



Hotel Association of India welcomes landmark decision to ease licensing norms in Delhi

Delhi, 24th June 2025: The Hotel Association of India (HAI), the apex body of the Indian hospitality sector, welcomes the recent directive issued by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, which withdraws the requirement for licenses and No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the Delhi Police for seven categories of trade — including hotels, motels, guest houses, and eating houses. This decisive reform aligns with national efforts to simplify the regulatory framework and improve the ease of doing business in the hospitality sector, thereby bolstering economic activity in the capital.

HAI welcomed the move as a vital step aligned with the views of the Hon'ble High Court and Hon'ble Supreme Court. This reform simplifies the process and boosts the ease of doing business, encouraging investment in the hospitality sector. HAI believes this progressive step by the Delhi government will create a more business-friendly environment that supports tourism growth and strengthens Delhi's position as a leading hospitality destination.

Commenting on the development, **Mr. KB Kachru, President, Hotel Association of India, Chairman of South Asia, Radisson Hotel Group** said, *"This is a landmark moment for Delhi's hospitality industry. The streamlining of licensing norms will not only reduce compliance burden and transaction costs but also foster greater transparency and accountability. We believe this decision will significantly contribute to Delhi's growth as a competitive and investment-friendly hospitality hub."*

Mr. Rohit Khosla, Vice President, Hotel Association of India, Executive Vice President (Ops.), The Indian Hotels Company Limited, said, *"This is a much-needed regulatory reform that will enable the hospitality industry to operate with greater agility and focus on delivering superior guest experiences. By fostering a more collaborative governance framework, Delhi has taken a progressive step towards aligning with global standards of ease of doing business. This initiative will catalyse growth, enhance investor confidence, and support job creation across the tourism and service economy."*

HAI views this reform as a milestone for greater investment, innovation, and formalisation in the hospitality sector, and it sets a positive example for other states to follow similar regulations to enhance tourism. The Association members remain committed to supporting smooth implementation while maintaining high standards of safety, service, and compliance.

About HAI

Established in 1996, Hotel Association of India (HAI) has evolved as an integrated hospitality industry platform to keep pace with the growing buoyancy ushered in by the liberalisation of the Indian economy in the mid-90s. With its membership extending from major hotel groups; boutique, heritage and small hotels, HAI represents the entire spectrum of the industry. Its Executive Committee is a potent

combination of the commitment of hotel owners on one hand and hard-core professionalism of hotel managers on the other. As the apex Industry Body, HAI works in the areas of Promotion of Regional Cooperation and Hospitality Research & Education in addition to taking Industry centric initiatives. By launching Unprecedented 'Social Inclusion' initiatives, HAI also projects the 'Social Face' of the Indian hospitality industry”