



HAI President shares Industry's perspective at the HR Summit on Education & Career in hospitality organised by FHRAI Centre of Excellence, in collaboration with the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology

~ Calls for a closer partnership between Hospitality Institutes and Industry to develop a strong workforce of the future ~

New Delhi, 18th November 2024: KB Kachru, HAI President and Chairman-South Asia Radisson Hotel Group called for greater industry-academia collaboration to foster growth and build a strong hospitality workforce of the future.

Speaking at the HR Summit on Education & Career in Hospitality in the national capital organised by FHRAI Centre of Excellence in collaboration with National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, **Mr. Kachru emphasised** that it is important for the faculty to have Industry exposure to be able to better educate and prepare the Students for a career in hospitality. This will help in bridging the gap between the industry's requirement in terms of skills and the college pass-outs.

The industry is changing constantly and more rapidly than ever. Brand specifications are based on customer's need that are ever evolving. Hospitality Education and training therefore has to keep pace. This can be achieved only with closer, structured and more frequent interaction between the industry practitioners and the hospitality trainers/teachers.

Mr. Gyan Bhushan, IES, CEO, NCHMCT & Senior Economic Adviser, Ministry of Tourism, GoI delivered the Theme Address at the Summit, which was attended by college principals, faculty, Industry HR domain experts, government officials, consultants and media persons.

Technical sessions addressed the key concerns and issues of skill shortages faced by the sector, and discussed the emerging roles and career paths, the increasing role of technology in delivering services and integrating the related education in the college syllabus. The issue of improving the enrolment in hospitality colleges and industry attrition rates were also deliberated upon. The event also saw the release of the Report on Shortage of Skilled Workforce in the Hospitality Industry.

HAI has been working very closely with other Industry bodies like FAITH, FHRAI, CII, FICCI and others to present a unified voice of the Sector to the government and find solutions to Industry Issues collectively. **Mr. Kachru expressed** the hope that the Industry, Academia and the government continues to work together taking initiatives like the recent mentoring of hospitality institutes by hospitality organisations, strengthening the hospitality skill council etc.

The industry has the capability of providing opportunities to grow not just professionally but also for facilitating personal growth of its professionals while bringing in the benefits of additional GDP, jobs, improved standard of living for the local community and the potential should be utilised optimally.

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 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"