



AHAR Connect



A publication of Association of Hotels & Restaurants. Email: aharmumbai@gmail.com

Vol-1

Issue - 7

March '14

RNI No. MAHENGXIXXIXI

Monthly

Pages 4

3rd Monthly Managing Committee Meeting

The Report of the 3rd Monthly Managing Committee Meeting held on Monday, 24th February 2014 at 8.00 pm at Hotel Sai Palace, Chakala, Andheri [East], Mumbai.

Forever News reporter

Welcome address :

Shri Vilas Jhaveri, VP-Zone-VII and the host of 3rd Monthly Managing Committee Meeting welcomed all delegates to the meeting. He thanked the members for re-electing him as the VP of Zone-VII and assured that he and his team will strive to



fulfil the aspirations of the hoteliers of AHAR in General and his Zone in particular.

President **Shri Arvind Shetty** then proceeded with the Agenda which was circulated in advance.

Confirmation of Minutes

Hon. Gen. Secretary **Shri Sukesh Shetty** presented the minutes of the 2nd Monthly Managing Committee Meeting held on 30.1.2014. It was unanimously approved by the house.

Proposed by **Shri Prabhakar Shetty**

Seconded by **Shri Bharat Thakur**

Approval of Accounts

Hon. Treasurer **Shri Nitin R Shetty** presented the accounts of AHAR and Orchestra Bar for the month of January 2014. The house approved the same.

Proposed by **Shri K.V.Shetty**

Seconded by **Shri Ratnakar Shetty**

The Hon. Treasurer briefed the house that to keep alive the in house magazine, it has been decided to support the publisher with subsidy of Rs.1,26,000/- per issue being the 50% of the cost for further four issues by sponsorship or through Advertisements collected through AHAR. He further said we tied up with 6 vendors with package including the advertisements in magazine and hence the amount collected from the advertisements will be given as subsidy to the publisher.

He sought an Approval for an amount of Rs. 5,04,000/- for the next four issues either by cash or reimbursement through advertisements.

The house approved the same.

Proposed by **Shri K. V. Shetty**

Seconded by **Shri Vijay Kumar Shetty**

Declaration of Sub Committee

The Hon. Gen. Secretary announced the names of various Sub Committees for the year

Sub Committee	Chairman
Police	Shri K. V. Shetty
Excise	Shri Shashidhar Shetty
MCGM	Shri Niranjan Shetty
Legal	Adv. Balkrishna Shetty
Promotion	Shri Dhiraj Shetty
Other associations of Maharashtra	Shri Satish R Shetty
Media	Shri Arvind Shetty Shri Sukesh Shetty
Publications & Technology	Shri Bhaskar Shetty
Office Administration	Shri Vivek Prabhu

2013-2014

Events of the Month

President briefed the events of the month as under:

Minimum Wages

So far five hearings are over. The Labour Department has argued that AHAR has never made any representation to the Govt regarding Minimum Wages. AHAR submitted the representations copy to advocate, which will be submitted as annexure. The interim stay is still available to the Hoteliers against the implementation of the revised Minimum Wages in Maharashtra. Members are advised to pay 70% of the amount notified till further directions from the Honorable Nagpur High Court and the balance amount should be kept aside till the case is concluded.

Service Tax

The petition has not come up on Board since the last few months and members are advised to take the guidance from the Association if anyone is served a Notice / Summons.

FSSAI

The petition against clarifications about causes in the FSSAI Act which is detrimental to the industry is pending for further directions. The last date for renewal, registration and new license has been extended by 6 months till 4.8.2014. In case of any notice, please get in touch with AHAR office for guidance.

Meeting with Mr. Sumit Mullik, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra

Members may be aware that a petition for simplification of old laws pertaining to the hotel industry was presented to the Government. Subsequently, the Government had appointed

ACCENTURE to prepare a detailed report stating the measures to be undertaken to implement the changes and arrive at a single window system for new / renewal of licenses with minimum conditions to facilitate growth of the Hospitality Industry in the state. The final report was placed in front of Mr. Sumit Mullik, Additional Chief Secretary for further actions to be undertaken by the Government.

On the advice of Mr. Suresh Shetty Minister, we met Mr. Mullik and appraised him about the immediate need to amend the archaic laws pertaining to the hospitality industry. We also shared with him specific instances of undue harassments due to the existence of such rules which are difficult to implement in Present environment. We have informed him about the need to reduce the number of licenses and create

a single window system for better governance. He has assured us of addressing our concerns during the implementation of the Process.

