

**PRESS NOTE (dated 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2014)**

**Quality Improvement of undergraduate curriculum of National Council for Hotel Management & Catering Technology for IHMs under it's network**

In a path-breaking initiative, the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology has signed an agreement on 11.02.2014 with the '**Lausanne Hospitality Consulting SA (LHC)**', which is a division of world oldest and top ranked Hospitality school- '**Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne**', Switzerland. Similar agreements signed between MIT and IIM-Calcutta in 1961, and the IITs with the top technology institutes of the world have made them world-class institutes. **The agreement between NCHMCT and LHC is expected to put hospitality education in the country on a new quality crest.**

The National Council is an autonomous body of Union Ministry of Tourism, mandated to achieving coordinated growth and development of hospitality education in India. It is located in Noida and has 52 Institutes of Hotel Management (IHMs) and 10 Food Craft Institutes networked to it. These Institutes impart hospitality education, under the aegis of the council, leading to the award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates.

The agreement, which has come into effect, will broadly a) review the existing curriculum, identify knowledge and skill gaps specific to the requirement of the market and recommend new inputs; b) provide faculty development on the new inputs including inculcating global standards of academic delivery; and c) conduct regular academic audits to evaluate implementation process of LHC recommendations.

It is anticipated that the cooperation will help students acquire better skills and greater employability. More importantly, it will bring Indian hospitality education to an internationally acceptable quality threshold.