

GREENOTELS

Vol. 4 ISSUE 2 February 2020



PRACTICE

TAJ KRISHNA HYDERABAD'S 2020 PLANS INCLUDE SAVING EACH DROP OF WATER

After the serious water crisis hit Chennai in 2019, 2020 alarms cities like Hyderabad, Bangalore to be extra cautious. Director of engineering - Sharique Khurshid shares with GreenOtels how Taj Krishna plans to fight this sad reality...

05



PLANS

NOVOTEL OMR CHENNAI'S GREEN PLANS

Having kept sustainability a priority, the team of environmentally conscious hoteliers at Novotel OMR share with GreenOtels their Sustainability POA for the year ahead...

07

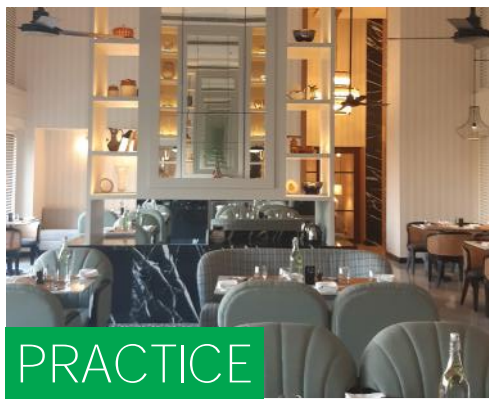


PLAN OF ACTION

WESTIN HYDERABAD AIMS TO SAVE ENERGY

Learn here Westin, Hyderabad's various efforts of saving energy in lines with their big digit investment in retrofitting machines...

04



PRACTICE

THE RESIDENCY PONDICHERRY KICKS OFF GREEN

Following the digital trend, The Residency clubs technology with sustainability for a green future...

13



PRETEXT

IN THE YEAR OF 2020 - GREEN IS THE NEW BLACK!

03

Register for STCI & GreenOtels Bengaluru Meet on March 13, 2020



Minakshi Agarwal

Hurray!
STCI (Sustainable Tourism Council of India) and GreenOtels are holding their first training camp of 2020 in Bengaluru on March 13 and will address several pain points that the Hotel Chief Engineers of that city are facing including the legal necessity of managing zero waste discharge.

The other good news is that Prince William has recently announced Earthshot Prize. Nice name as it draws the imagery of the planet that needs to be saved from the brink. The 'rich' prize hopes to find 50 solutions in the next decade that could significantly reverse the scars of global warming.



It appears many such solutions are already in the

trial stage – like the algae that can eat ocean plastics, hydrogen powered automobile, affordable solar and wind power to replace coal-fired power completely in a decade or two.

India could play a significant role in this initiative because the success of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals depends on this country contributing to 50% of the targets.

The Earthshot prize will initially be run by The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, but could become an independent organization supported by philanthropists and organizations.

Another phenomena catching pace globally is that college students and rank-and-file employees have begun to protest in order to persuade their current or would-be employers to take a vocal stand on federal, state and local initiatives that address the climate crisis.

A case in point is that no sooner did Jeff Bezo announce of donating \$10 billion of his personal fortune towards efforts to thwart climate change, a group of employees of Amazon took him to task for helping oil & gas companies via the company's cloud computing services aimed at optimizing oil & gas production.

India with it's teeming population and over supply of employees may not face this issue quite yet but do note that it's not enough these days to make a bold company commitment aimed at addressing the climate crisis. Today, companies need to be all in, aligning their products, services, operations, supply chains, philanthropy, employee engagement, community outreach — and, of course, their lobbying and membership in advocacy groups. Anything less could be grounds for employee protests, customer blowback or worse.

Times are a changing...

Write to me at minakshi@greenotels.com

2020 - THE YEAR OF SUSTAINABLE HOSPITALITY, MORE THAN EVER!

Transforming the way hotels and restaurants make use of Planet Earth's resources may seem like an enormous task to both regulators and hospitality operators. But in 2020, more than ever, both the economic and ecological benefits of a sustainable business are indisputable and the time has finally come to start the process of turning every last room on this planet into a sustainable accommodation.

2019 saw an increase in activities related to climate change and in 2020, hospitality as well needs to cope up with the process of becoming a sustainable business.

This rise in customers' attention to environmental issues has been picked up on by large companies in virtually any industry. As a consequence, the use of buzzwords such as "sustainable", "eco-friendly" and "green" have skyrocketed in recent years as brands are trying to highlight the ecological advantages of their products or services.

Hospitality as well as food and beverage companies will have to focus their public messaging around these topics, promoting achievements in saving water, electricity or reducing greenhouse gas emissions either directly or along their supply chain. Truly impactful changes to the ways in which businesses operate tend to be rewarded by the public through a rise in popularity and consequently, sales.

