

It is indeed a matter of great pride for Acohi having been accorded this very special privilege of awarding Doctorates, to honour some very deserving personalities from the Tourism & Hospitality trade ,perhaps a First for our Trade.

For me personally , it was a matter of a Double pleasure.

Firstly bcos of being a part of this auspicious event where Padma Shri Ms Thangam E Phillip , from now on Dr Thangam E Phillip, our Principal of IHM Mumbai has been bestowed this Doctrate posthumously.

Ms Phillip ,as she was popularly addressed by all students , is one of the Tallest Icons, and a Role Model to several thousands in this industry, under whose guidance and watchful eyes, the likes of me graduated to finally step out and walk into the professional world of Hospitality and Tourism, nearly 3 & half decades ago.

Dr Thangam Phillip can easily & undisputedly be credited for having shaped up the maximum number of careers which went on to serve in the Hospitality trade , both in India & rest of the World.

The second reason was seeing this honour being bestowed upon Sh Kuldip Verma , Ex Sr VP of ITDC who has authored the book "Path Breaking Journey" which is an amazing assimilation of his entire journey in the Hospitality Industry, specifically the ITDC and makes for a very interesting & aspiring read . Mr Verma's eye for detail , impeccable & meticulous approach made a great learning for people like me & many of my ex colleagues , who gained immensely from the exposure under his able guidance.

Having said that , I would like to deeply appreciate the efforts of Entire team of Acohi , who under the highly committed pursuit of its Chairman Dr Sanee Awsarmmel is doing a great job redefining the parameters of excellence of the Hospitality trade and embarking upon refining the Gold Standards of several domains of the Hospitality business.

The Culinary I.D scheme, the movement on promotion of Alkaline mediums in cooking , the special recognition to award Doctorates are just a few feathers in the cap of ACOHI under a highly devoted & farsighted leadership.

As I can see , ACOHI is forward bound to create an impressive impact in the field of Hospitality & Tourism protocols in the times ahead, and with its flock growing fast but selectively , very soon it will make its mark at a much larger level in India and Asia.

Ending with the Iconic Motto coined by Dr Thangam Phillip many decades ago :

Enter to Learn , Go forth to Serve

And serve with pleasure ,one and al

It is entrenched in our Minds and imbibing that has stood all of us in very good stead.

Best Wishes.

Arvind Kaila.

(Board Member of Dr Thangam Phillip Hospitality & Tourism Board - ACOHI)