

Mr. Sherry Bhatia elected as president of HRAWI for new term starting Sept '20

Mr. Sherry Bhatia, MD of Golden Swan Group, has been elected as the president of the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Western India (HRAWI) for the new term starting September 2020. Prior to becoming the president, Mr. Bhatia served as the association's senior vice president and has been an active member for over 20 years.

Over the years, Mr. Bhatia has helped implement several reforms in the association and strengthened its representation across the Western region. An electronic engineer by qualification, he ventured into hospitality four decades ago. He set up his first hotel in 1980 and went on to establish the group consisting of club, hotel, resort and a golf course.

“The HRAWI has been at the forefront in representing the voice of hotels and restaurants for the Western region. Over the last six months of the pandemic, the association has played a pivotal role in liaising with the government and its authorities to expedite decision making for the hotels and restaurants industry. HRAWI was successful at convincing the government to allow hotels to reopen in July, states Mr. Bhatia.

“Gurbaxish Singh Kohli as the president with his team made compelling arguments, submitted several recommendations and relentlessly pursued the authorities to allow reopening of restaurants in the region. The association is simultaneously following up on several other matters affecting the industry including the excise licence fees, electricity duty, the property tax and the compensation owed by the BMC to requisitioned hotels during the lockdown, among other important issues,” says Mr. Bhatia.

For the new term, Mr. Pradeep Shetty will serve in the HRAWI committee as its senior vice president, and Mr. Chetan Mehta as its vice president. Mr. Jimmy Shaw has been appointed as its secretary, Mr. Paramjit Singh Ghai, the joint secretary, and Mr. Dilip Kothari will hold the post of treasurer.