provide some breather to the distressed hospitality industry, the state finance department recently exempted 25 percent of the basic liquor licence fees. As per the order, the bars which have already renewed their licences for the current financial year as of June 11 will be eligible for the waiver. While the government will not refund the exempted money, the notification said the same will be adjusted for the licence fees for 2022-23. The hotel and restaurant industry has been demanding the waiver of the licence fees for at least for the first quarter as the establishments remained closed due to the state government's lockdown guidelines.

FSSAI makes mandatory to mention licence in bills



Food safety regulator FSSAI has mandated food business operators to mention FSSAI licence or registration number on cash receipts or purchase invoice with effect from October 1 this year. Since complaints remain unresolved due to lack of specific information, this move will help consumers who can lodge an online complaint against a particular food business using the FSSAI number, it said.

Puri temple to have fourth hotel by November



The Shree Purushottam Bhakta Niwas will soon be added to the chain of hotels belonging to the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) in Puri as the shrine body plans to open the new hotel for devotees from the holy month of Kartika in November. The hotel, which is aimed at providing affordable accommodation to devotees visiting Puri for the darshan of Lord Jagannath, is nearing completion on Jail Road.