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Maharashtra Govt to formulate policies to growth of hotel industry

The Maharashtra Chief Minister Ashok Chavan also emphasized on the need for de licensing and development of infrastructure in Mumbai

Mumbai: Calling for delicensing in the hospitality and tourism sector, Maharashtra chief minister Ashok Chavan today said his government will meet representatives of the industry soon to formulate policies to give a fillip to the sector.

“Delicensing is the need of the hour. I don’t believe in controlling,” Chavan said while speaking at the innaugration of the Imperial Palace Hotel here.

He said Mumbai requires more infrastructure to make it a world-class city and an international financial centre.

“We ought to have more (hotel) rooms in the city. We will keep the requirements of the industry in mind. We will meet hoteliers and representatives of the tourism industry soon to formulate policies for the growth of this sector,” the minister said.

“We need good infrastructure and hotels are a part of it. We talk about making Mumbai an international financial centre. BKC (Bandra Kurla Complex) and the international airport are all growing. Soon, we will have a new airport in Mumbai. There is a scope to improve this further,” Chavan said.

He said the government is also working on the coastal regulation zone (CRZ) policy to encourage investments, which entails developing the state’s 720-km long coastline. Chavan had earlier written to prime minister Manmohan Singh requesting amendments to CRZ norms in order to facilitate development.

The chief minister said environmental regulations will not be compromised for the sake of development.

“We have to create a fine balance between development and maintaining the ecological balance,” Chavan said.

Website: <http://www.livemint.com/2009/06/21173219/Maharashtra-govt-to-formulate.html>