

Lemon Tree Hotels to expand in east, northeast

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Kolkata: Lemon Tree Hotels is planning to expand in east and north eastern part of the country in a big way following its entry to Kolkata. The group has built its first hotel in the city with an investment of Rs 140 crore. The hospitality giant is currently chalking out its overseas plans with new hotels in Singapore, Dubai, Bhutan and Nepal.

Currently, Lemon Tree runs 6,000 rooms in 58 hotels across 35 cities of India. It is aiming to increase the number of hotels in the next two years and take it to 107, majority of which will be in east and northeast India. Among these 58 properties in India, 33 are owned by them and the rest are managed.

BIG OVERSEAS MOVE SOON

Going forward, the hospitality major seeks to become asset-light with an increasing the number of managed properties.

In the Kolkata property of Lemon Tree, they have 142 rooms. In last two months, it has opened their hotels in Pune and Mumbai and in the next month, another hotel in Udaipur. Hotels are also in the pipeline in Shimla and another near Mumbai International Airport.

Sumant Jaidka, senior VP (operations), is expecting a good occupancy in the Kolkata property in a couple of months. "The hotel's proximity to key IT hubs and the global airport, makes it an ideal place to stay"