According to a publication by the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, the tourism industry is responsible for about 5% of current greenhouse gas emissions. With numbers of travelers and hotel rooms booming, this is set to increase by 130% by 2035.

By 2050, hotels will need to reduce emissions per key by 90% to be in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.

PRETEXT

Our aim has been to make GreenOtels as collaborative as possible, believing that a diversity of perspectives enriches the work. we have reached out to experts, to professionals and promoters in hospitality as well as companies engaged in sustainable development to help make the big shift towards a sustainable future.

KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATES

- Bharat Malkani, E.C. FHRAI
- CB Ramkumar, Our Native Village
- Garish Oberoi, President, FHRAI
- Niranjan Khatri, iSambhav
- Param Kanampilly, Concept Hospitality
- Sanjay Sethi, ITC Hotels
- Steve Borgia, President, ESOL

ADVISORY PANEL

- Amitab Tyagi, The Taj Hotels
- Arun Bahadur, The Oberoi Hotels
- Ashish Rakheja, AEON Consultants
- HC Vinayaka, ITC Hotels
- Sanjeev Saxena, DLF Home Developers
- Shankareswaran Jayaraj, Reliance
- Sunil Relia, JLL Building Operations
- Vikram Choubal, Marriott International

BENGALURU

- Bhaskar Masineni, The Leela Palace
- Jagadish Itagi, The Ritz Carlton
- Murali Panicker, Taj Bangalore
- Ravindra Singh, ITC Gardenia

CHENNAI

- N Ramamoorthy, ITC Grand Chola Hotel

HYDERABAD

- Ashok Hemrajani, Minerva Group
- Sharique Khurshid, Taj Krishna

DELHI

- Anil Kumar, The Imperial
- Rahul Prabhakar, ITC Maurya
- Rothin Banerjee, Taj Palace
- Suman Majumder, Hyatt Regency

JAIPUR

- M Kannan, Oberoi Rajvilas
- Ranjeet Yadav, ITC Rajputana
- Anupam Vivek, Jai Mahal Palace

MUMBAI

- Ajay Nayak, ITC Maratha
- Neeraj Kaushik, Renaissance
- Nilesh Mhatre, JW Marriott
- Prashant Pawar, Oberoi Hotels & Resorts
- Prashant Vaidya, Hotel Sofitel



WITH AN INVESTMENT OF 1.7 CRORE, THE WESTIN - HYDERABAD ASPIRES TO SAVE 10.5 LAKH UNITS OF ENERGY PER ANNUM



In an exclusive interview with GreenOtels, Vijay Dudhatra, Director of Engineering shares with GreenOtels The Westin, Hyderabad's plan to attain maximum energy efficiency whilst saving most units in 2020...

Replacing two Clima Venta Chillers - 365 TR with the new plant room optimiser, holding the latest technology, Daikin MD5 VFD - 400 TR is WestIn Hyderabad's solution for higher capacity and lesser consumption of energy. With the help of other supporting equipment such as the primary, secondary pumps, and cooling towers all induced with VFD, the hotel aspires to save 10.5 lakh units per annum, which comes to an average of 2800 units per day at the rate of INR 8, summing to a total investment of 1.7 crore.

Currently, the entire plant room consumes .59 to .6 IKW per TR. The desk monitor enables the team to measure the consumption pattern at any given time thus helping the team understand the source and reason of high consumption.

"In the last quarter, we spent close to 6 lakh on lighting, to brighten up certain areas of the property. Yet the consumption boiled down to 2500 to 3000 units less than last year... You understand the power of investment in efficient machines here. Long term benefits are sure to follow" says Vijay Dudhatra, DOE.

Below are some of the other 2020 Energy Conservation Projects that will help The WestIn, Hyderabad achieve its target -

- Installation of waste heat recovery in tumbler dryers at laundry to reduce overall boiler fuel consumption.
- Installation of air preheater at flue gas duct and preheat combustion air for boiler.
- Replacement of secondary water pumps with energy efficient pumps - IE3 rated motor.
- Replacement of identified AHU fans with suitable capacity energy efficient EC fans.
- Replacement of identified kitchen fresh air and exhaust fans with suitable capacity energy efficient EC fans.
- Installation of high accuracy sensor in AHU return air path for optimising chiller water pumping power consumption.
- Maintaining condenser and evaporator approach <1 degree C to improve specific energy consumption to heat pump.
- Reducing excess air by fine tuning of O2 percentage and improvement HSD boiler efficiency.
- Installation of dual fired burner in boiler and operate boiler in LPG instead of HSD.
- Use of heat pump to low zone hot water generation instead of using condensate from laundry.
- Use of flash steam and heat pump to low zone hot water generation instead of using condensate from laundry and install solar water heater for high side hot water generation.
- Installation of resonators in boiler diesel pipe line to save fuel consumption
- Replacement of existing air blower with energy efficient tri lobe air blower at laundry
- Replacement of identified domestic water pumps with energy efficient pumps with IE3 rated motor
- Replacement of swimming pool circulations pump with energy efficient pumps with IE3 rated motor
- Conversion of conventional VOT base LPG gas cylinder banks to LOT based gas bank for maximum benefits



