

Taj first desi hotel co to top INR 1 lakh crore mcap

The post-pandemic travel boom is seeing desi sectoral players scale new valuation heights. Tata Group's IHCL - which runs Taj Hotels - has now become the first Indian hospitality company to touch a market cap of Rs 1 lakh crore. Oberoi Hotels is the second most valuable at about Rs 24,000 crore.

India's largest airline (by domestic market share) IndiGo had achieved that landmark last June - becoming the first desi airline to do so. IndiGo's market cap is currently at over INR 1.9 lakh crore.

"The true potential of Indian tourism sector in general and our hospitality sector in particular, is yet to be reached. As a consequence of govt's focus on infrastructure development, especially trains, airports and highways, India is poised to emerge as one of the foremost destinations globally. The meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) segment will grow significantly for the country. Domestic tourism will keep growing by leaps and bounds," Puneet Chhatwal, MD & CEO of IHCL, told TOI. IHCL reached the INR 1-lakh-crore landmark last week. The company has been adding hotels across India. Operating four brands - Taj, SeleQtions, Vivanta and Gateway - IHCL currently has a portfolio of 340 hotels, including 112 under development globally across 130 locations in 13 countries.

ITC Hotels will be hived off from parent ITC. Since mid 2022, airlines and hotels are almost going full despite unprecedented airfares and tariffs, respectively. As a result, IndiGo (the only profitable big Indian airline), hotel & other travel companies like online travel agencies have been posting record profits and revenues since then quarter after quarter.