

Amitabh Kant predicts travel and tourism will add 25 million jobs in coming years

Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa and former CEO of NITI Aayog, anticipates that the country's travel and tourism sector will generate an additional 25 million jobs in the coming years. However, he emphasizes that this growth must not compromise sustainable tourism practices. Speaking at the Travel for Life: Tourism Sustainability Summit 2024 organized by the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI), Kant highlighted the pivotal role tourism plays in India's sustainable growth.

Kant remarked, "As India charts its path towards sustainable growth, it is evident that tourism will play a pivotal role in shaping our future. With a potential to create 25 million new jobs in the coming years, tourism not only drives economic prosperity but also presents a unique opportunity for India to lead the way in decarbonization."

Addressing the issue of greenhouse gas emissions, Kant stressed the need for proactive measures despite India's low per capita consumption of greenhouse gases. He stated, "India's commitment to decarbonization is not just a necessity but a responsibility as we strive to build a greener and more resilient future for generations to come."

Aligned with the Ministry of Tourism's vision for environmental protection and climate action through responsible tourism, FHRAI signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) during the Summit to promote sustainable initiatives within the industry. One MoU with the Indian Plumbing Association (IPA) aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and joint initiatives for water conservation and sustainable plumbing practices in hotels and restaurants. Another collaboration with the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) underscores FHRAI's commitment to sustainable development in the built environment, aspiring to position India as a global leader in sustainable building practices by 2025.