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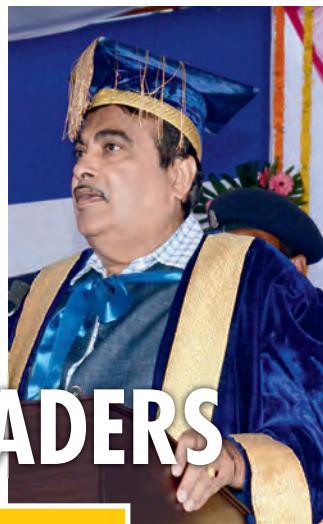
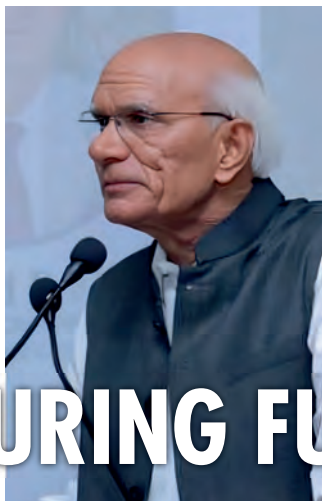


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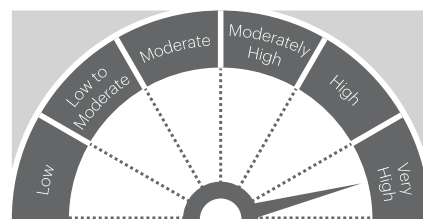


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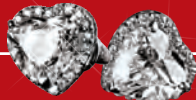
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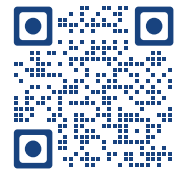
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Our commitment to regional aviation runs deep. Through the UDAN scheme, we have proudly brought air connectivity to underserved cities like Puducherry, Pakyong, Darbhanga, Kanpur, Jaisalmer, and the newly added Shivamogga, linking it to Chennai and Hyderabad. These aren't just new routes—they are lifelines, driving local economies and fostering cultural ties. These expansions underscore our commitment to democratising access to affordable air travel while enhancing connectivity across regional and metropolitan hubs.



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Vol. No. 17 | Issue 182 | December 2024

PUBLISHER

NKN Media

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Editor **Florina Soren**

Head Office | NKN Media

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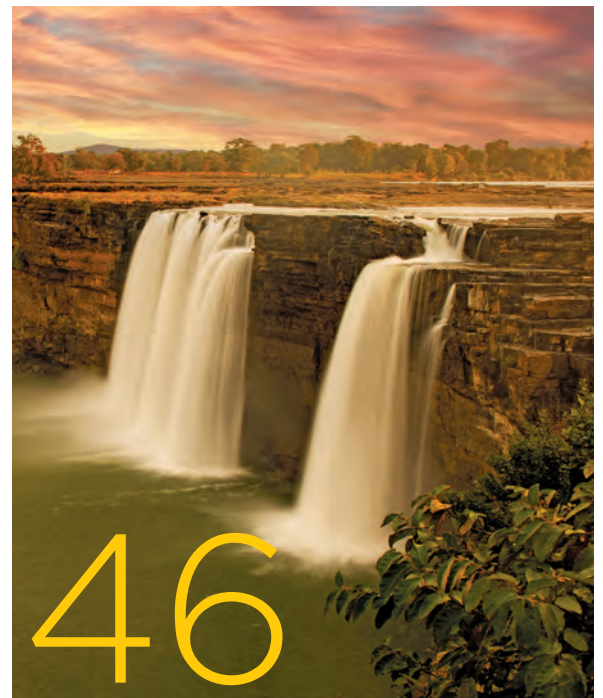


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what's TRENDING



MESSAGES FROM THE MOUNTAINS

Royal Enfield Social Mission has announced the inaugural edition of ***Journeying Across the Himalayas***, to be held in Delhi in December. This multidisciplinary festival showcase celebrates the power of collective action for change in Royal Enfield's spiritual home, the Himalayas. The fest will feature a variety of programming, including a textile conservation project ('From Folk to Fabric: The Himalayan Knot Textile Exhibition') that pays tribute to the crafts, folklore and storytelling of the region's artisan communities, and a first-of-its-kind 360-degree VR film experience ('An Ode to the Snow Leopard') which will transport viewers to the remote habitats of this elusive big cat.

Where: Travancore Palace, New Delhi

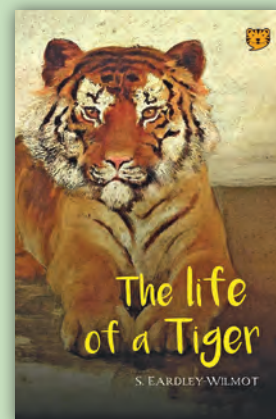
When: December 5-15, 2024



THE MAJESTIC LIFE

A captivating story about the life of a fierce tiger, ***The Life of a Tiger*** by S. Eardley-Wilmot invites readers into the enchanting world of the jungles of north India, where the majestic tiger prowls as both predator and as an emblem of untamed beauty. This richly woven tale captures the essence of the tiger's life, from its hunting practices to the challenges it faces in a rapidly changing environment. With a great storyline, *The Life of a Tiger*, brings to life the terrain of the big cat, and encourages readers to reflect on the fragile relationship between nature and humanity.

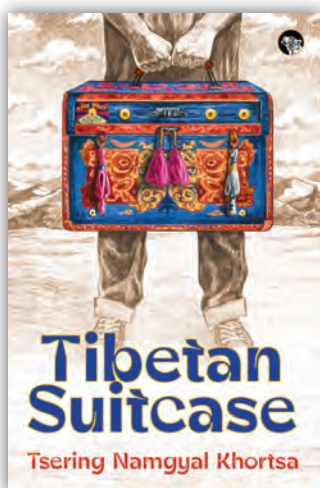
Book: *The Life of a Tiger* by S. Eardley-Wilmot



A JOURNEY INTO THE SOUL

Tibetan Suitcase takes us into the mind of Dawa Tashi, an India-born Tibetan whose quiet life in the Himalayas changes when he applies to a well-known American university to pursue a course in creative writing. At university, he befriends – and falls in love with – Iris Pennington, an uncommon American student who is studying Buddhist literature. He also comes in contact with Khenchen Sangpo, renowned scholar of Buddhism and a reincarnated Rinpoche himself. Told in the form of letters and journal entries, 'Tibetan Suitcase' is a deeply moving novel about love and longing, about those who belong neither here nor there, and about the challenges of negotiating between worlds.

Book: *Tibetan Suitcase*, by Tsering Namgyal Khortsa





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FURNITURE THAT SPELLS CLASS AND ELEGANCE

WoodFeather, a globally acclaimed luxury aviation décor brand, has introduced its latest collection, AIRBORN. This series of statement art pieces repurpose relics of retired iconic fighter jets and commercial airplanes, transforming them into breathtaking collector's artworks that blend aviation heritage with contemporary design. These forgotten pieces of aviation history are now reborn as striking additions for the home. Highlights of the collection include a sofa crafted from a MiG-21 drop tank, a sophisticated conference table made from a MiG-21 afterburner, a rare 45-year-old Boeing 747 window panel featuring Air India's heritage Maharaja paint scheme, and a lot more. AIRBORN is more than a furniture collection; it's a tribute to the high-flying legacy of aviation history.

What: AIRBORN by WoodFeather.



RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A ZING

Situated in close proximity to one of India's most renowned wildlife sanctuaries, Ranthambore National Park, Rajasthan, **Aamaghati Wildlife Resort** promises an exceptional blend of outdoor excitement and luxury. The property offers a luxurious 2-night, 3-day package, available from 30 December 2024 to 2 January 2025. It includes accommodation, all meals, a festive Gala Dinner with an IMFL package on New Year's Eve, and a special New Year's Day brunch. Enjoy additional benefits such as a traditional welcome, access to the Kids Zone, discounts on spa treatments, and in-room dining and laundry services.

Where: Aamaghati Wildlife Resort, Ranthambore
When: 30 December 2024 - 1 January 2025.



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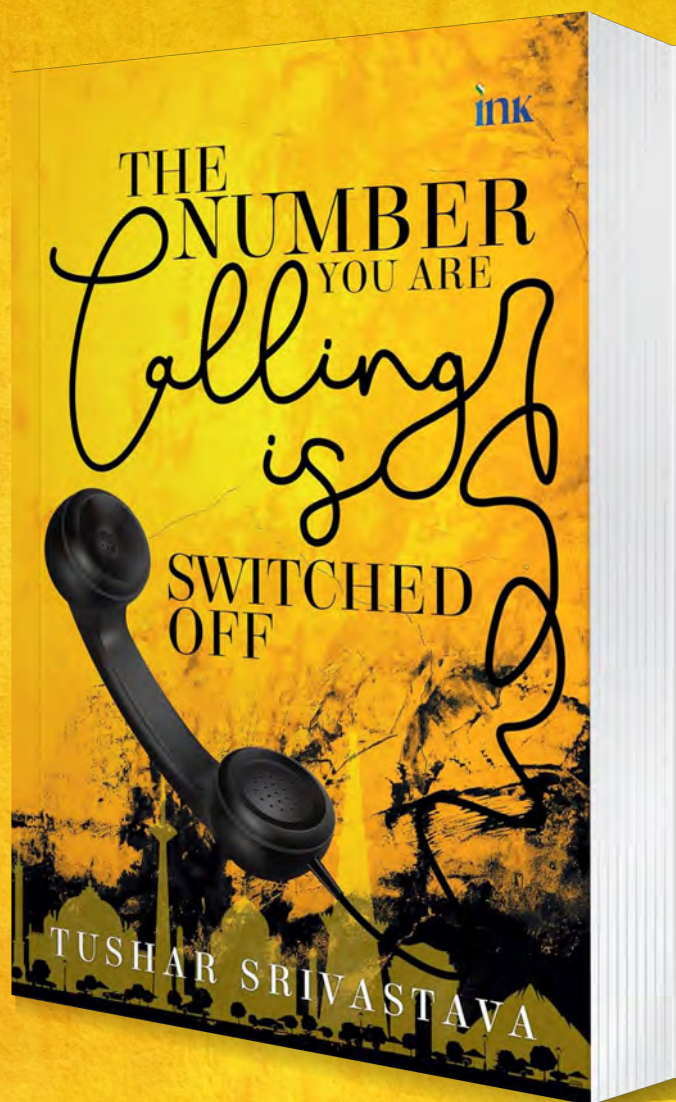
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Davaindia Generic Pharmacy thrives on a commitment to providing affordable, high-quality healthcare solutions across India. Under the leadership of Group CEO Dr. Sujit Paul, Davaindia has grown into a vast network of over 1,200 outlets nationwide, fulfilling its mission to make essential health and wellness products accessible to all.