WATER CONSERVATION IS PRIORITY FOR TAJ KRISHNA, HYDERABAD IN 2020



In 2019, various parts of India faced major water crisis; especially the South. With Chennai running out of water, neighbouring cities like Bangalore and Hyderabad are under serious threat too...GreenOtels spoke to Sharique Khurshid, Director of Engineering at Taj Krishna, Hyderabad about the hotel's approach towards the water emergency and plans of maintain minimal water consumption at the property.

"Taj Krishna, Hyderabad aims to achieve 10% reduction of its water usage in 2020, after an

average of 316 KL consumption recorded per day in 2018-2019" says Sharique.

With challenges like 184000 square feet area of horticulture land, low rainfall and increased water cost in the city, Taj Krishna has implemented various water saving solutions; majorly divided into three projects.

Project 1 - Savings through direct line of STP water to Cooling Tower

WATER SAVING BY DIRECT LINE FROM STP TO COOLING TOWER		
Average consumption in summer (approx 240days)	KL	50
Usage of fresh water due to pressure drop	KL	20
Saving by direct line	KL	20
Annual saving (Metered) Till Dec	KL	4650
Cost saving YTD		637050

Project 2 - Greener Bathrooms
10 LPM replaced with spray and honeycomb aerators yielding 2 and 6 LPM respectively. The hotel also implemented the bold move of eliminating bathtubs from 70% of its rooms.

Project 3 - Effective Rainwater Harvesting and Usage

For the effective implementation of the above practices, the hotel believes in upscaling its most important 'P' - People and thus, carries various training and workshops to build the team strong. In this effort, Taj properties have also introduced 'Sustainability Leadership Development Program' under which 30 selected engineers from various properties come together to conceptualise efficient sustainable solutions for Taj properties.

"Water can be a blessing or a curse. Too often we make conservation about saving a whale, a coral reef or a marsh. But we don't make it about saving life. The one thing that every single human being has in common is our need for water."

- Greta Thunberg, the Swedish teenager and environmental activist whose simple Friday protests have inspired the world.



“PROCUREMENT OF RESOURCES FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES” IS THE ANSWER FOR HOTELS TO GO GREEN! - SAYS MOHAN REDDY, DIRECTOR, ZENITH ENERGY LTD



Mohan Reddy, Director at Zenith Energy Ltd, a company instrumental in providing consultancy services in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate change shares with GreenOtels his approach towards adopting sustainability in the Hotel Industry.

Mohan Reddy believes that it is imperative for hotels to look at sustainability and that ‘going green’ must be in the spirit of every hotelier. In this process, there ought to be certain obstacles - such as lack of funds, land space, etc. The solution to most limitations, Reddy suggests lies in ‘procurement from alternate sources’. For instance, to offset carbon emissions, hotels can look at procuring energy from alternative sources not limiting their efforts to existing and available resources. Can the hotel have its own small wind mill? or solar on the roof? or hot water system? If not, where can the resources be bought from alternatively?

“Should we become water neutral or should we become water positive? If a hotel does not have space in its own premises, it can hire a piece of land in some nearby village to build their Rain Water Harvesting pit. This extra effort will enable the hotel to become water positive” says Mohan Reddy.

ASSAM HAS ITS FIRST ‘ZERO WASTE TOWN’

Titabar town in district Jorhat has brought applause to the state of Assam by becoming Assam’s first ‘zero waste town’ by revolutionizing management of solid waste. The town has set up a material recovery facility where all organic waste is managed through aerobic composting. The move of door-to-door collection, some primary and some tertiary segregation, has resulted in reduction in foul odor and greenhouse gas emission from the dumpsite.

Apart from achieving the zero waste town,

Jorhat has also set up the state’s first bio-mining project to completely recover the dumpsite and work towards 100 percent waste processing.



NOVOTEL OMR - CHENNAI’S SUSTAINABLE PLANS 2020



An ‘Energy Conscious’ property, Novotel OMR has been implementing several initiatives to win itself the title. John Paul, Director of Engineering at Novotel OMR shares with GreenOtels, the journey so far and green plans for 2020...

