

## A VERY SPECIAL EVENING - THE FIRST ANNUAL FRED TIBBITTS & ASSOCIATES CELEBRATES "A WINTER EVENING IN NEW DELHI WITH VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS"



The First Annual Fred Tibbitts & Associates "A Winter Evening in New Delhi with Very Special Friends" proved to be another memorable event for the fifty-four guests, who included senior & area vice presidents, general managers, hotel managers, directors of food & beverage and executive chefs, the press and valued sponsors. The reception was hosted by Phillips Foods Asia, which provided their finest Lump Crab Meat for many of Executive Chef Deepak Bhatia's marvelous canapés. Pernod Ricard India brought their magnificent The Glenlivet Bar, which included The Glenlivet served "As you like it" as well as delicious cocktails, plus G.H. Mumm Champagne and Brancott Estate premium wines; Treasury Wine Estates with a selection

of premium Penfolds wines; and Constellation Brands with a selection of premium Robert Mondavi wines. All guests were received and presented their name badges by Priyanka Sohal, Catering Sales Coordinator, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi; formally announced with style by Lavraj Matnani, Catering Sales Coordinator, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi; and chimed with enthusiasm by Anupam Tiwari, Executive Assistant to the Executive Assistant Manager – Food & Beverage, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi. The four-course gala dinner brought Fred Tibbitts to the podium, who welcomed the guests and asked that they consider "Service as the Highest Calling". Tibbitts explained that the primary purposes of the FTA dinners are to recognize hospitality excellence, provide scholarships in the names of those whom are honored and to make charitable contributions to benefit those less fortunate. Tibbitts continued on his company's most recent direct humanitarian mission to rescue a very poor Cambodian family, which continues at Phnom Penh.

Tibbitts next asked The Venerable Kunga Gedun, Tsechen Damchos Ling Monastery at Mundgod to take the podium to chant a Buddhist prayer in Tibetan and summarize it in English, which was well received by all the guests. Tibbitts then called for the evening's eleven "Loyalty Toasts" by some of the dinner personalities, including Sanjay Sharma, General Manager, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi; Nancy Agnihotri, Corporate Communication Manager, Pernod Ricard India for the G.H. Mumm Champagne toast; Dilip Puri, Managing Director-India & Regional Vice President – South Asia, Starwood Hotels & Resorts; Lothar Pehl, Senior Vice President Operations & Global Initiatives, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific; Javed Ali, Vice President & General Manager, Radisson Blu Mahipalpur; Arindam Kumar, General Manager, Crowne Plaza, Gurgaon; Brigit Holm, General Manager, Dusit Devarana New Delhi; Jake Jacob, Regional Director – Asia, Constellation Brands; Sagun Sawhney, Country Manager, MICROS-Fidelio India Pvt. Ltd.; Uday Thakkar, Division Manager, Institutional India, Ecolab; and Soni Agnani, Director, Hotel & Travel – Asia Pacific, CNN International. Following the dinner toasts, Tibbitts announced a donation of \$500.00 USD from a portion of the dinner proceeds to UNICEF India. Tibbitts then called to the podium Eric Christopher, CEO, Habitat for Humanity India to accept a USD\$500.00 contribution from a portion of the dinner proceeds; and finally The Venerable Kunga Gedun, Administrator, Tsechen Damchos Ling Monastery, Mundgod, India to present him with a donation of USD\$500.00 from a portion of the dinner proceeds to benefit the Pema Ts'al Monastic Schools at Mundgod and Nepal.

Tibbitts returned to the podium after the Main Course to announce the Recipients of the 2013 FTA Hospitality Awards for Excellence, each of whom will be presented with both his or her award trophy and scholarship in his or her name at the 2013 FTA Fall Awards Dinners at for Asia Pacific at the W Hong Kong on 30 September; and for North America at Lincoln Center in New York on 12 November: Following the Dessert Course, Tibbitts asked Sanjay Sharma, General Manager, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi to return to the podium to "Summon the Brigade". Sharma's summons was answered by a resplendent parade of the kitchen seniors who prepared the dinner, led by Executive Chef, Deepak Bhatia as well as an equally spirited parade of the service staff who served the dinner, led by Asim Mangain, Banquet Operation Manager. Then Sharma, along with visiting Managing Director-India & Regional Vice President – South Asia for Starwood Hotels & Resorts, Dilip Puri; Anuraag Bhatnagar, Area General Manager, Westin Hotels, Mumbai & Pune; and Faiz Alam Ansari, Complex Executive Assistant Manager, The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi and Lothar Pehl, Senior Vice President Operations and Global Initiatives, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific were joined on stage by the thirty members of the combined Kitchen and Service Brigades for the Assembled Brigade group photographs to commemorate the festive occasion.

Fred Tibbitts & Associates or "FTA" is a global social entrepreneurship, giving all profits to those less fortunate; and the leading global wine, spirits and related services consulting agency for National Account chain hotels and restaurants with offices at Bangkok, Thailand, Phnom Penh, Cambodia and Menands, New York, USA.

A Winter Evening with Very Special Friends

Thursday 17 January

The Westin



**Fred Tibbitts and Associates organises 'A Winter Evening' at The Westin Gurgaon**

The First Annual Fred Tibbitts & Associates hosted 'A Winter Evening with Very Special Friends' at The Westin Gurgaon. The guests included area vice presidents, general managers, hotel managers, F&B directors, and executive chefs