Strategic Leadership Driving Success

Guided by the strategic vision of Dr. Sujit Paul, Davaindia's parent company, Zota Healthcare Limited, operates under a Strategic Business Unit (SBU) model. This approach allows each unit to maintain operational autonomy while supporting the broader mission of accessible healthcare. Dr. Paul's leadership drives Davaindia's expansion with a strong focus on operational excellence, growth, and customer satisfaction.



Changing the Perception of Generic Medicines

Davaindia is on a mission to change the way people view generic medicines. With generics gaining acceptance across India, the company is helping to shift perceptions by delivering high-quality, affordable products that inspire trust. Each product in Davaindia's portfolio is rigorously tested, proving that effective healthcare doesn't need to be costly. Davaindia's dedication to quality is reshaping the conversation around generics, empowering consumers to make informed healthcare choices.



Davaindia is a pioneering force in the healthcare industry, reshaping the landscape by making high-quality generic medicines affordable and accessible to all. Our vision is to create a healthier and more equitable future for everyone we serve.

*– Dr. Sujit Paul, Group CEO,
Zota Healthcare Limited*

So next time you need a trusted healthcare solution, remember Davaindia Generic Pharmacy—a name transforming healthcare, one community at a time.

Elevating Everyday Healthcare

Davaindia offers a wide range of products, from essential Generic Medicines to Over-the-Counter (OTC) items, premium Cosmetics, Gym essentials, and a variety of health and wellness products. Through its own private labels, Davaindia adheres to stringent quality standards, ensuring that each product—from vitamins to skincare to fitness essentials—delivers on its promise of quality.

Looking Ahead: A Vision for a Healthier, More Equitable Future

Dr. Sujit Paul envisions Davaindia as a household name across India, recognized for its unwavering commitment to affordable and accessible healthcare. As an omni-channel retail leader, Davaindia is strategically positioned to serve communities nationwide. With every store and product, the company is transforming the healthcare landscape—pushing boundaries and inspiring a healthier, more equitable world.

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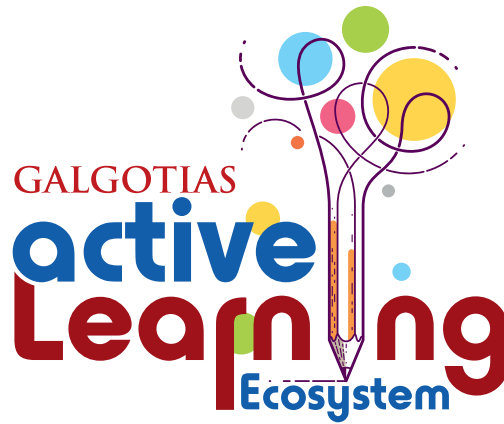
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SpiceJet Set to Launch Seaplane Operations in 2025

New Seaplane Routes to Revolutionize Regional Connectivity, Connecting Remote and Iconic Destinations across India

SpiceJet has announced plans to launch seaplane operations in 2025, connecting some of India's most remote and picturesque locations. The announcement was made on November 9, 2024 by SpiceJet's Chairman and Managing Director, Ajay Singh, on the occasion of a demonstration seaplane flight from Prakasam Barrage in Vijayawada to Srisailem Dam, attended by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Sh. N. Chandrababu Naidu and Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Sh. K. Rammohan Naidu.

SpiceJet has partnered in seaplane trials across multiple locations, providing crucial engineering, technical, and logistical support to De Havilland.

With rights to operate seaplane services on 20 routes, including Lakshadweep, Hyderabad, Guwahati, and Shillong, the airline is preparing to roll out connectivity across key routes as the infrastructure becomes ready.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet, said, "Seaplanes have the potential to transform India's regional connectivity, opening up access to some of the most stunning, yet remote, parts of the country. SpiceJet has always dared to dream big and with the support of visionary leaders like Chief Minister Sh. Chandrababu Naidu and Union Minister Sh. K. Rammohan Naidu, we are taking concrete steps to bring seaplane operations to life in India once again. We are excited to help drive this initiative forward, partnering closely with the government and civil aviation authorities to ensure these services become a reality and a success."

Avani Singh, CEO Spice Shuttle, said, "Our journey in regional connectivity has been a purposeful one,

rooted in the belief that everyone, no matter how remote, deserves access to affordable and efficient air travel, and today, we are excited to be at the forefront of seaplane operations in India."

"Seaplanes can be a true game-changer for a country like ours, where diverse geographies—coastlines, islands, and riverine regions—often present infrastructure challenges. With seaplanes, we can transcend these barriers and bring the joy and benefits of connectivity to coastal areas, islands, and remote inland destinations," she said.

Avani, who previously led SpiceHealth, is now spearheading SpiceJet's seaplane project following her MBA from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. She is also an alumna of Stanford University.

SpiceJet pioneered India's first scheduled seaplane service in October 2020, linking the Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad to the Statue of Unity in Kevadia, Gujarat. Although paused due to COVID-19, the airline is once again ready to spearhead this ambitious project, echoing its commitment to inclusive growth under the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme. As India's only major private airline consistently engaged with UDAN since its inception, SpiceJet continues to proudly connect the unconnected, linking communities across the nation with new and exciting travel opportunities.

This latest seaplane venture, set for an official launch in 2025, reaffirms SpiceJet's dedication to fostering India's connectivity and tourism potential, helping passengers explore the country's natural beauty and cultural heritage through safe and accessible air travel.



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QUICK **GETAWAYS** TO WRAP UP 2024

MANJULIKA PRAMOD

The end of a calendar year and the beginning of a new one is always associated with hope, anticipation, excitement, and a sense of renewal. There's magic – and Christmas carols – in the air, and the festive atmosphere kicks in just as the lights go up and continues till the New Year is counted down. So, gather together with family and friends, at any of these five perfect end-of-year destinations, and get ready to ring out the old and ring in the new.



Leh

For those keen on embracing Christmas in a winter wonderland, but away from it all, Ladakh awaits. December is among the coldest months in the region but one that gifts you with breathtaking views, nature snuggled quietly under a blanket of snow, and a host of winter activities. With places like Khardung La, Pangong and Moriri lakes, and the Nubra and Zaskar valleys, there is enough to satiate your thirst for adventure.

You can also plan your trip around Losar, the Tibetan New Year and an important Ladakhi festival. But Losar isn't the only popular festival that falls in December; there's Galdan Namchot, which observes the birth, death and enlightenment of Je Tsongkhapa, a Tibetan Buddhist scholar and teacher, and heralds the start of New Year celebrations in Ladakh.

Not To Miss

Galdan Namchot will be celebrated on December 25.

The Grand Dragon Ladakh in Leh - located at a height of 11,562 feet, and a perfect blend of sustainability and aesthetic design - allows you a peek into the local architecture, culture, cuisine, and traditions.



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Dubai

When it comes to end-of-year extravaganzas, Dubai has carved out an exclusive niche for itself. This emirate doesn't do things in halves (for example, huge and elaborately festooned Christmas trees that can't but catch your eye), and loves to throw in lots of glitz, glamour and great gastronomy into the mix. And there's even snow parks for those who like a spot of skiing under the balmy winter sun. You can follow that up with some dune bashing in the desert, a picnic on the beach – or that Dubai speciality, shopping.

Meanwhile, the Dubai Global Village transforms into a magical space, with lights and carousels, and plenty of live music. But possibly the most eagerly awaited experience is the fireworks display on New Year's eve, at the Burj Khalifa. These pyrotechnics, alongside a laser, light and drone show, make for a spectacular end to the year.



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Not To Miss

The upcoming Dubai Shopping Festival starts December 6. It is turning 30 this year, and there are big celebrations planned.



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Goa

Goa never fails to delight with its dreamy ambience, lip-smacking seafood, and electrifying parties all year round. And things get a notch perkier during this time of the year. The weather is warm and sunny, the beach shacks are up and running, and everyone is on their toes for the Xmas carnivals.

When in Goa during Christmas, a festive market is a must-visit. A former Portuguese colony, the state boasts some of the best churches in the country, among them St. Francis of Assisi, Basilica of Bom Jesus, Se Cathedral, and Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception - the seasonal



fervour at each is unmatched. As the year draws to a close, make sure you're warmed up enough to shake a leg to live music and DJ sets, at any of the celebrations hosted by beachside clubs and resorts.

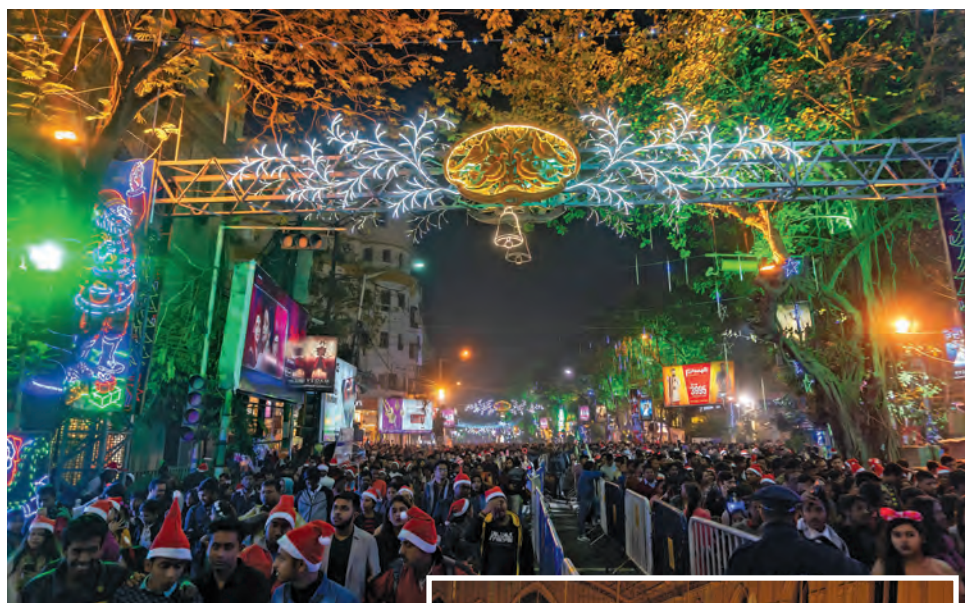
And don't miss out on a date with the Olive Ridley turtles at Galgibaga Beach - here, you can witness the arrival of this engaging species, whose nesting season begins in November and lasts until April.