In 2019, the hotel was successful in acquiring about 60 percent of its energy from wind. As an effort towards decreasing the carbon emissions, the hotel converted its diesel laundry into biodiesel and used heat

pumps to eliminate 120 litres of diesel. The hotel also adopted the Reversed Air Conditioning System and claims to be the only hotel to run air conditioners on Non CFC gas, investing an amount twice as much when compared to that of the conventional chillers.

“Novotel OMR is the only hotel to have adopted the Variable Refrigerant Volume system amongst 300+ keys” says John.

Currently, from the total consumption of approximately 13000 units of energy each day, 900 units is generated from the solar installed at the hotel rooftop.

Not limiting the usage of motion sensors for lightings, Novotel OMR has installed the sensors in air conditioners. These sensors make sure to maintain the room temperature at high degrees, between 26 to 27 degrees in an unoccupied state and then automatically lowers to 22 degrees when guests walk into the rooms. The sensors are also put up in public areas like the gym, the corridors.

Major 2020 Sustainable Plans include-

- Generation of atleast 1000 units from wind energy by putting up private wind turbines
- Installation of Biogas Plant
- Installation of Bottling Plant to go 100 percent plastic free
- Building of ‘Forest Land’ in association with the government. Major focus will be paid to creating an apiculture centre.

CORONAVIRUS HEAVILY IMPACTS THE BUSINESS OF INDIAN HOTELS

With travellers cancelling, postponing their trips to India, all major cities like Bombay, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, and others report heavy loss of business. This group of international travellers largely comprises of corporate travellers who are regular guests at high end properties for a long duration of time. Thus, the cancellations of bookings appear in large numbers in most hotels.

A similar event was witnessed in India in the year 2003 when Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic had turned off

tourism in India. The impact of the epidemic had a long term effect on the hotel and tourism industries and had lasted for at least 6 months post the outbreak.



WHILE MOST HOTELS STRUGGLE TO ACQUIRE 100 PERCENT ENERGY FROM WIND, HOTEL RADHA REGENT HAS SURPLUS UNITS WITH THEM!

With 2 windmills to themselves, Radha Regent in Chennai produces 17 lakh units of energy against the maximum consumption of 14.5 lakh units per year; which leaves the hotel with surplus amount of energy. Currently, the hotel sells this to Tamil Nadu electricity board who pays them only INR 2 per ton. To attain the best benefit of this surplus energy in the property itself, the hotel plans to install Electrolux machines in the laundry.

The Green Energy hotel built 20 years ago has been retrofitting machines. Practices like the installation of energy efficient chillers, LED lights, and aerators have helped the hotel in functioning environmentally friendly. Moreover, to yield greater savings, the hotel further plans to introduce several initiatives

like the installation of STP, changing LCD television sets to LED sets, installation of room control timers in 2020.

Setting new benchmarks for self development, the hotel has been able to bring down its diesel consumption to 17 litres per day, recorded in 2019 against the usage of 120 litres per day recorded in 2005. Similarly, the property records electricity consumption of 14 lakh per year as of 2019 against 20 lakh in 2005.

“The hotel has sustained 20 years because it is environmentally conscious in its functioning. We have never compromised in adopting the latest machines because we understand they bring long term savings...” says Jaya Shankar Gupta, General Manager.



FRENCH SKI RESORT HAD TO USE HELICOPTERS TO DELIVER SNOW AFTER THE WEATHER DRIED OUT ITS SLOPES, THREATENING CLOSURE. IT'S NOT DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE INDIAN HOTELS FALLING INTO SIMILAR EMERGENCIES, IS IT?

The Luchon-Superbagnères resort in the Pyrenees had to arrange for around 50 tonnes of snow to be dropped on its slopes. Taken from higher mountains, the snow was dumped on slopes for beginners and children. Temperatures had risen above 10C across the Pyrenees, leaving ski slopes devoid of snow. Milder weather and a lack of snow during winter are trends that meteorologists have linked to climate change. In order to keep Luchon-Superbagnères open, the local council arranged for snow to be sent at a cost of more than 5,000 euros.

This event sets an example of how Tourism across the world is under serious threat due to climate change.

Let us talk about India now...

Our demand for natural resources are different but our issue is certainly the same. During GreenOtels' recent visit to Hyderabad, Chennai and Pondicherry - a survey on the 'water crisis of South India' was conducted. Hoteliers were asked about their demand and supply for water and unfortunately, 6 out of 8 hotels conveyed their struggle to avail this basic but now, a highly prestigious resource - WATER..

Similar emergency was witnessed in North India in 2019, particularly in Shimla. The popular tourist destination saw a downfall in the number of tourists visiting the hill station which led to hotels facing major loss.

Let's face it - Climate Change is a reality. And it is harsh on the hotel industry! Already.



