



## Industry News

### **Delhi government reduces luxury tax on hotels, restaurants**

The Delhi government has proposed to reduce the luxury tax on hotels and restaurants in the city from the current 12.5 to 10 per cent. The announcement was made by Dr A K Walia, Finance Minister, Delhi during his budget presentation for 2009-10 in the state assembly on June 22, 2009.

[www.hospitalitybizindia.com](http://www.hospitalitybizindia.com) (22/6)

### **Khandani Rajdhani introduces Working Meal Box across India**

Khandani Rajdhani, the Indian thali serving restaurant chain of Encore Hotels Pvt Ltd (EHPL) has introduced Working Meal Box, a lunch product across India. The concept is presently being rolled out in its restaurants across the country.

[www.hospitalitybizindia.com](http://www.hospitalitybizindia.com) (22/6)

### **Karnataka to set up six more food parks**

The state government (in its financial plan) has approved six more food parks apart from four food parks that are at various stages of completion in different places in Karnataka.

[www.hospitalitybizindia.com](http://www.hospitalitybizindia.com) (22/6)

### **Hotels, restaurants get incentives in Maharashtra budget**

According to the Maharashtra budget 2009-10 presented by Finance Minister, Maharashtra, the hospitality sector received a special incentive. Hotels and restaurants (up to three stars) will attract a value added tax (VAT) at the rate of five per cent instead of the earlier eight per cent. Sales tax on all kinds of liquors has been hiked from 20 per cent to 25 per cent; the excise duty on IMFL has been hiked Rs 160 per litre to Rs 180.

[www.hospitalitybizindia.com](http://www.hospitalitybizindia.com) (5/6)

### **Death Knell in Delhi for Fine Wine**

The Notification released by the excise department in Delhi in June increasing the excised duty to 150-200% is final despite its not being Gazetted yet as the new Transfer Permits (TP) are being issued only if the importer is willing to submit the documents according to the new policy.

[www.indianwineacademy.com](http://www.indianwineacademy.com) (17/6)

### **Blue Foods to open Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf stores in Mumbai**

Blue Foods has launched a Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf (CBTL) store in India as part of the tie-up with the US-based coffee chain. Mohammed Feroz, director of franchise operations (Asia Pacific) for CBTL, said it has signed up for developing 40 CBTL stores in India.

[www.expresshospitality.com](http://www.expresshospitality.com) (1-15/6)

## World News

### **Australian Wine Industry in Crisis**

With a drop in exports of 9 percent in volume last year and the prices sliding by 25 percent in less than a decade, the Australian wine industry which had risen to become the fourth largest wine export last year, seems to be in crisis, says a report in NY Times.

[www.indianwineacademy.com](http://www.indianwineacademy.com) (23/6)

### **Fat Duck to go to London**

Internationally renowned chef Heston Blumenthal who runs the famous 3-Michelin Star Fat Duck Restaurant in Berkshire is set to open his first London restaurant in autumn 2010.

[www.indianwineacademy.com](http://www.indianwineacademy.com) (26/6)

### **Bartenders focus on fresh, local ingredients**

As local and organic produce makes its way from the kitchen to the bar, bartenders are becoming more like bar chefs. Some even say that drinking mixers made with fresh ingredients rather than the bottled kind might help you avoid a hangover

[www.smartbrief.com](http://www.smartbrief.com) (26/6)

### **Baskin-Robbins to open 50 stores in the Gulf**

Baskin-Robbins ice cream brand, plans to open an additional 50 stores in the Gulf region within the next 12 months and further extend its lead there in the retail ice cream market.

[www.smartbrief.com](http://www.smartbrief.com) (25/6)