Not To Miss

If in Goa for the year-end, do not miss attending the midnight church service for a surreal experience.



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO **GOA FROM DELHI, MUMBAI, AHMEDABAD AND PUNE**



Kolkata

The 'City of Joy' impresses one and all with its rich cultural tapestry, colonial architecture, and delectable cuisine. And cozy and camaraderie-filled December is a month when it comes alive, for Kolkatans have a love affair with Noel. With its fairy lights, vibrant Park Street promises a New Year experience unlike any other. Locals make sure to attend midnight masses at the popular churches, all decked up with large Xmas trees, bright lights, and hanging stars.

But when it comes to food spreads, Kolkata just cannot go wrong. The festivals at Allen Park and on Park Street tap into the joy of the season - the former, host of the Kolkata Christmas Festival, echoes to the sound of carols and festive tunes. And there's live music on New Year's Eve, when fireworks streak into the night sky to bring the year to a mesmerising close.

Not To Miss

The Christmas festival at Allen Park on Park Street, where various bands and choir groups perform, is a must attend.



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO **KOLKATA FROM DELHI, MUMBAI, PORT BLAIR, BANGKOK AND MANY OTHER CITIES**



Phuket

If chilly and foggy days are not for you, plan an escape to Phuket. This laid-back beach getaway in Thailand offers a gorgeous fusion of tropical climate, adrenaline-soaked water-based activities, and stunning ocean vistas.

There's something about crystal-clear blue waters, shimmering golden sands and endless sunshine that speaks of placid year-end vibes. But there's more, including island hopping and trips into the rainforest. And in the first week of December, one can enjoy the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, Asia's largest and most prestigious sailing event.

Towards the end of the month, atmospheric night markets wait to be discovered, and there are Christmas buffets (with great food) aplenty. When December 31 comes around, beach clubs located on the waterfront become party venues, all welcoming the new year with a bang ●

Not To Miss

The epicentre of New Year's Eve is the beach in Pa Tong, with its countdown, fireworks and lively atmosphere.



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Dr. Kalasha Naidu

is a rising name in the global philanthropic and social service arenas. At just 11 years old, she embodies passion, perseverance, and a strong belief in collective action. Honored as Asia Icon 2024 by former Sri Lankan President Shri Maithripala Sirisena, Kalasha's achievements are significant for someone so young.

In a world where philanthropy often appears impersonal, Dr. Naidu exemplifies how one individual's vision can transform lives. A dynamic Telugu girl, her journey reflects both her intellect and her commitment to social causes through the Kalasha Foundation.

Founded on August 30, 2013, in Andhra Pradesh, the Kalasha Foundation has conducted social service programs across over 60 countries. Initially focused on local initiatives, the

foundation expanded internationally under the guidance of Kalasha's father, Dr. Nutan Naidu, an internationally recognized strategy expert. He established the foundation on Kalasha's birth to instill social consciousness and leadership skills in her from an early age.



Dr. Kalasha Naidu serves as an inspiration and role model, fostering compassion among younger generations.



Born in Andhra Pradesh, she completed her primary education at Oakridge International School in Hyderabad and is now pursuing secondary education in the United Kingdom. In addition to her Asia Icon 2024 award, Kalasha received an honorary doctorate from the United States of America International University, in collaboration with the UN Global Peace Council, recognizing

The foundation not only engages in various social service activities but also presents the Kalasha Awards each year to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to society. By the age of five, Kalasha was already involved in understanding the foundation's mission, striving to become the youngest social worker in the Indian subcontinent.



her as the "Globally Youngest Social Worker." This accolade, awarded during a notable event at the House of Lords in the British Parliament, reflects her early commitment to humanitarian efforts and environmental stewardship.

Kalasha is not only a dedicated social worker but also an exceptional student, excelling in Vedic Maths and several languages, including Telugu, English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Spanish, and French. Her interests include classical dance and music, golf, yoga, Rubik's Cube, chess, and swimming.

Her academic and extracurricular achievements, alongside her commitment to Indian classical arts and humanitarian work, have earned her multiple accolades, including the Seva Darshini and the International Social Worker Award. These recognitions are a source of pride for her community.

In an era marked by significant challenges, Dr. Kalasha Naidu's story shines brightly. Through her dedication and the initiatives of the Kalasha Foundation, she makes a tangible impact and inspires others. Central to her success is the unwavering support of her mother, Dr. Priya Naidu, whose guidance has been crucial in shaping Kalasha's values. This was acknowledged by former U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak in his congratulatory message to Kalasha during her address to the British Parliament on global millennial goals.

As we celebrate her accomplishments, it's vital to support young leaders eager to make a difference. Kalasha's journey serves as a powerful reminder: investing in youth is investing in a brighter future for all.



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Manish Kumar Founder & CEO
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A Positive Feedback for SpiceJet Limited

I've seen a lot of posts on social media lately highlighting negative experiences with SpiceJet Limited customer service, but I'd like to share my recent positive experience and a few suggestions for improvement.

I recently traveled on flight SG531 from Bangalore to Patna on October 24, 2024, at 10:45, and I must say, it was a smooth and pleasant journey. The in-flight experience was excellent, especially the food, which was delicious. Although I don't remember her exact name, the crew member from the aft section was exceptionally kind and demonstrated great customer service skills, making the 2:15-hour journey very comfortable. The flight took off on time and landed on time, which added to the overall great experience. 🙌

One suggestion I'd like to offer is regarding the check-in process. I arrived at the airport around 2 pm, but check-in didn't start until 3:30 pm, leaving many passengers, including myself, waiting for quite a while. Given the traffic and weather challenges in Bangalore, people often arrive early, and it would be more convenient if the check-in could start a bit earlier to accommodate this. A smoother check-in process would certainly enhance the overall travel experience. 🙏

Overall, I had a great experience on this flight, and I genuinely hope SpiceJet continues to grow and improve. A stronger SpiceJet means a healthier Indian aviation market, which can prevent monopolies that could otherwise limit passenger rights and lead to less favorable practices. I wish you all the best and hope to see SpiceJet come back stronger! 🙌

#SpiceJet #Aviation #CustomerService #TravelExperience #Feedback



Pankaj Desai
@pankajdesai_19

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spicejet thank u so much for the comfortable n peaceful flight. @flyspicejet @mumbaimatterz @MumbaiAirport



Sarthak Sharma
@sarthak4r

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Had a surprisingly pleasant experience today flying with 🍷 @flyspicejet. Of the past 10 years of me taking this flight, today was special because:

1. On time performance for the first time!
2. This beautiful @Bombardier turboprop aircraft !!!
3. The clouds obviously



Ravi Ranjan
@ravi_ranjan90

Follow

@IndiGo6E Sun rising as "Indigo" but I am travelling by @flyspicejet, as you don't operate on that route currently. Kudos to SpiceJet team for running flights on strategic route on festival @flyspicejet

Wishing you both a bright Diwali. Keep soaring high in the sky.





Kairali – The Ayurvedic Healing Village

KERALA, INDIA

Kairali – The Ayurvedic Healing Village is located in Kerala, known as the home of ayurveda and wellness. The region is famous not only as a serene natural environment that promotes relaxation and rejuvenation, but also as a unique opportunity to experience authentic ayurvedic treatments and therapies through its rich history of traditional Keralan medicine.

The retreat is in the Palakkad district, also known as the ‘granary of Kerala’, a region that’s famous for its lush green paddy fields, ancient temples and rich cultural heritage. The district is also home to the Silent Valley National Park, one of the last remaining tropical rainforests in India.

The retreat’s 30 villas combine traditional Keralan architecture and vastu shastra, a traditional system of Indian architecture similar to feng shui, as well as being based on architect Laurie Baker’s style of sustainable architecture. Its sprawling 60 acres of greenery is home to large numbers of coconut, teak and mango trees that help to create a serene healing atmosphere.

The retreat is an endeavour by the Kairali Ayurvedic Group to showcase the legacy of ayurveda through authentic treatments and to promote a healthy lifestyle to a global audience. Guests start their journey towards wellness from the moment they’re welcomed with a cosy authentic Keralan stole and the traditional Indian greeting of ‘Namaste’ by the friendly staff.

The villas were renovated in 2022 and feature individually unique interior and exteriors, and are based on vastu shastra and Keralan zodiac signs. The decor is simple yet elegant, with the large windows opening up to the lush greenery outside and letting sunlight stream in.

Guests can meet with experienced ayurvedic physicians who perform detailed personalised consultations that take into account their unique physical and emotional needs. Guests are then presented with customised treatment, a bespoke yoga and meditation routine, as well as a specially tailored meal plan. There are more than 30 types of treatment on offer, including body detoxification, pain management, and lifestyle-related programmes.