STAKEHOLDERS OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES ARE ALREADY BUILDING PLATFORMS TO HELP CONSUMERS TRAVEL GREEN IN 2020!

Travalyst coalition, a global partnership founded by The Duke of Sussex together with leading brands Booking.com, Skyscanner, Tripadvisor, Trip.com and Visa, announced the development of draft sustainability frameworks to serve as a cross-channel guide for scoring sustainability practices across the travel and tourism industry. The first three frameworks for accommodation, aviation and experiences are being developed building upon existing standards, with the goal of making them easier to understand for consumers and businesses, and implement and scale across the broadest possible range of travel service providers.

The goal is to highlight travel providers with strong sustainability practices already in place and offer people an easy way to understand and identify more sustainable travel options that are kinder and less destructive to local communities, wildlife and environment, but also highlight options that provide positive benefit.

For the accommodation sustainability framework, being led by Booking.com, this means exploring ways of measuring sustainable practices that have the most impact, for example through waste and water management, energy conservation and sourcing, as well as practices that affect the local community and environment, making sure that they can be applied to all types of accommodation and not just traditional hotels. At the same time, the current aim of the draft accommodation framework is to embrace and recognize the success of existing schemes, for example a property's existing certification, as

a measure and established standard of excellence that ultimately helps ensure recognition within the new system being proposed.

"We know from our research that 82% of our accommodation partners are interested in collaborating with us on the topic of sustainability and that 87% of global travelers think that it's important to consider sustainable properties when travelling. Despite this tremendous interest on both sides, the majority of consumers still don't know where to start. Even though 70% say that they'd be more likely to book a stay that was eco-friendly, we also see that 72% of travelers aren't even aware of the existence of eco-labels. This represents a huge opportunity for us as part of Travalyst to help a wider range of accommodation providers showcase their sustainability efforts and in turn make it easier for travelers to find and ultimately book their properties." said Gillian Tans, Chairwoman of Booking.com

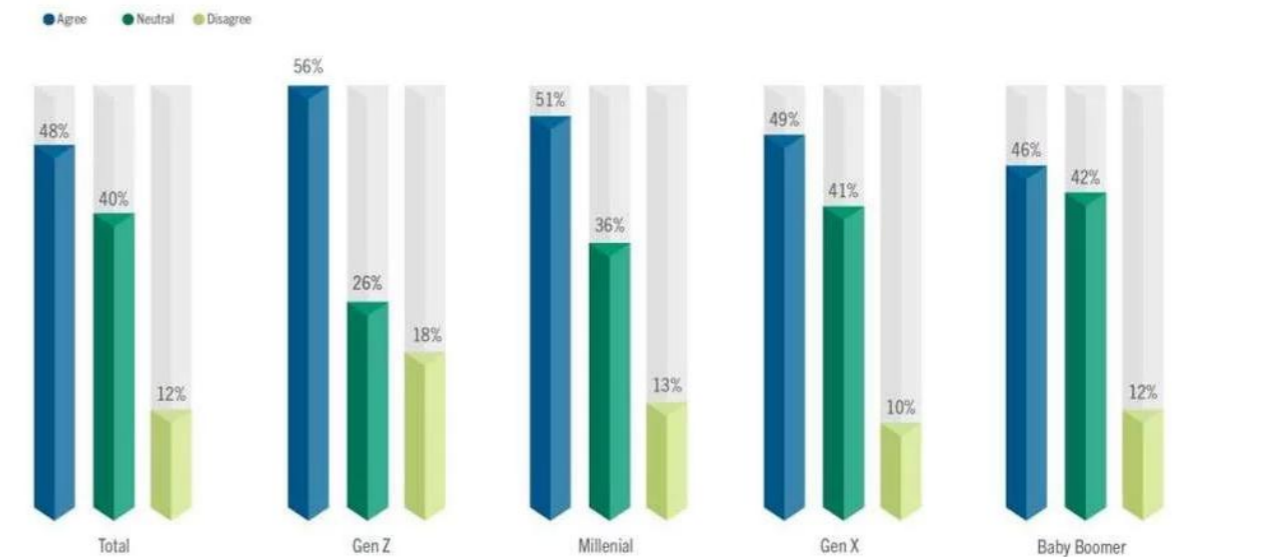


"I want you to act as if the house was on fire. Because it is."

- Greta Thunberg, the Swedish teenager and environmental activist whose simple Friday protests have inspired the world.

