

## **Goa hotels may sweat out this winter on chartered flight drop**

A large number of chartered flights with European leisure travellers that Thomas Cook UK Plc was to bring into Goa will not come in this year. The off-season in this fiscal hasn't gone well for hotels operating in Goa, India's most popular beach destination for foreign and domestic travellers (corporate and leisure) alike.

The business season starting October 2019 till March 2020 is unlikely to meet industry expectations either. That's because a large number of chartered flights with European leisure travellers that Thomas Cook UK Plc was to bring into Goa will not come in this year. As a result, guest-rooms booked in a large number of Indian and international hotels will now have to look for new takers. This is likely to impact growth in hotel room rates for the upcoming business season. The UK firm has no connection with Thomas Cook India.

The collapse of 178-year-old British tour operator is being looked at as a major setback for the hospitality and tourism industry in the beach destination. While the collapse of Thomas Cook UK will impact business, Goa hotel industry is hopeful of some support from tourists from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries. Hoteliers said CIS a fairly big market and they have been coming to Goa since past many years.