Need to know

KEY FEATURES

- Farm-to-table vegetarian ayurvedic cuisine
- 8,000sq ft yoga and meditation hall
- Ayurveda Treatment Centre
- Gym
- Swimming pool
- Library

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Weight Loss
- Panchakarma – Five-Step Detox Programme
- Rejuvenation Programme
- Pain Management
- De-stress Programme
- Hypertension
- Pre- & Postnatal Care

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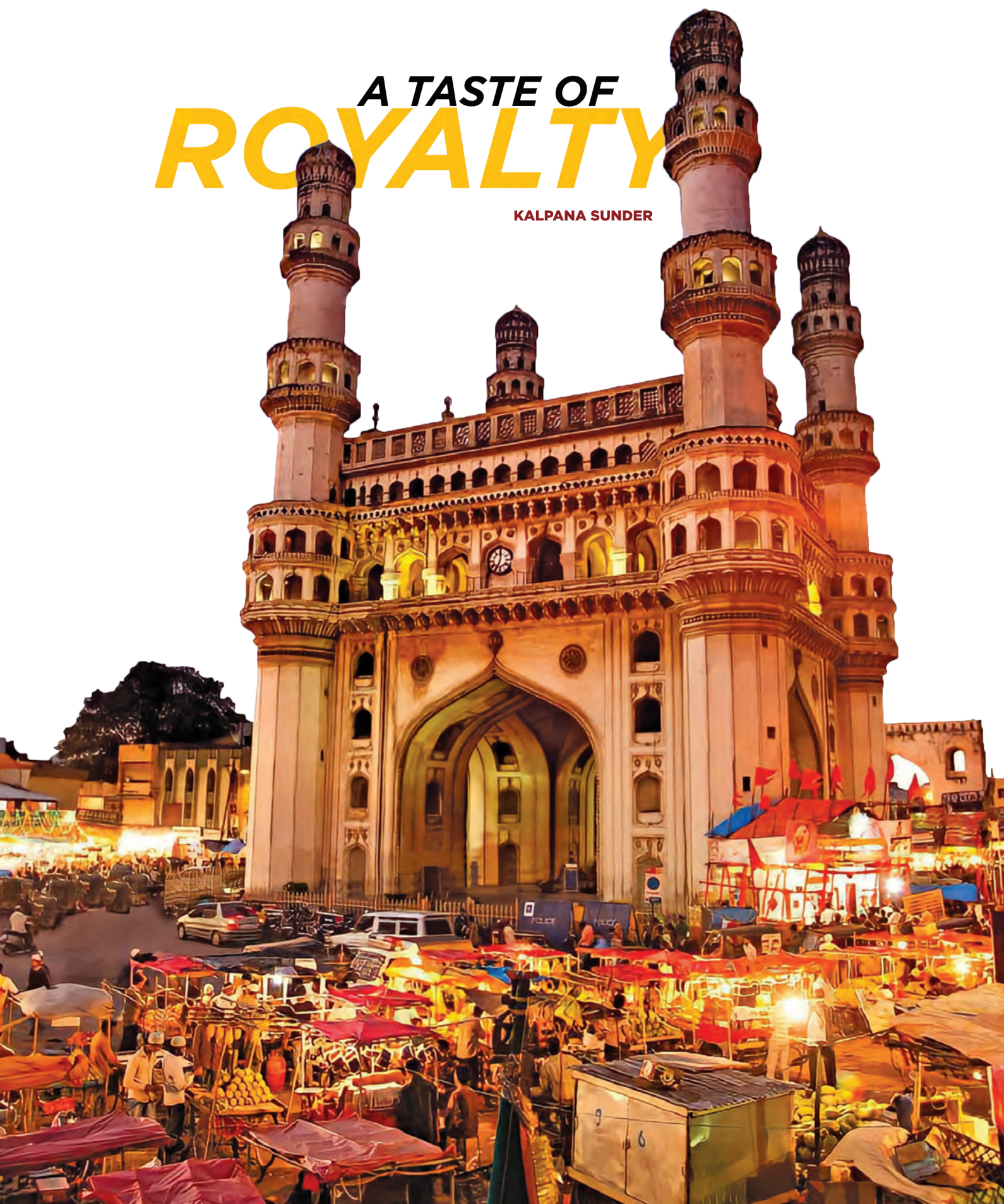
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DON'T MISS Panchakarma is a five-step detox programme that provides a total detoxification of the body, mind and soul

A TASTE OF ROYALTY

KALPANA SUNDER



Often referred to as the 'City of Nawabs', Hyderabad has been both a centre of Islam in India and a hub of Deccani arts and culture. With its wealth of Indo-Islamic architecture – influenced by Persian, Mughal and European styles – the capital of Telangana offers a fascinating glimpse into its royal past.

9:00 AM

DISCOVER THE ICONIC CHARMINAR AREA

There's so much to see and buy around the Charminar, one of India's most recognised historic structures – from exquisite zardozi embroidery work and fabric for salwar suits, to henna, and kohl to line the eyes. Just off the Charminar is Laad Bazaar, a bustling market housing more than a hundred shops selling stone-studded lac bangles. Row upon row of glass cabinets line the walls of each shop along the strip, crammed with bangles in every possible size and colour.

11:00 AM

FEEL LIKE A ROYAL AT CHOWMAHALLA

Dating from 1751, Chowmahalla Palace was modelled on the Shah's palace in Tehran, its four wings bordering a central courtyard with a rectangular pond and fountains. Built in a blend of different architectural styles, from Indo-Saracenic to European, the palace used to be staffed by 7,000 people, and considered one of the finest royal residences in the country. It once

sprawled over 45 acres but today only 14 acres remain! Visit the Durbar Hall, a vast, marble-floored reception room with arched pillars, Belgian glass chandeliers, ornate stuccowork, and glittering chandeliers. Walk through the courtyards of Chowmahalla, which comprise stunning and beautifully designed palaces with names such as Afzal Mahal, Mahtab Mahal, Tahniyat Mahal, and Aftab Mahal.

1:00 PM

FUEL UP ON A BIRYANI LUNCH

The legendary Hyderabad Biryani is made with basmati rice, goat meat (or chicken, or beef), curd, onions, spices, lemon and saffron. Have your fill at Shadab Hotel, which is walking distance from Laad Bazaar. Another good place to try this plate of deliciousness is Paradise Biryani. Finish with a local sweet, Double ka Meetha, a bread pudding made from fried bread slices soaked in hot milk with spices, including saffron and cardamom.



2:00 PM

MAKE TIME FOR THE SALAR JUNG

This two-storeyed museum, set across 10 acres, is worth spending a few hours in. The third-largest museum in India houses a collection of exquisite artefacts – sculptures, paintings, carvings, textiles, manuscripts, ceramics, carpets, clocks, and furniture from India and various parts of the world, including Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

4:00 PM

EXPLORE THE PAIGAH TOMBS

Lying some 4km southeast of the Charminar, and made of lime and mortar, the Paigah tombs are more than 200 years old, and are a veritable visual treat. Featuring intricate marble façades, and mosaic tilework in a mix of Moorish and Mughal styles, these 27 tombs of the Paigah nobles – who worked under the Nizams – were once adorned with semi-precious stones. Still, with their floral and geometric designs, canopies, and perforated window screens, they have lost little of their wonder.



6:00 PM

SUNSET AT HUSSAIN SAGAR

A man-made lake built during the reign of Ibrahim Quli Qutb Shah, this lake has a promenade and many parks surrounding it. On an island in the middle of the lake sits a huge monolithic statue of Lord Buddha. This is a great place to people-watch, and enjoy the open air.

8:00 PM

FEAST AT THE FALAKNUMA

Dine at Aada, the signature fine-dining Indian restaurant at the plush Taj Falaknuma Palace, originally built in 1894 by Sir Viqar-ul-Umra (then prime minister of Hyderabad). Literally meaning 'mirror of the sky', this palace boasts Art Deco and Art Nouveau elements, Italian marble with stained-glass windows, and Tudor influences too. Add grand paintings, Venetian chandeliers, Corinthian columns, period furniture (including a dining table that can seat 100 guests), a billiard table – whose identical twin rests in Buckingham Palace, London – and crystal collections, and it feels as if you've walked into a fairytale •



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO HYDERABAD FROM TIRUPATI, SHIVAMOGGA AND SHIRDI

BEST TIME TO VISIT

October to March, when the weather is pleasant. Avoid travelling between May and July, for the summer months are scorching.

WHAT TO EAT

Hyderabadi Biryani with Mirchi ka Salan is the signature dish of the city. Boti kebabs (with mutton), Paaya, Khatti Dal, and Keema Samosas are other preparations to try here. And besides Double Ka Meetha, save your sweet tooth for Sheer Khurma, a rich vermicelli pudding.

WHERE TO STAY

Hyderabad has a range of accommodation to suit every pocket. Top-end hotels like the Taj Falaknuma, Park Hyderabad, Trident, Taj Krishna and ITC Kohenur promise a luxurious stay, and have classy restaurants to boot. For the budget traveller, there are Airbnb apartments.



DR. PADMAJA FERTILITY CENTRE REVOLUTIONISING FERTILITY TREATMENT

Dr. Padmaja Divakar and her husband, Divakar Reddy, have built a remarkable journey in healthcare, establishing Dr. Padmaja Fertility Centre as a beacon of hope for childless couples. Over the past two decades, the clinic has integrated advanced technology with personalised care, achieving outstanding results in fertility treatments.

FOUNDING VISION

Dr. Padmaja's journey began in Khammam District, Telangana, where her determination to pursue medicine in the early 1990s led her to the burgeoning field of fertility treatment in the late 2000s. With Divakar Reddy's managerial expertise, they established a premier fertility centre.

INNOVATIVE SERVICES AND SUCCESS RATES

Located in Habsiguda, Hyderabad, the centre offers a comprehensive range of customised services, including IVF, ICSI, IUI, and surrogacy, with success rates of 75%, often exceeding 80%. Many couples previously disheartened by failed attempts elsewhere have found renewed hope through the clinic's tailored treatments.

COMPASSIONATE CARE

The clinic emphasises transparency in pricing, avoiding hidden costs that complicate patient experiences. Its holistic approach includes in-house maternity services, enhancing satisfaction and prioritising the health of both mother and child.

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

Dr. Padmaja and Divakar remain dedicated to continuous improvement, engaging in ongoing education and involvement in prominent organisations. Their establishment of Navya Nursing Home in Bhongir underscores their commitment to serving the marginalised.

A LASTING LEGACY

Dr. Padmaja Fertility Centre stands as a testament to visionary leadership and compassionate care. Their journey from humble beginnings to leaders in fertility treatment reflects resilience and a commitment to positively impacting countless lives.