JANUARY 2020 SURVEY SHOWS SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL IS PRIORITY FOR TOURISTS

Choosing an environmentally-friendly holiday option is important to me



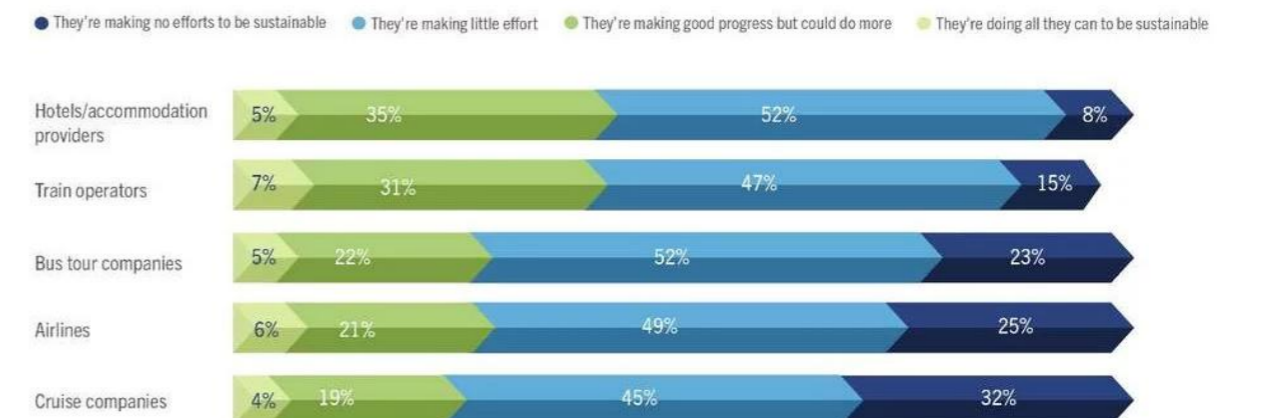
A survey conducted in January 2020 by STR who provide premium data benchmarking, analytics and marketplace insights for global hospitality sectors captured the views of over 1,000 international travelers from STR's proprietary Traveler Panel, a global community of engaged travelers.

35% of travelers stated they wouldn't want to visit a country that wasn't making efforts to fight climate change, while 32% indicated that they would not be deterred and 33% were undecided.

Key findings of the survey include: 48% of respondents said that choosing an environmentally-friendly holiday option was important, while 40% chose a neutral position.

Overall, around 70% believed there is little or no effort to be sustainable among tourism providers. However, hotels/accommodation providers were the least poorly perceived when compared with other key travel and tourism sectors.

How do you feel about the following industries' sustainability efforts?



BOOKING.COM ANNOUNCES \$3.4 MILLION IN GRANTS TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE ACCOMMODATION IN 2020

With a mission to make it easier for everyone to experience the world, Booking.com, one of the world's leading digital travel companies announced the opening of applications for its 2020 Booking Booster program to support solutions in sustainable travel. Following on the success of the previous three years, the fourth iteration of the program in 2020 will focus exclusively on the topic of sustainable accommodation. The 2020 Booking Booster will bring startups, social enterprises, non-profit organizations and accommodations of all kinds together directly to explore solutions to become more sustainable. Through the 2020 program, participants with innovative products and services, including accommo-

dations themselves, will have the opportunity to secure grants from the company's \$3.4 million fund.

Designed to support accommodation partners as they strive to overcome roadblocks to make their properties and operations more sustainable, the 2020 Booking Booster will consist of two complementary 10-day programs exclusively focused on sustainable accommodation: one program in May for organizations with innovative products and services to help accommodations become more sustainable and one in September for accommodations themselves, including those that are just starting their sustainability journey. Participants from both sessions will present live on stage at the Booking Booster finale in September to secure scaling grants from the company's \$3.4 million fund.



COLOMBIA TO HOST 2020 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ON BIODIVERSITY

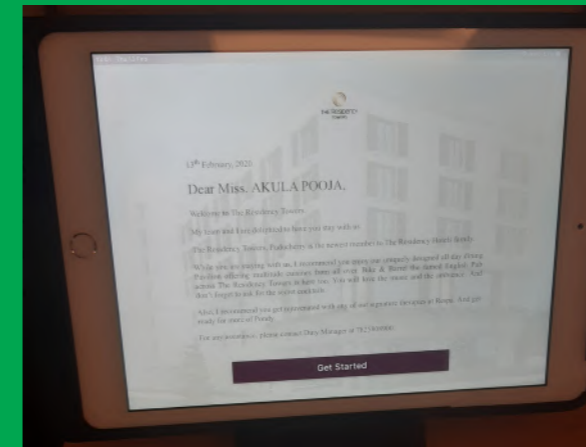
Making the announcement on the margins of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid, Spain, Ricardo Lozano, Colombia's Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Jochen Flasbarth, Germany's State Secretary for Environment, and Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, stressed that with one million plant and animal species facing extinction, there has never been a more important time to focus on the issue of biodiversity.

