

Brief profile of Mr Syed Akhtar Abbas:

He is an Alumni of IHM Lucknow 1988 Batch Did his Graduation with Maths from Lucknow University and a Masters In Tourism for IGNOU in 2012. he has Wide range of experience in the Field of Hospitality And Tourism. He has worked in India, Saudi Arabia, UAE. His exposure has been in the Operations, Sales, Marketing, Training , Teaching, Hospitality & Tourism Related Subjects.

He has Authored books on Food & Beverage Services which are part of the Curriculum of Yashvant Rao Chavan Open University's Hotel Management Course Syllabus.

He has many Hotels and Restaurants Consultancy Projects to his Credit apart of Establishing Hotel management Colleges across India.

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HINDUSTAN TIMES, JALANDHAR
WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2012

Hospitality and tourism: A booming career



Syed Akhtar Abbas

Since the boundaries of the world have shrinking, hospitality and tourism have become a great source of foreign currency earnings. In fact, even the policies on foreign affairs between countries are being framed keeping the growth of tourism in mind. Sustainable tourism development in the region is the key to success in the field. Infrastructure development too plays a vital role in tourism development. Therefore, hospitality and tourism as career options have great prospects. Basic qualification, apart from academics (10+2, graduation or matriculation), includes personality, grooming, good communication skills, an eye for detail, patience, public relations, as well as a creative and analytical bent of mind. A hospitality or tourism professional needs

to have a blend of the above-mentioned traits to become successful in their career as well as to project a positive image of the organisation they are working with (hotels, travel agencies, tour operators, cruise liners, airlines and also industrial catering).

Gone are the days when people used to visit only those places where they knew someone or had relatives. These days, people like to explore new places. Since hotels have now started offering a wide array of choices that suit different pockets, people prefer to pay and stay, pay and travel, etc.

This has paved the way for adapting and offering unique products by the service providers in terms of hotels and resorts (budget, economy, leisure and luxury), airlines (domestic and international), and travel

agents and tour operators (inbound and outbound). An exciting career awaits in hospitality and tourism for those who are ready to adapt, groom themselves, improve their communication skills, and develop patience. The hospitality and tourism industry waits with open arms for those who want to enter this exciting world.

Hospitality Industry comprises of Hotels, Restaurants, Discotheques, Fast food Outlets, Quick Service Restaurants, Bars, In Flight Catering, Cruise liners Dining & Industrial Canteens. There are majorly 4 core Departments in a Hotel from Operational Point of view & they are Food Production, Food & Beverage Service, Front Office & Housekeeping though a Hotel also has Sales & Marketing Department, Hotel

Engineering Department, IT Department etc but Core Subject Areas remain the same everywhere. According to latest HVS surveys there would be an expected demand of Large Number of rooms in Tier II & III cities by the end of 2020 & keeping this in Mind major Chains like Taj, Oberois, Starwood, ISTA, ITC Fortune etc have adapted strategies to diversify into Budget hotel Segments as well as strengthening their existing Luxury or Leisure Labels at prominent metros across the Country. All this would require huge Manpower which is trained & thus doing a Right Course based on the abilities would give a Right career which would keep on growing unprecedented.

The writer is the principal at a leading hotel management institute.