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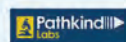
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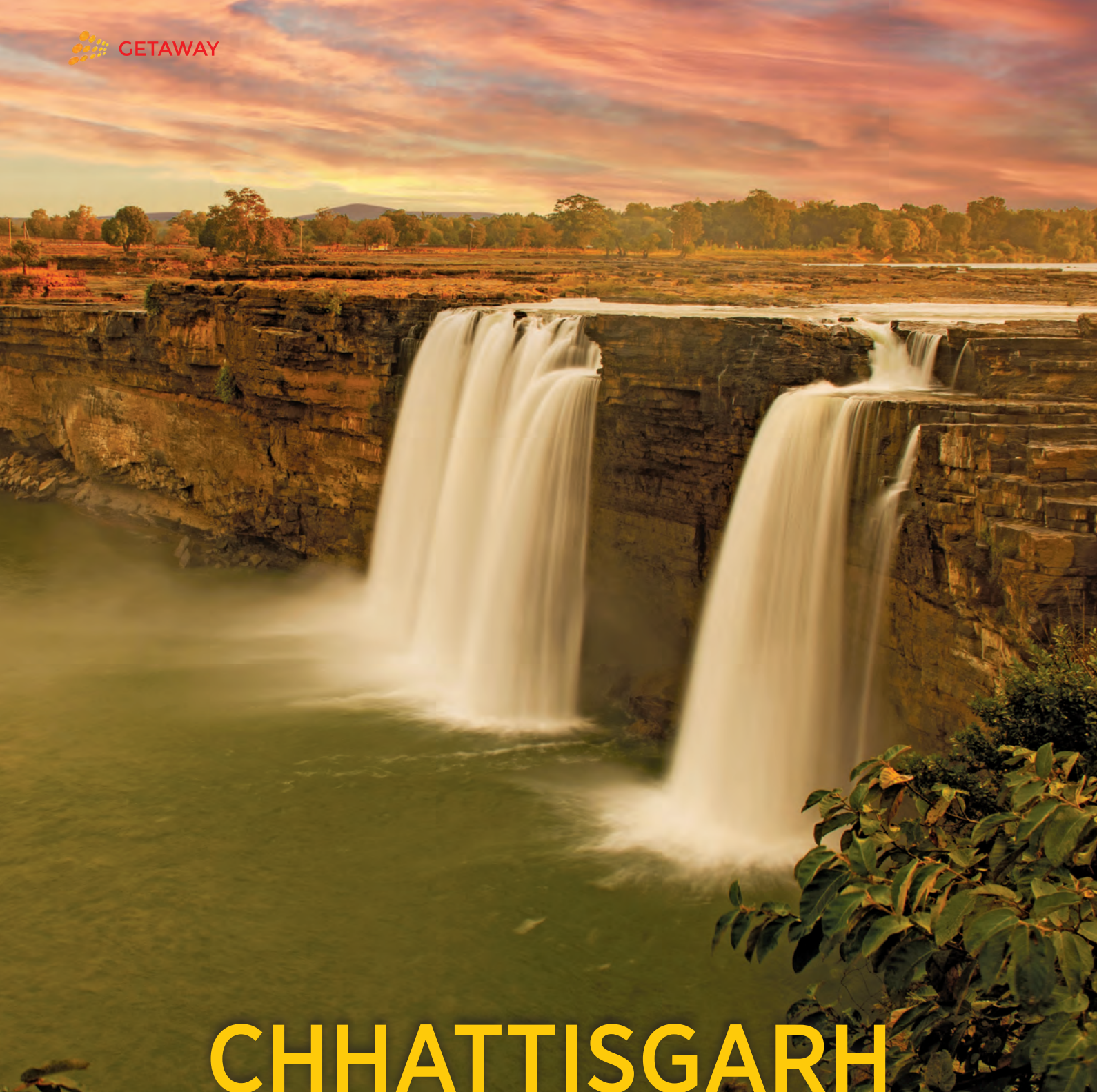
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CHHATTISGARH

BLESSED BY NATURE

MEENAKSHI MEHTA

One part of India that had for long been on my must-visit list was Chhattisgarh. No longer, though, for I have finally made it here. To be honest, I set out with limited knowledge about the state, but the trip turned out to be a learning experience. And coming from Delhi, seeing the clear blue sky was a joy in itself!



FIRST, THE NAME

There are several theories on how Chhattisgarh got its name. In ancient times, it was known as Dakshina Kosala (South Kosala), for it was believed to be the home of Lord Ram's mother, Kausalya. And according to popular belief, there were 36 strongholds in the area – hence 'Chhattis Garh'.

More than 40 per cent of the state is covered by forest. It is also often referred to as the rice bowl of India. And travelling by road through Chhattisgarh, we saw for ourselves the verdant vistas, including expanses of dense forest and unending stretches of lush-green rice fields. The roads, by and large, are in very good condition, and the drives between destinations made for scenic journeys. While Chhattisgarh, in particular Bastar, is known for its tribal population and their culture, one facet that left us in awe was the state's abundant flora and fauna, from its pristine forests and plunging waterfalls to its many species of wildlife.

OF GREENS & BLUES

We, a group of four friends, started our trip from Raipur and our first night halt was the Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary. Staying here proved to be an enjoyable experience, allowing us to soak in the forest's tranquility. With its thick undergrowth of teak, Sal and mixed forest, and plentiful prey and predators, Barnawapara has a healthy and flourishing ecosystem. The next day, we visited Sirpur and Rajim on our way to Gangrel. Sirpur is an important archaeological site along the Mahanadi River, its Buddhist, Hindu and Jain

temples and monasteries dating to as far back as the 5th century, and as recent as the 12th. Rajim, located at the holy confluence of three rivers – Mahanadi (Chitroptala), Pairi and Sondur – is also known as the 'Prayag' of Chhattisgarh, being the site of a Kumbh Mela.



We halted for the night at Bardiha, a beautiful resort with cottages on the banks of the Gangrel Dam, which spans the Mahanadi. This reservoir, the longest in Chhattisgarh, also boasts watersports facilities. Meanwhile, the dam provides for year-round irrigation, allowing farmers to harvest two crops annually.

While on the way to Bastar from Gangrel, it is worth your while to break the journey at Tatamari viewpoint, which offers breathtaking panoramas of the mountains, valley and forests stretching far into the horizon. We spent more time than we had planned at Tatamari, happily absorbing the

beauty of its surroundings. Incidentally, here, Keshkal Eco Tourism promotes community-based travel and arranges a host of activities, including trekking, camping, and village excursions. There's also a 'millet café' serving wholesome food – both mainstream and traditional – using different types of millet.

THEN, THE PICTURESQUE WATERFALLS

Chhattisgarh, including the Bastar region, has several waterfalls, some of which are perennials and others rainy-season spectacles not to be missed. The first we visited was the renowned Chitrakote Falls, a natural waterfall, and at 1000 ft the broadest in the country, located about 40 kms from Jagdalpur. Here, the waters of the Indravati River, after flowing through dense vegetation, cascade from a height of almost 100 feet. A boat ride that takes you almost below the falls promises an exhilarating experience – but be prepared to get totally drenched!

We also visited the Tamda Ghumar, Mendri Ghumar and Tirathgarh falls, each of which are within easy access of Jagdalpur. Tamda Ghumar, also a natural waterfall, flows directly from the Indravati, falling from a height of 100 ft. (approx.). The seasonal Mendri Ghumar is a narrow waterfall dropping from a height of between 125 ft. and 150 ft., located in the midst of a green valley thick with forest; trekking routes in the area are popular amongst adventure seekers. And the Tirathgarh Falls in Kanger Valley National Park is a seven-tiered fall flowing into a deep valley with steps leading to the bottom.



Clockwise from Top:
The mighty Tirathgarh Falls

A woman giving final shape to a 'dokra' figurine

Lakshman temple at Sirpur

Guests enjoying local delicacies



Of late, efforts are being made to ensure that the advantages of tourism reach the locals

ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES

At the Fog Valley Campsite near Mendri Ghumar, we enjoyed a delectable local meal cooked by the women of the village and served on leaves – simple, wholesome, and full of flavour. The spread laid out for us included 'Chapda' chutney, the famed relish made from red ants. We also visited Dhudmaras village which has been accorded a special honour in the Best Tourism Village Competition 2024, organised by the Ministry of Tourism. Here, you can put up in Dhurwa Dera, a homestay run by a local family, and indulge in some bamboo rafting.

Of late, efforts are being made to ensure that the advantages of tourism reach the locals. Tribal communities are being sensitised about tourism as a means of livelihood and are being involved in decision making, visitor management, and enhancing the experience of tourists in the region.

I would not hesitate to say that our visit to Chhattisgarh was one of the



most educational and experiential – not to mention fascinating – trips I have undertaken. I headed to this state knowing very little about it and returned with a wealth of experience and information, and yet wanting to know more ●

The author is former JDG, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India

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SWEETEN YOUR *Christmas* TABLE WITH GOURMET DESSERTS

SUSMITA SAHA

Food lies at the heart of every Christmas celebration. It is a delicate dance of classic staples and fancy bakes that tickle the tastebuds, while bringing together a rotating cast of friends and family looking to find a sense of home on the table. The Christmas table, therefore, captures the essence of the spirit of giving, the food becoming a byword for storytelling, memory-making and cross-cultural exchange.

Many treats are representative of the Christmas table. For instance, the fruit cake, a centrepiece of the holiday spread, has sundry variants across the globe, and even in the states of India. The Goan Batk – or Batica, or Baath – is a choreography of local ingredients such as coconut and semolina that celebrates the act of Christmas feasting through unique traditions. The cake ingredients are mixed and then rested for many hours, before being baked in clay vessels.

In the same vein, the Allahabadi Christmas cake is a deep meditation on how local confections can lend their richness and complexity to a European festive staple. The Allahabadi cake uses a mix of ghee, marmalade and petha (or candied ash gourd), elevating this ritual of feasting in a distinctive way.

At home too, inspired by a mind-boggling mix of Indian and international ingredients, you can transform your Christmas table by creating confections that look like gourmet offerings but can be rustled up in a jiffy. Dhruv Oberoi, executive chef at Olive Qutub and The Grammar Room, suggests setting up dessert grazing boards for the Christmas table to create an impression that is both decadent and fancy. As a champion of local Indian produce, he suggests home cooks play around with the timur – a Himalayan spice

similar to the exotic Sichuan Peppercorns – in fruit compotes, marmalades, and Christmas cake icing.

Chef Oberoi advises not to overcook the timur for the cake frosting, as the nuanced citrusy afternote and tingling sensation associated with the condiment will disappear upon cooking. “We are planning to do a timur-speckled marmalade as well as a timur ice cream with notes of orange and kumquat, playing on its citrus essence,” he reveals. Chef Oberoi instructs hosts to serve the chilled timur frosting with a warm pound cake, gooey warm cookies, and a baked tart of their choice. Incidentally, the frosting can also be a perfect replacement for ice cream.

