

AN EVENT

## JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN TREEPIE HOSPITALITY AND ORIENTAL SENSES



Hemant Rawat

▶ A joint venture was recently signed by Sumant Batra, Chairman, Treepie Hospitality Private Limited (Treepie) and Ahoi Haolai Sithhou, CEO, Oriental Senses Spa (Oriental Senses) to set up an exclusive line of luxury spas across the country. The spas would be operated by the newly set up joint venture company, Treepie Blue Mountains Private Limited (Company) under a new brand to be called "Bespoke Spa". The first premium spa would be opened in mid April in Hotel Te Aroha, Dhanachuli, near the popular hill town of Mukteshwar in Uttarakhand. Te Aroha would become the first property in Kumaon hills to boast of a luxury spa and the second in Uttarakhand after Ananda.

An eminent corporate lawyer, author and an avid collector of

curios, Batra ventured into hospitality business in 2010, set up a hotel management company, Treepie Hospitality Private Limited (Treepie) and opened Te Aroha, a boutique luxury hotel and Cafe Flashback, India's first curios museum cafe, both in the wilderness of Himalaya. Sumant is also a Senior Consultant to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group in law and policy matters. The other directors of Treepie are Ajay Lamba, Vivek Kalra and Asha Barmola. Sithhou is the founder of Oriental Senses with her husband Raja Sithhou. Hailing from North East India, she has a Spa Diploma from TMC, one of the best institutes in Thailand, and is trained in traditional Balinese Massage from Bali, Indonesia.

GOODWILL

## PATU KESWANI DONATES RESEARCH CENTER TO IIT



Inauguration of GH Keswani Research Center, IIT, Delhi

▶ Patanjali (Patu) G Keswani, CMD, Lemon Tree Hotels recently donated the 'Golden Jubilee GH Keswani Research Center' to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. Kapil Sibal, Hon. Minister of Human Resource Development and Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India, laid the foundation stone at a ceremony attended by the Chairman - Board of Governors, IIT Delhi, Directors of IIT Delhi and Roorkee, deans, professors and dignitaries like Shri M. Mangapati Pallam Raju, Minister of State for Defence, Government of India. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Keswani said "As an alumnus of IIT Delhi, I am happy to support my institute. I hope future batches of young engineering students benefit from this research facility." With a built-up area of 130,000 sq. ft. the 'Golden Jubilee GH Keswani Research Center' will be spread over 7 floors and offer a range of facilities to students.

## INDUSTRY LAUGHS



Gaurav Sensowa

### STICKY FINGERS

▶ "We had some Japanese guests staying with us in our hotel and they wanted to try Indian food so they came to the restaurant. At the end of having the meal, they were given finger bowls. Not quite familiar with this, they took out the lime slice, squeezed it into the water and drank it! This has got to be one of my funniest experiences." - Gaurav Sensowa, Restaurant Manager, Royal Orchid Central Vadodar