Hike in Excise License Fees

Immediately after being informed of the proposed 50% hike in Annual License fees we met Office Bearers of the Wine Dealers Associations of Maharashtra to jointly address the issue. The meeting concluded with an understanding that the Wine Dealers Association will coordinate with Country Liquor Association Wholesale Distributors etc. and AHAR would do the same with Hotel Associations in other Districts of Maharashtra.

We met the Excise Minister **Shri Ganesh Naik** the very next day after our scheduled meeting with Mr. Sumit Mullik for expressing our

(Cont. on pg. 3)



Test us to Trust us

Before you make the purchase decision of an apartment in M'lore

Visit LAND TRADES projects or just call us

+91-9880742159
+91-7829912169
+91-9845084866

Presenting Premium & Affordable Projects

MAURISHKA PALACE



Kadri Kambla Road

Atlantis



Bendoorwell Main Road

Roopali



Bendoorwell Main Road



M.G. Rd.

Mannagudda Rd.

Alvares Rd., Kadri

Morgans Gate Rd.

Shivabagh Main Rd.

Bejai Main Rd.



Transactional Clarity

Construction Quality & Promising Service

Premium & Affordable



Email: info@landtrades.in ; sales@landtrades.in
Phone: 0824 2425424 / 2423866



Join the fight against adulteration with Sahara Q



India's leading FMCG company with over 895 quality products

- Quality products
- Stringent quality checks ensured at 7 Q Quality Labs & products tested by over 500 seasoned quality professionals
- Hands-free, tamper-proof packing with 100% Disclosure policy*

Sahara Corp Comm/Q Shop

A small glimpse of our entire product range

 101 Products in Staples	 34 Products in Processed Food
 43 Products in Personal Care	 33 Products in Home Care
 7 Products in Natural Mineral & Packaged Drinking Water	 157 Products in Home Appliances
 524 Products in Kitchenware & General Merchandise	For all trade related information and business enquiries, please visit www.saharaqshop.com/business or call us at 0522-6656565 Order online at www.saharaqshop.com



Online shopping option is available at select cities only
* As per Food Safety & Standards Act, Rules and Regulations

member's anguishes over the proposed exorbitant hike in license fees. **Shri Naik** shared our concerns by mentioning that he is always against such unjust over burdening of the business communities. He advised us to meet the Commissioner of Excise with our representation and he would discuss the same with the Commissioner and the Principal Secretary. We met the Commissioner the same evening and explained to him the consequences for the industry due to the proposed hike and requested him to withdraw the same. He in turn informed us that the hike was necessary as it was not done since the LAST FEW YEARS AND THE Government needs resources to implement the popular schemes announced for the benefit of people.

We retorted by stating that the Government would lose revenue if hotels are compelled to close as license fee is collected once a year whereas Government receives various taxes throughout the year and joblessness will increase, creating further impediments to the Government schemes. He advised us to prepare a petition substantiating our claims through proper data for the Government to reconsider the proposed hike. An Emergency meeting was convened the next day to discuss the further course of action and it was concluded by suggestions that an expert opinion should be sought to enhance our presentation for a better result. Through the good offices of Mr. Sunder Shetty we met Mr. Ramakrishnan former Commissioner of Excise for his guidance after sharing the petition prepared by our team to which he contributed a few points and the subsequent detailed petition was delivered to the Chief Minister, Dy. Chief Minister, Excise Minister, Principal Secretary Excise, Commissioner of State Excise and we also requested all our affiliated Associations to do likewise. We also met Mr. Suresh Shetty, Minister at his residence together with Mr. Chandrashekar Shetty, Mr Ravindra Arasa and Mr. Chandrashekar Shetty to appraise him about the current crisis and facilitate a hearing with the Chief Minister for saving our members from such a steep hike. We are waiting for a favorable result. We will discuss in detail, obtain the feedbacks of our members, other Associations of Maharashtra, other liquor related Associations and will then decide the future course of action.

With regard to Funds, before we undertake membership drive this year. An earnest effort should be made to clear all the pending unpaid dues from members as benefits were accruing to them on a regular basis.

Next, we need to strengthen our Association by enrolling new members as we have already expanded our tools of communication through Brochures, Magazines, Newsletter and Website.

A PR Agency may be appointed to consistently highlight the industry's views throughout the year for the benefit of members and to reach to the Government and mass visibility.

Office Administration should be upgraded with the help of Systems and Procedures conforming to the present environment through latest standards prevailing in the country.

We need to appoint an Ex-Government official for representing our issues in a judicious way.

Formation of a State level Body to address common issues as the grievances pertain to entire State and addressing in State level is necessary.