Listed as one of the world's "megadiverse" countries and sustaining close to 10 percent of the planet's biodiversity, Colombia ranks first in bird and orchid species diversity and second in plants, butterflies, freshwater fish and amphibians. The country has several areas of high biological diversity in Andean ecosystems, with a significant variety of endemic species. It also has part of the Amazon rainforest and the humid ecosystems of the Chocó biogeographical area.



THE FUTURISTIC START TO THE RESIDENCY, PUDUCHERRY'S SUSTAINABLE JOURNEY

With DigiVel IPads placed in every room, The Residency Puducherry in the first month of its operations is controlling the loss of resources with its in-room automation system. Through this system, the team controls the operations of lights, electronics, room temperature, curtain blinders, etc. Thus, at no point do any resources go wasted.



The LED lightings placed throughout the property have 6 colour schemes that are set as per the natural light that falls into the

property through windows in corridors and other spaces, including the room. Thus maximising the benefit of natural lights.

Located in Puducherry, a popular tourist destination, just a kilometer from the beach, The Residency encourages guests to cycle their way around the town, promoting pollution free transportation.



The hotel is also building vertical gardens on empty walls of the property premises.

“Let every individual and institution now think and act as a responsible trustee of Earth, seeking choices in ecology, economics, and ethics that will provide a sustainable future, eliminate pollution, poverty, and violence, awaken the wonder of life and foster peaceful progress in the human adventure.”

- John McConnell, founder of International Earth Day.



GLENBURN TEA ESTATE AND BOUTIQUE HOTEL IN DARJEELING EXCELS AT UPLIFTING AND PROMOTING LOCAL COMMUNITY...



Located amidst the mountains of Darjeeling, Glenburn Tea Estate & Boutique Hotel has employed sixty members of the local community as chefs, drivers, guides, gardeners, bearers and housekeeping ladies who have delivered an extremely high level of service over the period of their association with the hotel. The hotel has refrained from employing any "trained" hospitality staff from out of the tea estate or the region.

The hotel supports three government primary schools, and a scholarship programme that has 50 estate children enrolled in private schools in the region. Their Glenburn Kalakendra is a Music and Dance Academy that supports the local culture of the Nepali community that lives in this region and their Annual Workers Festival is an initiative that celebrates the talents of the community and its achievements throughout the year.

Waste is separated and recycled items are sold or re-used. Single-use plastic is minimal and discouraged. Waste metal and glass is taken off the property and sold and they are looking for a machine that will help us convert glass to sand for local building projects. The bin liners are attached to the bin, and re-used by transferring the rubbish and not the plastic bag to the larger refuse collection point. In the rooms, bin liners are not used. Room bins are washed and sanitised before the next guest arrives.

GUESTS ARE LIKELY TO PREFER HOMESTAYS OVER HOTELS IN 2020

With a greater number of millennials travelling and seeking authentic experiences, homestays seem to be the best bet for genex travellers. And same is the case with families on holidays. Homestays come with a number of benefits - they are affordable, allow greater local interaction, expose one to the rawness of the destination in terms of understanding the lifestyle, culture, habits etc.

Below are some of the award winning environmentally cautious homestays that have managed to earn themselves great recognition.

Koh Hee, Andaman Islands
Saw John Aung Thong a second-generation Karen settler from Bruma, decided to turn the home his father built into a homestay to sustain its maintenance and to create awareness about the cultural heritage and traditional lifestyle of the Karen community. With the family living on the ground floor and the guest rooms on the upper floor, the homestay is managed by the family and they connect the guests to local bird-watching and nature guides.

As Saw John Aung Thong explains "I have decorated my homestay with handicraft products of wood, bamboo and cane made in the traditional Karen style. I also use heirlooms I have inherited from my parents such as a clay pot to store drinking water the traditional way, wooden pestle and mortars, and also built and use a traditional firewood stove also, for aesthetic purposes and practicality. I have also used many posters of flora and fauna found in the Andaman islands to share wildlife and environmental awareness."

Tanhau Homestay, Uttarakhand

Located close to Corbett National Park in the Kumaon region Sunando Sen built his family home there to live close to nature & wildlife with a light carbon footprint and help in the preservation of the rich biodiversity of the Corbett landscape. The family later realised that they could benefit the local community by employing and involving them in it and by opening the eyes of more people to the magic of nature, hopefully making them pro-conservation & sustainable travel. They have created four full-time posts and a livelihood for Bharat who grows vegetables organically, raises free-range chicken for eggs and meat and has two cows for Tanhau's dairy product needs. Tanhau helped Bharat with the initial capital to get this going, and now he has a good steady income.

