

# Dharamsala, a destination for all seasons

Big hospitality players check into home of the Dalai Lama

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**DHARAMSALA, DECEMBER 20** Looking for a place to organise a destination wedding in North India? Besides Udaipur, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Rishikesh, Dharamsala in Himachal is also coming up as a preferred choice. Nestled in the foothills of Dhauladhar ranges and at 4,500 feet above the sea level, the town is home to the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government-in-exile. There are many exotic places to visit besides the famous McLeodganj and the Kangra Valley. To tap this potential, big players in the hospitality industry such as Hyatt and Leisure Hotels Group have come up with their properties.

Leisure Hotels Group, having the largest number of properties in Uttarakhand, has inaugurated 'Adivaha' at Dharamsala. This is the Group's 27th property in the country. Adivaha, formerly known as the 'East Home', features a Viceroy Block with over 240 years of heritage. Located in the lap of Dhauladhar range and spread over 8 acres, this resort is an all-suite property, surrounded by a tea estate, and offers panoramic views of the snow-clad Dhauladhars, the lush green Kangra Valley and the picturesque tea gardens.

Hyatt has also come up



## HOW TO REACH

Dharamsala is well connected by air, road and rail. Besides direct flights from Delhi and Chandigarh, it is connected by rail up to Kangra. It is 242 km from Chandigarh and 475 km from Delhi by road.



**NEAREST AIRPORT**  
Gaggal, 13 km



**RAILWAY STATION**  
Kangra Mandir, 33 km



**ACCOMMODATION:** Large number of hotels and resorts

**PLACES TO VISIT:** Cricket stadium | Norbulingka Temple | McLeodganj | Kangra Valley | Kangra Fort | Namgyal | Nechung and Gyuto monasteries | Dharamkot | Titund | Dalai Lama Temple Complex | Bhagsu Waterfall | Bhagsunath Temple | Dal Lake | Naddi.

with a 80-room property at Dharamkot village on the outskirts of Dharamsala.

Vibhas Prasad, Director, Leisure Hotels Group, said, "Dharamsala is known for its scenic beauty, landscapes and as a home to the Dalai Lama. The introduction of Adivaha further offers an opportunity to understand this quaint hill town both as a serene vacation destination and as a location of historical importance".

"While traditionally Himachal was known as a summer desti-

nation, now it is known as a destination for all seasons and all reasons," he added.

Sunaina Sharma, Deputy Director, Tourism, Kangra district, while talking to The Tribune said: "To further promote tourism, the department is coming up with a nature park (which will be completed in three phases) and a fountain park. Besides this, the beautification of the Dal Lake near Naddi is also underway and the ropeway project from

Dharamsala to McLeodganj is expected to be completed by June next year." She said Dharamsala was a preferred destination for tourists for all seasons except in July and August which is a lean period due to monsoons.

"The setting up of the Dharamsala-McLeodganj ropeway will help the district administration in decongesting McLeodganj where traffic jam is a big issue," said Kartikeya Bhardwaj, owner of Adivaha.