A reserve fund of at least Rs. five crores should be raised for sustaining our movement and achieving our objective to be the largest and most respected Association representing issues pertaining to the Hospitality Industry.

Briefing by Hon. Gen. Secretary

- An agency is needed to look at our internal and external communication. It will be a full time agency which needed for a regular monitoring and following up the impact. We need fund for such assignment.
- We also require a Social media for movement of news and analysis. To have a bigger picture, branding and visibility of the Association. A Judicious PR can convert our actions and doings visible and far reaching.
- Association job is to fight against the injustice and we will continue the same.

Read out the letter of appreciation from **Vaishali Rest and Bar** for the support given in harassing their harassment matter.

Presentations by Sub Committee Chairmen

Committee – Police - Chairman Shri K. V. Shetty – Briefing: Briefed that he needs one member from Each Zone for his committee. Any Complaints should be in writing and the Committee will decide the course of action after discussions with the aggrieved hoteliers. Whenever meeting the Police officials VP and the affected Hotelier should accompany him for a proper coordination. The format for inclusion of Managers name in PPEL is available at AHAR office.

Committee – Hawkers - Chairman Shri K. K. Mahale – Briefing: Briefed that the WP will be filed soon in illegal hawkers matter. He requested the members and VPs to provide him only list of illegal food hawkers to be included as annexure to the petition.

Committee – Publication - Chairman Shri Bhaskar Shetty – Briefing: He briefed and made an Audio visual presentation of the Website and shown how the details of the hoteliers who is registering will be highlighted. In due course the hoteliers will be given the option of self uploading. He requested the hoteliers to register by payment of Rs.365/- for a year. He also requested the members to visit the website, which has become live and updated regularly.

Committee – Excise Chairman Shri Vijaykumar Shetty (Suburbs) – Briefing: Thanked AHAR for electing him as Excise Chairman. He said harassment by a so called activist **Shri Khan** was attended and through the Excise SI was discussed and solved.

Committee – Excise [City] - Chairman Shri Mohan Shetty – Briefing: A matter of demanding of huge favour for transfer of legal license of an hotelier attended, got it done without making any undue favors through the Superintendent of Excise.

Committee – Promotion - Chairman Shri Dhiraj Shetty

Thanks for electing me as the Chairman of Promotion Committee. Today we were able to bring 7 stalls of vendors. He said that the members should support the vendors and their products so that more and more vendors' stalls can be brought for every Managing Committee meeting and to the AGM, which is a huge source of revenue for the Association.

Presentation

M/s MSWIPE **Shri Shrinivas Rao** made an

Presentations by VPs

Zone I – VP - **Shri Shailendra Shetty** - Presentation: Membership drive is started aggressively.

Zone II – VP - **Shri Gangadhar Shetty** - Presentation: Membership drive is on.

Zone III – VP - **Shri Suresh Shetty** - Presentation: A case of Police arrest of an hotelier of Sewree by a false complaint by a customer was attended, the hotelier is released and a counter complaint lodged against the customer. 4 new members enrolled.

Zone V – VP - **Shri Ravindranath Nire** - Presentation: Had corner meetings. The membership drive is on.

Zone VI – VP - **Shri Sunil Pati** - Presentation: Attended harassment by special squad in Vaishali Hotel, Mulund, met SI of Police station briefed about the same. The matter is attended. In Hotel Sai Krupa, Bhandup Police arrested the Manager, Cashier for a fight between the patrons due to political pressure. Met the SI and the matter sorted out.

Zone VII – VP - **Shri Vilas Jhaveri** – Presentation: Many cases of IPRS notices. We are following it up.

Zone VIII – VP - **Shri Shivaji Shetty** - Presentation: The membership drive is on.

Zone IX – VP - **Shri Sudhakar T Shetty** - Presentation: Demanding of additional favors by **Shri Nimbalkar**, SI, Excise, Goregaon been attended and the matter is also referred to Superintendent of Excise. Met DCP-Zone-X regarding complaint of assault by Hotel Navin Owner. In spite of repeated reminder the owner did not attend the meeting with DCP, Zone-X.

An additional responsibility of collecting data from members is assigned to him. All members are requested to submit their Email address to ahar office for a proper up gradation of the data and record. The Vps should cooperate in collecting data within 2 weeks.

Zone X – VP - **Shri Anil Salian** - Presentation: Had corner meeting. Coordinating the MGL matter is assigned to him. An appointment is sought from Senior VP; MGL is sought the FDA authorities' are serving the improvement notices to most of the hotelier of the Zone. The member's must reply to the notices. For any help may contact the VP or the office. The MGL authorities should be compelled to accept the Bank Guarantee in place of case deposits as deposit.

