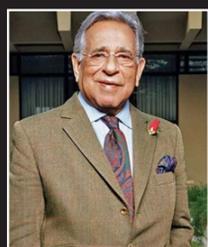




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Hospitality Icon PRS Oberoi, visionary chairman of the Oberoi Group, passes away at 94



In a profound loss to the hospitality industry, Prithvi Raj Singh (PRS) Oberoi, the revered 94-year-old Chairman Emeritus of The Oberoi Group, fondly known as 'Biki,' breathed his last on Tuesday.

Recognised as a visionary corporate hotelier, he leaves behind a legacy that reshaped India's hospitality landscape. PRS Oberoi, the son of the late Rai Bahadur MS Oberoi, founder of The Oberoi Group, played a pivotal role in expanding the renowned hotel chain to encompass 32 establishments during his illustrious career. His influence extended to the development of the Trident chain of hotels, solidifying his reputation as a stalwart in the field.

Air India partners with WorldTicket to offer Deutsche Bahn Bookings across 5,600 stations

Air India has entered an intermodal interline agreement with WorldTicket, the exclusive distributor for Europe's largest



railway operator, Deutsche Bahn. The collaboration enables Air India guests to travel on a single intermodal ticket beyond Frankfurt with convenient train connections to or from other cities and towns across Germany, including those without airports, on Deutsche Bahn. This lets travellers to connect to and from over 5,600 train stations in Germany on the Deutsche Bahn network. Travellers can also take train connections on Deutsche Bahn to and from Amsterdam, Brussels, and Zurich via Air India's Frankfurt gateway.



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T&T sector deal activity down by 31.7% YoY during Jan-Oct 2023: GlobalData

A total of 621 deals were announced in the travel and tourism sector globally during January-October 2023, which was a decline of 31.8% compared to the announcement of 911 deals during the same period in the previous year, finds GlobalData, a data and analytics company. An analysis of GlobalData's Financial Deals Database also revealed that all the deal types under coverage witnessed a decline in volume during January-October 2023 compared to January-October 2022.

For instance, the volume of mergers and acquisitions (M&A) deals declined by 34.2% during January-October 2023 compared to January-October 2022. Meanwhile, the number of private equity deals and venture financing deals announced during January-October 2023 were down by 32.1% and 24% year-on-year (YoY), respectively.



EU Council green lights revolutionary online Schengen Visa



In a groundbreaking step toward modernising travel procedures, the Council of the European Union has granted approval for the digitalisation of the Schengen visa application process. This move is set to transform the way individuals apply for visas to enter the Schengen Area. VisaGuideWorld reports that the digitalisation of Schengen visa procedures will enable applicants to submit their visa applications online, eliminating the need to visit a consulate or endure long waiting periods for a response.

Jose Manuel Aisa Mancho joins VFS Global as Chief Financial Officer



VFS Global has appointed Jose Manuel Aisa Mancho as its Chief Financial Officer, effective since November 1, 2023. He reports to Zubin Karkaria, Founder and CEO, and is based in Dubai, UAE, the organisation's global headquarters. Jose joins VFS

Global from Cellnex Telecom. He has over two decades of experience across the suite of finance sub-functions, including mergers & acquisitions, financial planning, investor relations, management control, treasury, and tax. He has previously worked in organisations that include Abertis Infrastructures, CriteriaCaixa and Cellnex. He was also a Non-Executive Officer in infrastructure companies such as Hispasat, Sanef or TBI Limited.

Vistara starts direct flights between Mumbai and Frankfurt

Vistara inaugurated non-stop, 6x weekly flights between Mumbai and Frankfurt. The inaugural flight, operated on Vistara's Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, commenced from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai at 13:00 Hours (IST) to arrive at Frankfurt International Airport at 17:30 Hours (GMT). Vistara has already been flying 6x weekly between Frankfurt and Delhi.

