

## **IHCL Announces Country's Largest Hospitality Skilling Centre At Aguada Plateau In Goa**

Indian Hotels Company (IHCL), India's leading hospitality brand, announced the launch of the country's largest skilling center, located on the historic Aguada plateau in Goa. The announcement coincided with the 50th anniversary celebrations of Taj Fort Aguada Resort & Spa, Goa, attended by Shri Rohan Khaunte, Minister for Tourism, Goa.

Speaking about the initiative, Puneet Chhatwal, Managing Director & CEO, IHCL, said, "The skilling center on the Aguada plateau will address the critical need for a skilled workforce in the travel and tourism sector. This capability-building initiative aims to tap into untapped talent and bridge the employability gap within the industry."

Shri Rohan Khaunte, Minister for Tourism, Goa, emphasized the importance of skilling for the state's tourism-driven economy, stating, "Goans have an innate talent for hospitality, and as tourism evolves, skilling, reskilling, and upskilling are essential. Goa, as the nation's premier leisure and MICE destination, has always been at the heart of tourism. IHCL's skilling initiative will not only create new employment opportunities for our youth but also align with Goa's vision for sustainable growth in the tourism sector."

He further added, "By fostering essential skilling programs, this initiative supports the principles of regenerative tourism, empowering local communities to build successful careers while contributing to Goa's sustained development."

Under its industry-leading ESG+ framework, Paathya, IHCL continues to champion skill development through its 38 skilling centers across the country. This new center in Goa reaffirms the company's commitment to nurturing talent, creating opportunities for deserving youth and their families, and contributing to the growth of the hospitality sector.