Other big-ticket hospitality brands are also offering home bakers tips to make their Christmas table a guaranteed crowd-pleaser. Shivneet Pohoja, executive chef at ITC Maurya, reckons that Christmas baking at home can be simple but there are ways to make it jazzy. To that end, ITC is offering Christmas puddings and plum cakes that home bakers can flamboyantly personalise for their guests. “I feel the classic Christmas dishes are pretty complicated and take long years to master. For the plum pudding, for instance, we soak the fruits a year in advance. By buying the cakes, it is now possible to avoid such laborious processes at home,” explains Chef Pohoja.

Instead, he offers ideas to spiff up your desserts. According to him, hosts can slice the plum cakes and customise them by decorating them with emojis of royal icing. Alternatively, the cakes can be crumbled and stuffed into special silicone moulds – in the shape, say, of alphabets. They can be served accordingly, keeping in mind the first letter of each guest’s name. The resulting affair will be a bespoke – and memorable – dessert.



Truly, Christmas dishes can take on an identity of their own. The repertoire of treats served on the table can be as flexible as the host, as new taste preferences for ingredients make their presence felt. So, design your Christmas table with flair, tweaking the staples with new ideas and stamping your own signature on the festive meal.

Recipe

Timur frosting recipe

Ingredients:

Unsalted butter: 1 cup (softened)
Powdered sugar: 4 cups
Heavy cream: 4 tablespoons
Timur pepper: 1/2 teaspoon
Vanilla extract: 1/2 teaspoon
A pinch of sea salt

Method

Whip the butter: In a large bowl, use a hand or stand mixer to beat the softened butter until light, pale, and creamy (about 3-4 minutes).

Add powdered sugar: Gradually add the powdered sugar, one cup at a time, beating on low speed after each addition to prevent mess.

Incorporate liquid: Infuse timur pepper by boiling cream with it and steep it overnight. Add vanilla extract, and a pinch of sea salt. Beat on medium-high speed until the frosting is fluffy and smooth.

Adjust Consistency: Add milk (a teaspoon at a time) if the frosting is too thick, or more powdered sugar if it's too thin.

SpiceJet SUPERSTARS

Meet the achievers of the month from the SpiceJet family, who have stood out for their outstanding work.



ANSHU PANDEY

Reservations

Experience with SpiceJet

As I look back at the last ten years with SpiceJet, I'm filled with a profound sense of gratitude, pride, and achievement.

Joining SpiceJet a decade back marked the beginning of a transformative journey for me; both professionally and personally. I am thankful for all the opportunities of learning and growing that I am offered continuously while working with SpiceJet Reservations. The last ten years have been the most enriching period of my life. Even today I excitingly look forward to each day of my duty at SpiceJet.

Internal Appreciation

Anshu has a fine balance of hard work and smart work, and plays a critical role in day to day operation of our Reservations department. He leads by example and takes good care of other team members working with/around him. He is very customer-centric and sets benchmarks for service standards. His focus on customer satisfaction and team efficiency makes a significant difference in departmental performance. We thank him for his dedication and for always going the extra mile to support both our customers and the team.



MAYANK TRIPATHI

Revenue Management

Experience with SpiceJet

It's been an incredible two years filled with challenges, growth, and learning at SpiceJet. Every day has given me new perspectives on teamwork, dedication, and the power of precision. Working alongside very passionate and skilled professionals has inspired me and strengthened my commitment to excellence. I'm truly grateful for the support and opportunities I've received and look forward to contributing to this dynamic industry. I want to express my deep appreciation to everybody at SpiceJet for giving me this wonderful opportunity to work and excel in the aviation industry.

Internal Appreciation

Mayank is a very hard working and resourceful person. Though a newcomer, in a short time span of two years, he has become an integral part of the core pricing team. The amount of time and effort he puts in his work makes him a precious resource to the team and SpiceJet. With his knowledge in python he has developed some in-house tools like URL opener and B2B uploader, which are used by the team for better productivity. We wish Mayank a very fruitful journey with SpiceJet and hope he is able to achieve greater heights.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

FLORINA SOREN

One narrow lane in Chandni Chowk comes to life every afternoon with melodious music, poetry renditions, and the rhythmic sound of 'ghungroos'. Meanwhile, the haveli across houses exquisite artifacts and exhibits from the past. Located in the alleys of Old Delhi, the Kathika Cultural Centre is a walk down memory lane.

What started as a passion to revive a precious part of childhood memories, of days spent in the busy lanes of Chandni Chowk, is today an oasis of art, culture and music. The Kathika

Cultural Centre in Mohalla Imli of Sitaram Bazaar is a throwback to India's glorious past. Most beautifully restored by Atul Khanna, Kathika Museum Haveli and Neem Ki Haveli - which houses the Kathika Cultural Centre - stand opposite each other as testimony to a history beautifully steeped in art and culture.

Atul, a passionate restorer, has painstakingly given a new lease of life to these 19th century havelis. Having spent his childhood in Chandni Chowk, Atul carries in his heart an undying love for this place. And as with all things old, both



Clockwise from Left:

Guests watching an enthralling dance performance at the historic haveli

The Kathika Museum, standing bright, vibrant and new

The stunning 19th century Neem Ki Haveli, a reminder of a glorious past

these havelis in Mohalla Imli were in ruins when they caught his attention in 2015. What followed was a long and tedious but very satisfying journey of restoration and revival. Cut to the present, and the Kathika Cultural Centre is a little haven showcasing the rich heritage of a bygone era through exhibits in the Kathika Museum, and performances, poetry/book reading sessions, and a plethora of curated experiences in the sun-soaked courtyard of Neem Ki Haveli. These unique offerings are like a whiff of fresh air amidst the din and cacophony of Chandni Chowk.

OF UNTOLD STORIES & LEGACIES

The Kathika Museum Haveli is a repository of stories. In Atul's words, the vision was always to create a space full of the history and culture of Old Delhi, a space that provides a glimpse into the royal life of the traders and merchants of the old city, who lived in these very havelis. The museum serves as a unique place, one that weaves the narrative of Delhi and its rich



cultural heritage through a captivating collection of objects, many of which are cherished family heirlooms passed down through generations.

The collection in the museum is varied, encompassing diverse themes and from different time periods. There

are archaeological pieces, paintings, calendar prints, archival photographs, vintage posters, mascots, decorative art objects, and more. Among the oldest artifacts in Kathika are the Raja Ravi Verma calendar prints and the Saraswati painting – all offering guests a peek into yesteryear. The Mahatta Wall has archival photographs of Delhi – including one of the Jama Masjid – that date back to 1859. The Neem Ki Haveli, on the other hand, is picture perfect, straight from the pages of a history book. With its open courtyard and the iconic neem tree at the centre, the haveli serves as a perfect stage for performances. And proudly flaunting the haveli's original construction and grandeur are the meticulously restored arches and bare floor. Indeed, these havelis serve as evocative portals into the past, carefully augmented with additions honouring Delhi's aesthetic and cultural history.

A PROJECT OF PASSION & LOVE

Kathika, however, is much more than a museum and centre of art. "The focus is always on promoting inclusivity and participation, on creating a space that belongs to everyone," believes Atul. The 'Kathika Kommunity Konnect' is an initiative to give back to the ecosystem and enrich ourselves with the abundant talent of our local population. The centre organises many traditional activities such as *patangbazi* and *kabootarbazi*, which, while bringing the skills and arts of the locals to the forefront, also offer an immersive experience to the guests.

If one ever wants a break from the glitz and glamour of the metropolis, Kathika in Delhi 6 (PIN Code 110006) will bring alive a slice of historic Shahjahanabad with baithaks and mehfilis over samosas and jalebis ●





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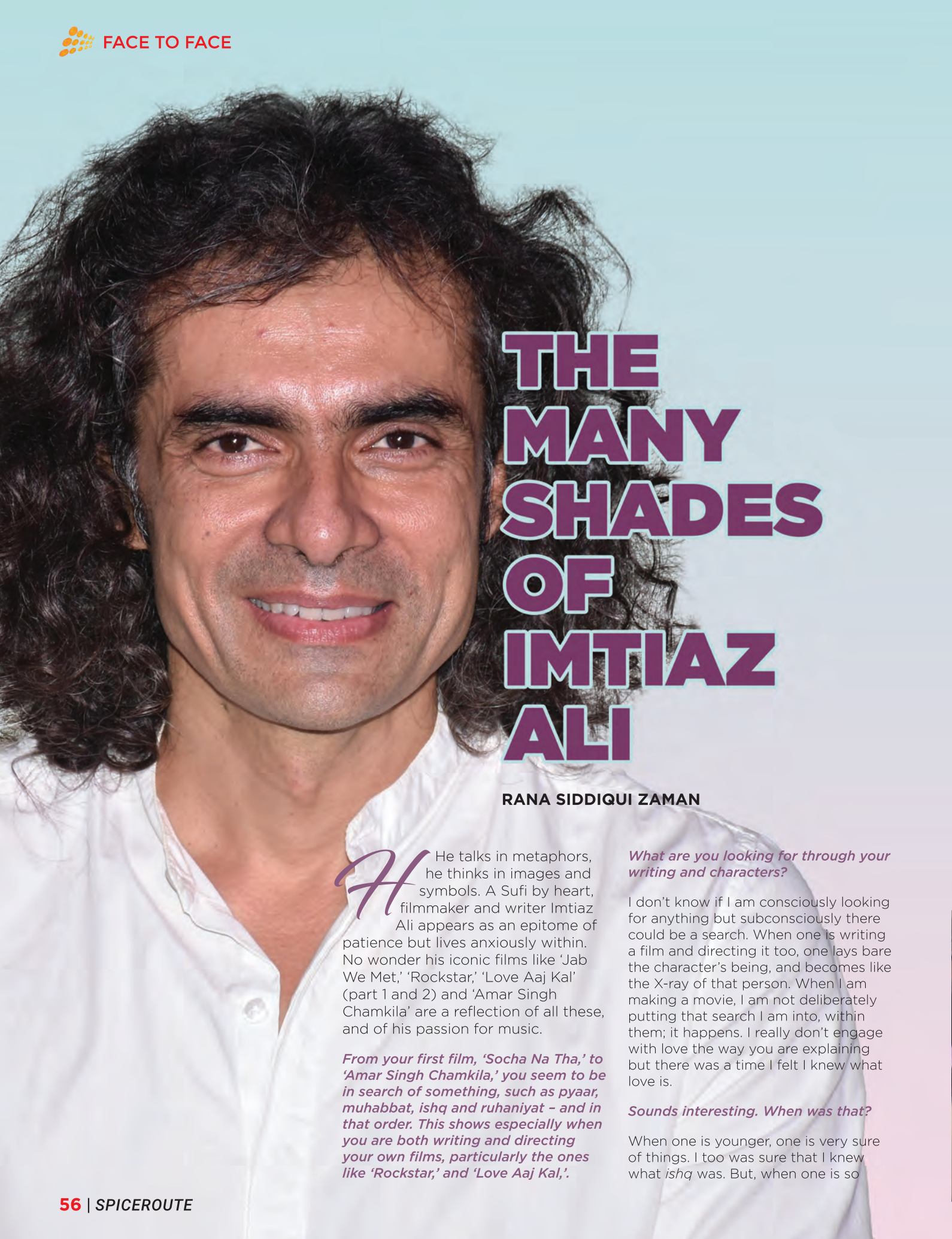


