

# FINANCING & THE HOSPITALITY SECTOR

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Challenges being faced by the Hospitality Sector	
High cost of real estate and finance	<ul> <li>Depending upon its size, the major cost component for hotels is land and the building. Since, hotels are not given status of infrastructure projects, the financing cost too remain comparatively high.</li> </ul>
Multiplicity of licenses, permits and approval	<ul> <li>Multiplicity of regulatory compliances both under the Central and State Acts and frequent changes are another set of challenges for the industry.</li> </ul>
Mid stage modifications/cost and time overrun	<ul> <li>Mid stage modification in the planning structure also leads to cost and time overrun thereby adding to cost and loss of revenue.</li> <li>Restructuring of finance accounts by the bank will also lead to declaration of account as a Non Performing Asset (NPA). This may trigger serious financial and operational challenges for the project.</li> </ul>
Remedies	
Proper research and planning	<ul> <li>Hotels need both long term and short terms funding as both the cost of setting up and operations are high.</li> <li>A proper planning will enable the hotel to balance this cost of fund in the light of expected revenue.</li> <li>Do advance planning in view of likely development of the area and need for rooms and decide the size of the hotel bearing in mind revenue of existing hotels.</li> <li>Avoid mid stage modification in the plan and temptation to increase room capacity.</li> <li>Ensure timely completion and operation of the hotels so that funding costs are kept at check and obligations met in time.</li> <li>Seek long term finance in line with expected revenue to be generated from hotel operations.</li> </ul>
Reasons of high NPA levels in hotel projects	Some reasons include:  Delays in completion of project thereby delay in generating cash flows  Low room rate/revenues and low occupancy leading to repayment delays  High project costs  High finance cost  Over leveraging of project and cross mortgaging of project  Strict provisioning and NPA classification norms
Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme	■ The scheme was available to the hospitality sector till March 2023. The outlay amount was also enhanced from INR 4.5 lakh crores to INR 5 lakh crores.

We hope you have found the information helpful. For further details please reach out to the author:

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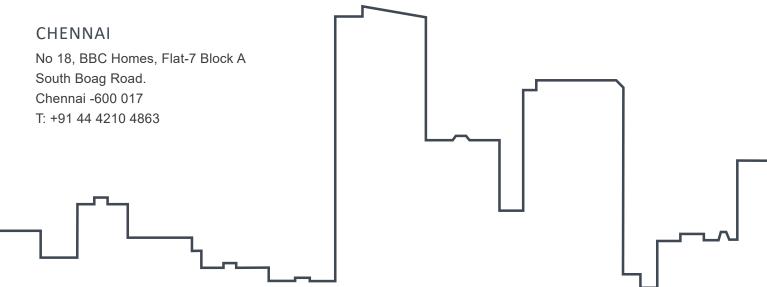
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