Audio Visual of their easy, friendly and innovative cards payment and also offered an discount for the AHAR Members.

Speech by others

Shri Manish Bilakhia, owner of Spring Blossom, Ghatkoper [East] made a donation of Rs.5400/- to AHAR voluntarily towards legal fund and assured that he will donate the same amount for the next 11 months. He said he was impressed with the working of AHAR in fighting innumerable cases to safeguard the interest of the hoteliers and offered his small appreciation. He also requested all the hoteliers to help us in this hour of peril, as huge amount is required to bring glory to the Association.

Shri Shashikant Shetty – In case of any problems or grievances with the service of the SREI broking firm, the representatives will visit member's place and sort out the matter.

Speech by Advisors

Shri Narayana M Alva

Appreciated the suo moto offer by **Shri Manish**, who donated to AHAR and set a trend to be followed by others. The matter for Bank Guarantee instead of Cash Deposits and the period of Deposit should be discussed with MGL authorities. He offered his participation in the meeting. Now, the Association should give more time to matters pertaining to policy matters instead of fighting at lower level. More and more corner meetings should be held for proper interaction and awareness of the happenings. The efforts by VPs like Sunil Patil in meeting the officials to address the grievances of members is a good thing.

Shri Sudhakar Y Shetty

The Efforts of the Managing Committee through representation, meeting etc. with

officials, Ministers regarding FL-III Fees hike are good. Now, we have to decide our course of action in case the hike is not reviewed. In case, we do not fight, in the coming years it may be hiked at will. This exorbitant hike will affect the small hoteliers, many of which may shut down their business or rent out their outlets or sell it. We have to decide and take steps. In case the hike is not reduced, we should resolve and decide that the license should not be renewed and also go for 1-2 days token strike including all liquor vending and selling Associations, other hotel Associations throughout the state. We have to unite and take immediate step. In case of any reduction each permit room hotelier should contribute a minimum of Rs. 10,000 to AHAR's legal fund. In Service Tax matter, if registered keep the collection in separate account. There are many complaints regarding service by SREI and it should be addressed soon. A PR Agency is required for regular follow up in various news matters.

Clarifications by the Hon. Gen. Secretary

• We have opted for SREI for insurance products as the earlier service provider has restricted the claims. The new insurance provider has already covered all the previous commitments and many of our members had taken benefit of the same.

Stall Support

Sahara Q Shop # Eco Wheel Solution # Mogaveera Co-operative Bank Limited Unify designs # MSwipe #Mahesh electric

The representatives briefed about their products and services and presented with floral bouquets.

Vote of thanks

The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks by **Shri Sukesh Shetty**, Hon. Gen. Secretary.

For advertising requirements in this publication please contact : 2417 18 18

Email : aharmumbai@gmail.com

Website : www.ahar.in

WE SET STANDARDS FOR
HOTELIERS AND CATERERS AT

ICESPICE

IMPORTER-EXPORTER, HOSPITALITY & LIFESTYLE PRODUCTS



- Direct Importers from China
- We undertake Hotel projects and supply of room furniture etc.
- Melamine Crockery (India & Taiwan).
- Cutlery.
- Glassware (India, China & France).
- Porcelain Crockery (India & China).
- Planetary mixers.
- Pizza Oven.
- GN Pan.
- Arcoroc plates.
- Disposable items.
- **We Specialise in Buffet Display Items.**

Visit our showroom at:

Laxmi Vijay Industrial Estate, RH32 (Near Clothes Rack), Andheri Malad Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400 053.
Timings: 11.00 a.m to 8.00 p.m. • Tel.: 26318460, 9167397704 / 05 • email id: shailesh@icespice.in • www.icespice.com

AHAR Connect published by Shashikant Shetty on behalf of Indian Hotel & Restaurant Association (AHAR), B-2, Wadala Shriram Industrial Estate, G.D. Ambedkar Marg, (old Katrak Road), Wadala, Mumbai - 400 033. Dangat Media Pvt. Ltd., Mehra Centre, 5, Marwah Estate, Off Saki Vihar Road, Saki Naka, Mumbai : 400 072. Editor: Shashikant Shetty, Managing Editor: Bhaskar Shetty Responsible for the selection of news under the PRB Act. (C). Allrights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without permission of publisher is prohibited. Applied for RNI (MAHENG13357/13/1/2013-TC).

Disclaimer: Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquiries and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. AHAR Connect doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of AHAR Connect shall not be held liable for any consequences; in the event such claims are not honored by the Advertisers.