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A close-up portrait of Imtiaz Ali, a man with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling slightly. He is wearing a white button-down shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

THE MANY SHADES OF IMTIAZ ALI

RANA SIDDIQUI ZAMAN

*H*e talks in metaphors, he thinks in images and symbols. A Sufi by heart, filmmaker and writer Imtiaz Ali appears as an epitome of patience but lives anxiously within. No wonder his iconic films like 'Jab We Met,' 'Rockstar,' 'Love Aaj Kal' (part 1 and 2) and 'Amar Singh Chamkila' are a reflection of all these, and of his passion for music.

From your first film, 'Socha Na Tha,' to 'Amar Singh Chamkila,' you seem to be in search of something, such as pyaar, muhabbat, ishq and ruhaniyat – and in that order. This shows especially when you are both writing and directing your own films, particularly the ones like 'Rockstar,' and 'Love Aaj Kal,'

What are you looking for through your writing and characters?

I don't know if I am consciously looking for anything but subconsciously there could be a search. When one is writing a film and directing it too, one lays bare the character's being, and becomes like the X-ray of that person. When I am making a movie, I am not deliberately putting that search I am into, within them; it happens. I really don't engage with love the way you are explaining but there was a time I felt I knew what love is.

Sounds interesting. When was that?

When one is younger, one is very sure of things. I too was sure that I knew what *ishq* was. But, when one is so

I love travelling. I travel all the time! It helps me meet so many people with varied points of view. They shape my characters too.

sure, one creates a wall in the front. Being so sure of things may not allow you to look behind that wall, which could reveal other aspects of that love, or more. With time there comes the courage and confidence to explore the other side. If I think love is like this or that, it is because of my upbringing in a certain way. The moment I accept that there could be another aspect of love that I don't know, my search begins. Maybe, by the time I started writing movies, I had subconsciously told myself, 'I don't know'. Thus, exploring beyond the wall began.

Your 'Rockstar' released on the Internet recently...

Yes. I recently saw Rockstar after 13 years, twice, in the theatre because of mammoth views and the appreciation it garnered on its release online. After watching it, I felt, 'Who made this film? What a whimsical film it is! It is such an illogical, moody film! What's



Credit: Netflix

going on? There is a scene and a song happens, then again a scene within which another song happens! What the hell is it? I could never see this film either on trial or release. I wanted to see it alone in the theatre. When I did so twice, I fell asleep! So, now I feel that a film is what the filmmaker is, at that point in time. Now I feel 'Rockstar' is more of a director's film than a writer's film. Maybe the director and writer were in a bit of conflict in it. Once my friend (lyricist) Irshad Kamil told me that because of the director in you, the writer within you is getting killed – look at your film 'Tamasha'. I took his advice and in 'Chamkila,' the writer and director are in balance. (Laughs)

You appear enduring and calm in all situations, spiritual so to say. What do you do to keep that demeanour? Do you read a lot, meditate?

(Laughs) No, no, it's not at all a conscious effort. In fact, being too patient is often very boring. At one point in time in school, I was really arrogant. I am quite chaotic inside, and unstructured. I am not at all planned. I am always worried about the work at

hand and anxious about finishing it. The patience that you see is because of the atmosphere I lived in, in Jamshedpur, my hometown. I was a darling to all the people in the colony we lived in. I was utterly loved and pampered. My maternal grandfather, Hameed Hasan Sahib, a scholar of his time, had a great influence on me. I was interested in psychology, which helped me in analysing my behaviour and reactions all the time. I read the Gita at an early age. Its deep philosophy must have helped me spiritually.

Do you like travelling? How does it enrich you?

Oh, I love travelling. The film 'Highway' is a result of my train-travel through Chambal. My father asked me to travel alone when I was just 13 (with very little money). It was the beginning of a new world for me.

What are your forthcoming ventures?

Actually, I have three lined up – two films and one show under the Window Seat production house. I shall announce these at the right time •

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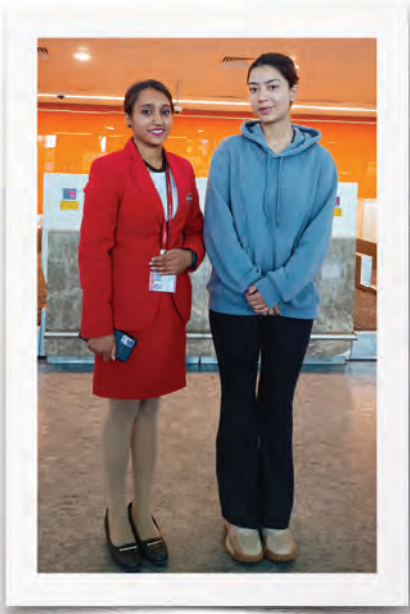
Good Governance Day



Good Governance Day was established in 2014, by the then newly elected government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to mark the birth anniversary of former Indian prime minister, late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, on December 25. The day seeks to pay tribute to Mr. Vajpayee by raising awareness on accountability in government among the citizens of India.

The announcement of Good Governance Day, known as *Susashan Divas* in Hindi, followed the awarding of Mr. Vajpayee with the *Bharat Ratna*, the country's highest civilian honour.

In 2021, on the occasion of India's 75th year of Independence, it was also decided to observe Good Governance Week (*Susashan Saptah*) in the week leading up to December 25, every year. During this stretch of seven days, the notion of good governance is to be passed down to districts and villages, with activities organised to emphasise the importance of providing – at all levels – governance that is transparent, efficient, and answerable to the people •



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Capturing moments from SpiceJet's ongoing **'Smile Campaign,'** an initiative by our airport team to delight passengers.





International **Mountain** Day

The International Mountain Day has been celebrated since 2003 with the aim of spreading awareness about the importance of mountains to human life and highlighting the opportunities and constraints in mountain development.

The theme of the International Mountain Day 2024 is ***“Mountain solutions for a sustainable future – innovation, adaptation and youth.”***



Although mountains make up for just around

25%

of Earth's land area, they are home to more than

85%

of the world's species of amphibians, birds, and mammals.





The International Mountain Day 2024 is a platform for **exchanging knowledge, showcasing best practices and mobilizing collective action.**

Highest Mountains in the world

Mount Everest

- 8,848 m
(Nepal, China)

Godwin Austen (K2)

- 8,611 m
(Pakistan, China)

Kangchenjunga

- 8,586 m
(India, Nepal)

Lhotse

- 8,516 m
(Nepal, China)

Makalu

- 8,485 m
(Nepal, China)



Of the **20** plant species that supply **80%** of the world's food, six of these have originated in the mountains. These popular food items are - maize, potatoes, barley, sorghum, tomatoes, and apples.



My Town

In our series, we travel to various Indian destinations with a SpiceJet family member. This time, Saleena Pradhan – Senior Cabin Crew (Base-Pune) – takes us around her home city, Darjeeling.

Are you originally from Darjeeling?

Yes, nestled in the verdant foothills of the Himalayas, Darjeeling is often referred to as the 'Queen of the Hills'.

How would you describe the quality of life here?

Darjeeling is a serene destination and its people are known for their warmth, generosity, patience, endearing nature, and a strong sense of community. Whether it's the misty mornings, the colourful festivals, or the hospitality, Darjeeling offers an unforgettable experience that's unlike anywhere else.

What do you like best about the city?

Darjeeling is celebrated for its breathtaking natural beauty, which never fails to leave me in awe. The majestic snow-capped Kanchenjunga,

the lush tea gardens, and the rolling hills allure anyone who visits the city. Besides, my hometown is also celebrated for its cultural diversity, colonial-era architecture – and the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

What lifestyle does Darjeeling have to offer?

Darjeeling offers a slower, more relaxed way of life compared to big cities. Here, people are deeply connected to nature. The town's mix of cultures – Nepalese, Tibetan, and Bengali – adds to its charm, with everyone sharing their traditions, foods and festivals with a spirit of respect. Life here revolves around simple pleasures, like sipping tea with friends, appreciating local crafts, and enjoying the natural beauty that surrounds you.



MS. SALEENA PRADHAN
SENIOR CABIN CREW

What is the night scene here like?

Nights in Darjeeling are peaceful and enchanting. As the sun sets, the town is wrapped in a soft, golden glow. The streets become quieter, as cosy tea stalls and cafés light up the night. A stroll along the Mall Road offers views of twinkling lights in nearby villages, and the clear, starry skies above make the evening feel magical. Darjeeling evenings have an intimate vibe, with only the sound of wind or a distant train whistle breaking the silence, making it a perfect time to enjoy the quietude of the Himalayas.

Which is your favourite restaurant in Mizoram?

I am a big-time foodie and since I



visited Aizawl Peak Restaurant, it quickly became my favourite café in all of India. The hilltop location is absolutely breathtaking, providing a panoramic view of the entire city while you dine. The optimal time to visit is just before sunset, allowing you to witness the stunning transition from day to dusk. The food, while simple, is satisfying; it is meticulously prepared, flavourful, and reasonably priced. Overall, dining here makes for an extraordinary experience, blending delicious food and a cozy ambience with warm hospitality, attentive service and unforgettable vistas.

Which is your favourite restaurant in Darjeeling?

