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## Budget 2023 sees positive reactions from the hospitality industry

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget announcements for the tourism sector are designed to strengthen the hospitality industry, stated industry stalwarts, although they also highlighted that no direct support was mentioned in the budget statement. Industry associations expressed that the budget statement could have covered more direct support measures for the tourism and hospitality industry. However, the budget has rightly proposed tourism as a transformative engine for job creation which needs to be developed on a mission mode via PPP basis, along with focus on 50 tourism destinations and infrastructure. As the budget was coming on the back of a recovery from the pandemic, this was an opportunity to strengthen the tourism travel and hospitality industry of India by aiding it to reclaim its global inbound tourism share which would have boosted employment pan India, the experts said.



**PRADEEP SHETTY, PRESIDENT,  
HOTEL AND RESTAURANT  
ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN  
INDIA (HRAWI)**

"The fact that Tourism got attention in the Union Budget is a big welcome. The Hon'ble FM recognized the country's potential for domestic as well as foreign tourists and the huge opportunities the sector holds for jobs and entrepreneurship. The Hon'ble

FM stressed on promoting tourism on mission mode, with the active participation of States, the convergence of Government programmes and public-private partnerships. This is especially good news for regional tourism and hospitality. Developing new airports, heliports, water aerodromes and advanced landing grounds to improve regional connectivity will unlock the vast potential for growth in the Western region of India.