



Cornell University Honours Lemon Tree Hotels With The Prestigious Hospitality Exemplary Practice Award

The Lemon Tree Hotel Company (LTH) has been honoured with the Cornell Hospitality Exemplary Practice Award 2014 for their contribution and initiative in employing Persons with Disabilities in their 26 hotels in 15 cities across India. The award was announced at the Cornell Hospitality Research Summit (CHRS) held in Ithaca, New York, recently.

LTH, India's fastest growing hotel group, is an equal opportunity employer. Currently, close to 10% of its total staff (2700 employees) are 'Employees With Disabilities' (EWDs). The group plans to increase this number to 350 EWDs by 31st March 2015. The target for 2022 is to hire 40% of its employee base as people who do not get opportunities for employment including EWDs, those who are economically underprivileged as well as those who are socially marginalized.

Speaking on the occasion, Patu Keswani, Chairman & Managing Director, Lemon Tree Hotels said, "We are delighted to be recognized for our efforts at such a prestigious international forum. We have always believed that the Lemon Tree brand should stand for more than 'just profit' and have therefore focused our efforts on creating a socially inclusive work environment in our hotels. We believe that persons with disabilities must be provided the same opportunities as others to realize their full potential and live with dignity. This award further motivates us to pursue this initiative with even more vigor and to be a catalyst of change however small, in social inclusiveness and opportunity creation for people with disabilities."

The Lemon Tree Hotel Company was jointly selected to receive this award with VOC Systems, from over 100 nominations by a vote of the CHRS advisory board. Held every other year at the Cornell School of Hotel Administration, The Exemplary Practice Award is Cornell University's effort to recognize organizations that are playing a vital role in improving industry knowledge and practices.