While many popular spots lose their charm over time, one that has consistently stood out is Glenary's, the renowned bakery. It's my absolute favourite. From its timeless quality to the incredible cuisine, Glenary's has always kept its promise of excellence. The outdoor rooftop seating,



presenting eye-catching views of the hills, pairs perfectly with a cup of world-famous Darjeeling tea, known for its distinct flavour and aroma. It's a place that truly captures the essence of Darjeeling and is perfect for visitors to unwind and indulge.

What's your favourite dish at Glenary's?

Every dish here is bursting with flavour. However, there's one combination I never miss – the Chicken Hamburger Steak, followed by a rich, velvety cheesecake, and of course, a perfect and refreshing cup of Darjeeling tea to round off the meal.

What are the best places to hang out in Darjeeling?

I'd recommend the gorgeous sunrise at **Tiger Hill**, the tranquil **Japanese Peace Pagoda**, the quaint **Batasia Loop** with its iconic toy train, and the thrilling and scenic cable-car ride that is the **Passenger Ropeway**. **Barbotey Rock Garden**, with its enchanting waterfalls, is perfect for nature lovers, and the **Mahakal Temple**, a place of spiritual significance, boasts picturesque views. **Chowrasta**, the lively heart of the town, is surrounded by heritage shops and restaurants.

For adventure enthusiasts, the **Himalayan Mountaineering Institute** is a must-visit, while the serene **Lloyd Botanical Garden** and **Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park** are ideal for wildlife lovers.



TOP PLACES TO VISIT NEAR DARJEELING

Kalimpong is known for its panoramic views and the silence of its monasteries, and **Mirik**, a lovely hill station, for Sumendu Lake.

The hamlet of **Lepchajagat** is a quiet spot offering forest walks and stunning views of Kanchenjunga, and **Rishikhola** a beautifully tranquil village perfect for relaxation.

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A Day of Joy and Smiles

At SpiceJet, we take immense pride in celebrating special occasions, and creating unforgettable moments for travellers. This Children's Day, our celebrations soared to new heights as we dedicated the day to our young travellers and the little ones in our community.

Our Pune team had the honour of welcoming wonderful children from the CK Rangnathan School for Hearing and Speech Impaired. The day was filled with fun activities, cake-cutting, and thoughtful giveaways, creating beautiful memories together. It was a heartwarming experience for all and a testament to our commitment to spreading joy among one and all.



Team Guwahati



Team Pune



Team Ahmedabad



Team Srinagar



Team Bengaluru



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Onboard SpiceJet Flight



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Across the network, our ground teams crafted joyful experiences for children with sweet giveaways, candies, personalized cards, and cheerful surprises. At Srinagar, in collaboration with the AAI, a vibrant kids' play zone was set up with DIY craft kiosks, bouncy castles and many interesting games. The airport transformed into a magical playground for children and their families. Similarly, at Bengaluru and Kolkata, our teams delighted children with handmade greeting cards and curated goodie bags filled with snacks and surprises, lighting up their journeys with joy and happiness. The festivities extended onboard, where our cabin crew embraced the festive spirit with thoughtful gestures. Young travellers were treated to special giveaways, candies, and personalized notes.

At SpiceJet, Children's Day wasn't just a celebration - it was a heartfelt effort to create lasting memories and bring smiles to our little explorers, both in the skies and on the ground. Through initiatives like these, we continue to reaffirm our commitment to fostering connections and spreading happiness across all age groups.



Team Srinagar



Team Kolkata



Team Kolkata



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Three Cheese Pasta

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M.O.M

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Cookies Double Choc Chip | Blueberry

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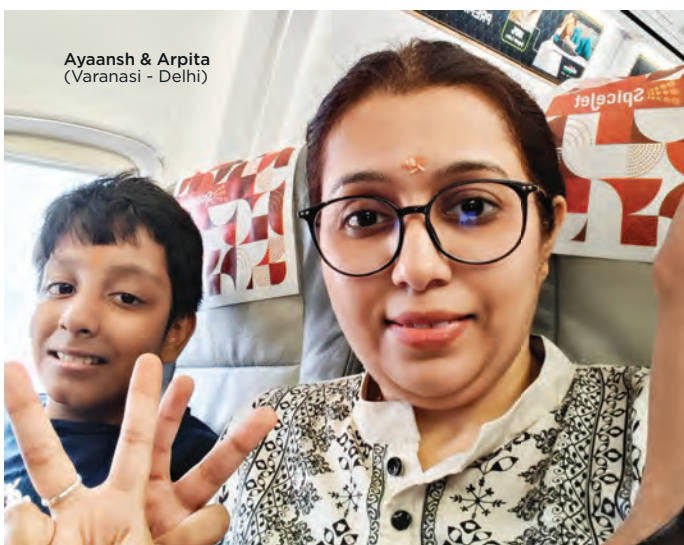
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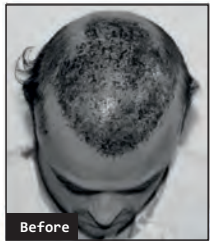
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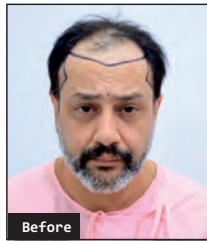


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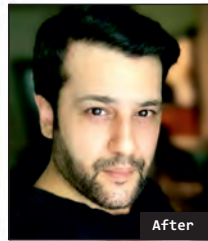


After

Actor Amit Pachori



Before

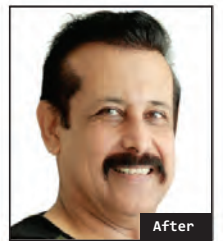


After

Actor Mihir Mishra

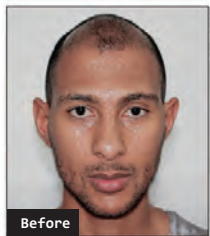


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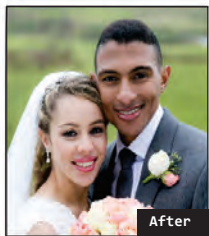


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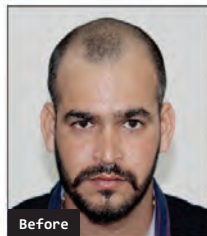
Actor Adi Irani



Before



After



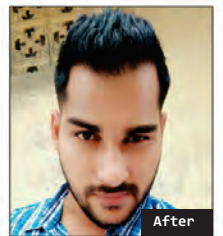
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December 2024

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ARIES

Businessmen may want to try new strategies and also explore new PR strategies, for their business to pick up. Those unwell are likely to show quick recovery. An increment or bonus is in the offing for IT professionals. The financial front looks promising. A vacation awaits some and it will prove to be most exciting. Students are likely to excel in a competitive exam.

Lucky No.: 7

Lucky Colour: Pink



TAURUS

Aspiring models and actors may get to audition for their dream roles. All professional backlog is likely to be cleared at work. Old dues will be settled as you manage your finances well. Property issues will be settled in your favour. Doctors and advocates may end up working late hours. Students may need to burn the midnight oil due to ongoing competitions.

Lucky No.: 5

Lucky Colour: Yellow



GEMINI

Personal and professional fronts may remain hectic. Delegating your responsibilities will help you clear your pending backlog at work. A change of scene will help you unwind. House hunters will find something that will suit their needs. Government officials will get the opportunity to put their best foot forward. Students aspiring to study abroad are likely to hear of new opportunities.

Lucky No.: 6

Lucky Colour: Maroon



CANCER

Everything at the workplace may not be to your liking, so take it in your stride and move ahead. Keep your monetary front stable by keeping an eye on spending. A pending payment will be cleared. You may go in for a lifestyle change for the sake of health, and benefit. Some of you need to be careful in the workplace. Travel only if necessary.

Lucky No.: 2

Lucky Colour: Yellow



LEO

Those planning to introduce something new in business are likely to be successful. Previous performance promises to bring you recognition on the academic front. Don't be allured by investment schemes. Financially, it is advisable to remain on a safe wicket. You will be able to keep yourself slim and trim by regular exercises. An exciting trip is on the cards.

Lucky No.: 1

Lucky Colour: Red



VIRGO

Inform your seniors before taking any major action at work, as you can be made a scapegoat. Put a stop to your depleting financial resources by taking some stringent measures. Those seeking a loan might have to do some additional documentation. Those suffering from pain and aches will find relief with proper medication.

Lucky No.: 2

Lucky Colour: Purple



LIBRA

A new employee's experience and creativity may prove to be an asset for your new project. This is an excellent time for those trying to make a long-term relationship permanent. A visit to a museum will prove fruitful for those engaged in research. Construction or renovation of the house is foreseen for some. Health requires attention, so avoid being too casual about it.

Lucky No.: 9

Lucky Colour: Peach



SCORPIO

Invest time in learning new skills to move up the corporate ladder. Those looking for a job change are likely to get some interview calls. Advice from a family elder is likely to benefit you. An investment policy that you have put your money in may prove a financial boon. A job well done will be appreciated at work. Happy times ahead for married couple.

Lucky No.: 7

Lucky Colour: Green



SAGITTARIUS

Difficulties at work need to be handled with expertise. A senior is likely to help you get through a rough patch. Keeping a low profile on the personal front is likely to be helpful. Impulse shopping can affect your budget. It may be difficult to get your money back from someone you have shared it with. Digestion or skin issues may cause problems. Take good care of yourself.

Lucky No.: 3

Lucky Colour: Cream



CAPRICORN

Play the sympathy card to win over your enemies. Important decisions at work may require more thoroughness. Avoid being too lax or too desperate on the business front. Selling a property now is not a good idea. Also, keep it slow on the real estate front as of now. Raising capital for a venture may prove difficult. Students must take one task at a time.

Lucky No.: 5

Lucky Colour: White



AQUARIUS

Avoid submitting anything in haste as the chances of committing a mistake are high. Some of you will find it hard to get your leave approved by your boss. Those starting a new business need to keep their morale high. A tiff with someone you don't like is possible, keep your temper under control. Those seeking love are likely to get encouraged.

Lucky No.: 6

Lucky Colour: Green



PISCES

Media professionals may get an opportunity to rub shoulders with the bigwigs of the industry. Prayers of those in the family way are likely to be heard. Restructure and reinvent your workout schedule to get maximum health benefit. Also do take proper care of your daily diet. Sound decisions on the financial front will allow you to pay off the old debts.

Lucky No.: 4

Lucky Colour: Blue



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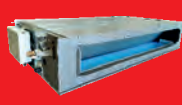
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