Eshab Homestay, West Sikkim
The main objective of Eshab Homestay is to make people aware of the Sikkimese lifestyle which was fading away by attracting tourists and showing them their rich culture to conserve and preserve it. The main focus has been on saving the tribal lifestyle, the bees, birds, trees and plants which their ancestors used for herbal medicine.

Eco Harrymans Homestay, Ramnagar, Uttarakhand
A family-owned and operated homestay with a communal kitchen for hoists and guests. They actively engage their guests with an Experiential Learning Program (ELP) for schools and colleges, annual events like Spring Bird Festival, Titli Utsav (Butterfly Festival), in collaboration with Titli Trust and a small museum which includes a board of pugmarks of animals to spark interest and a number of birdhouses which are decorative and serve as homes for the birds visiting our campus.

PRAISE

DO YOU TRAIN YOUR HOTEL STAFF TO BE ECO-CONSCIOUS AT WORK?

Here are ideas to help you and your team be environmentally responsible at work-

Be Mindful of Printing Paper

The best thing you could do is to think if it is absolutely required to have a document in hard copy. If not, you could consider it in an email. In order to minimise their carbon footprint, contracts can be sent and signed digitally.

Encourage Public Transportation for Employees

Depending on the distance from the employee's home to the workplace, there are different ways to commute to work. While using a car may seem like the easiest and fastest option, taking the train or bus would

pollute less.

Use Electricity Wisely

An increasing number of hotels are using green energy to meet their electricity needs. Adopt the idea if you haven't already.

Encourage 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' mantra
Offices should set up different containers for different types of products. Use recycling bins for paper, plastic, and soft drink cans, rather than throwing everything out in one bin

Bring reusable water bottle to work

When you say your hotel is plastic free, do you make sure to ask your employees about their plastic consumption? If not, this is the best time to start this practice!

PRACTICE

POSSIBILITY

"If we build a society based on honoring the earth, we build a society which is sustainable and has the capacity to support all life forms. Let us be the ancestors our descendants will thank."

- Winona LaDuke, Native American environmentalist, economist and writer..



TOP 5 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES INDIA NEEDS TO ADDRESS IN 2020

1. Air Quality

A portion of the world's most polluted urban communities are in India; the natives of Delhi are as of now experiencing the insufferable effect of poor air quality. While the administration's electric versatility push is excellent, the stress should be on charging stations, reasonable batteries and motivating forces to move from petroleum/diesel to electric vehicles.

2. Water Conservation

A NITI Aayog report expresses that 21 Indian urban communities, including Delhi, Bengaluru and Hyderabad are probably going to run out of groundwater by 2020. We have to guarantee through law and approach intercession that water gathering, and consequently groundwater revival, is made compulsory.

3. Hazard Management

As the second most populated country, it is nothing unexpected that we create large measures of waste - electronic, plastic, biomedical etc. Be that as it may, what is astounding is the way we are attempting to deal with this waste. Directly from Swachh Bharat to Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016, E-Waste Rules 2016 and Hazardous and Other Wastes Rules, 2016 - the legislature has found ways to address the issue, yet likewise with a few different activities, usage is inadequate. Forbidding the usage of single-use plastic was a

positive development. However, we can see a few such bundling items making a rebound.

4. Wildlife And Biodiversity

Timberlands are fundamental for our survival. We have to ensure and improve our green spread forcefully. Any progressions to existing defensive laws and guidelines, for example, the Indian Forest Act 1927, Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2006 alongside another National Forest Policy must not weaken the adequacy of these defensive laws.

5. Environmental Change

Aside from the issues referenced over, a portion of different problems which were a piece of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change need critical consideration, and this incorporates reasonable farming, securing the Himalayan environment and improving vitality proficiency.

All around the administration has concocted the very imaginative activity called the India Cooling Action Plan, which features our dedication as a country to environmental change adjustment and moderation. This arrangement is planned for lessening discharges and vitality utilization alongside making it practical and eco - accommodating. Advancements, business and talented labor in these zones must be empowered through impetuses.

POINTER

Editor: Minakshi Agarwal. **Editorial Contribution:** Pooja Akula

Published by Root Cause Mediaa, Bungalow 36, Block W, Opp LS Raheja College, Relief Road Santa Cruz (West), Mumbai 400 0054
E: info@greenotels.com P: 022 60660151 W: www.greenotels.com

Disclaimer : Although we have taken every care to make the information in this publication as accurate as possible, we accept no responsibility for any inaccuracies or changes since going to press. All information here is gathered from primary, secondary and tertiary sources.

All rights reserved

All rights of this publication are with GreenOtels and Root Cause Mediaa. This publication may not be copied, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise, without the prior consent of the publishers. this publication is for private circulation only and not for sale purposes.

Knowledge Partners



Global Media Partners

