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# Travel Cos, Hotels Begin Hiring Amid Rise in Bookings

Fall in Covid cases, ease of curbs leading to revival in travel; hiring focused on scaling up of products, tech

Rica Bhattacharyya, Lijee Philip & Anumeha Chaturvedi

**Mumbai | New Delhi:** India's travel, tourism and hospitality industry has opened up its hiring funnel as a falling number of Covid infections and easing of restrictions are leading to a revival in leisure travel bookings as well as pickup in business travel.

Travel agencies and online portals such as Thomas Cook, EaseMyTrip, among others, are recruiting talent across functions. Leading hotel chains such as TTC-backed Fortune Hotels, Lemon Tree Hotels, and Royal Orchid Hotels are also ramping up manpower across levels.

The demand for manpower comes amid a revival in travel

## Offer Letters

- Who's Hiring?**
- EaseMyTrip • Thomas Cook • Fortune Hotels
  - Lemon Tree Hotels
  - Royal Orchid Hotels
  - Zostel, among others

**Why the demand for manpower?**  
Revival of business    Pickup in leisure travel

Hiring focussed on scaling up of product and tech categories, while some are being done to back fill the exits



Several wedding celebrations lined up leading to rise in hotel occupancy

plans as more people are getting double vaccinated, economic activity picks up and amid a massive pent-up demand after many had to put their travel plans on hold in January due to the rapidly spreading Omicron wave.

Several wedding celebrations — that were postponed due to the third wave — are also lined up over the next couple of months leading to the rise in hotel occu-

pancy, said top company officials.

A large part of the hiring is focused on scaling up of product and technology categories, while some are being done to back fill the exits.

The hiring revival in the travel and tourism industry comes after millions of job losses and huge revenue erosion during the first and the second wave of the

Covid-19 pandemic.

Lemon Tree Hotels, which had to let go of several employees by the end of the second wave, plans to hire about 1,500 people over the rest of the year with the opening of 20 upcoming hotels and to add manpower to its existing hotels, said Patu Keswani, chairman and managing director. Earlier, in Q3, the leading hotel chain had hired 1,500

as travel had resumed post second wave. Royal Orchid and Regenta Hotels will hire 1,000 people as it expands to new markets and cities and adds 100 hotels in its portfolio in 2022.

"We have stepped up our hiring efforts across the group, from entry level to senior positions. Hiring today at our group has been recovery led," said Chander K Baljee, chairman, Royal Orchid and Regenta Hotels.

Travel agents too are augmenting manpower:

Thomas Cook (India) & SOTC president HR Mona Cheriyan said: "As the organisation is seeing travel picking up and the possibility of an accelerated growth with the opening of airspaces and borders, we will align our recruitment process in line with our growth."