

T3E

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Trendy Travel Trade with Food & Shop



**Yearbook of
Tourism Industry 2017**

**Turkey
Unutulmaz deneyim**



GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND **DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM**

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Jaipur, popularly known as the 'Pink City' and the stunning capital of Rajasthan attracts tourists and visitors from all over the world, looking to explore and discover a history that is rich and vibrant even today, evident in the city's breathtaking forts and palaces.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE



Dear Reader,
 Greetings!

With the end of year 2017, T3FS comes up with heaps and leaps of Travel Trade. Yes, by keeping this in mind, the impact of PM Modi's policy on tourism, T3FS interact with many key leader's for the outlook of the same.

Tourism Sector is the most crucial contributor in any economy of the world. Talking about the Indian context it is believed that Indian Tourism Industry is contributing around INR15 trillion which is the sum equivalent to 9.6% of India's GDP. The major drivers of tourism industry are travel and hospitality have also been going through lots of speculations throughout the year. With the newly structured tax rates, currency switch, digitalization and many reforms in the policy was a bag mixed of returns, falls and growth potentials.

Moreover we covered wildlife of beautiful destinations of India where one of the jewels of southern states Tamil Nadu is the most beautiful, tranquil

and lush green state is situated in the south-eastern part of India Peninsula. The state of Jharkhand is a bundle of nature's bestowed captivating landscapes, waterfalls, culture, tribes, art and wildlife. In hospitality section, we focused on chefs from various corners of the world, where we interviewed chefs about delicious recipes, experience of the chefs, their journey, challenges and advantages to grow in hospitality industry.

In lifestyle section, we have come up with the sorted ideas of looking the Prima Donna for this winter wedding wiping out all confusions of what to wear and what not. And with the blooming trend of e-love, lets walk with us to the tinding world of romance which undoubtedly will sunk your heart in ocean of picture to swipe and emojis to pop up.

Vedika Sharma

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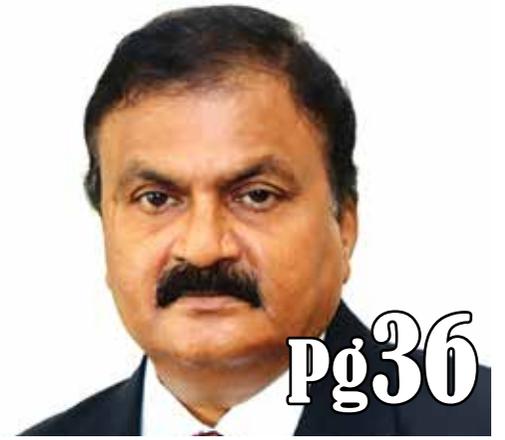


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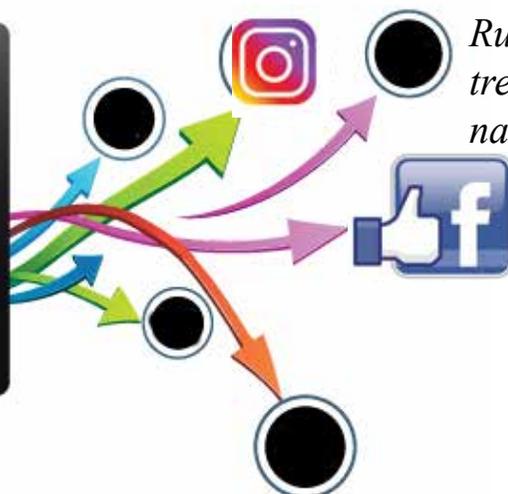
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Karnataka International Travel Expo

Government of Karnataka – Department of Tourism' announces the inaugural edition of 'Karnataka International Travel Expo', India's biggest B2B travel event in Bengaluru from the February 28 – March 2, 2018. The state of Karnataka and Bengaluru have over the years contributed towards being a large part of the India's ever-growing tourism arrival figures, both within Indian destinations and overseas. The inaugural edition

of 'Karnataka International Travel Expo', is set on a B2B platform with over 400 registered Buyers and Media from over 25 countries exploring business opportunities for discerning travel and tourism products, which will make the event one of the most sought-after travel events in the country and enhance the marketing efforts of the state to promote Karnataka as a destination which is diverse, fascinating and safe!



Shri Priyank Kharge, Honourable Minister for Tourism, IT & BT, Government of Karnataka

Karnataka is home to a large and exciting portfolio of globally acclaimed tourism products with UNESCO World Heritage Sites, splendid wildlife and resplendent nature, virgin beaches to adorn. 'Karnataka International Travel Expo', being held for the first time will provide the impetus to the inbound travel and tourism industry and would enhance the marketing efforts of Karnataka Tourism to promote our destinations to the travel trade from all over the world.

Scrumptious Food Flavours

The Department of Culture and Tourism, Abu Dhabi has announced the full line-up of activities, presented in partnership with event companies from the private sector including Festember, Truckers, Dining & Nightlife magazine and Zomato, taking place at the 2017 Abu Dhabi Food Festival.

This year's festival, which starts on December 7th

and runs until December 23rd, will include a fantastic menu of events for foodies, visitors and families from across the UAE and wider region to enjoy. Marking the festival's third edition, the event will feature the return of some all-time favourites as well as an array of international chefs and some new gastronomic experiences.



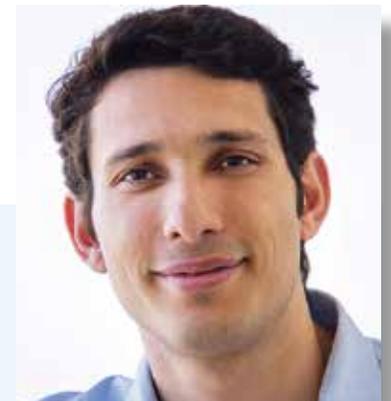
Sultan Al Dhaheri, Acting Executive Director, Tourism Sector, Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi

We are proud to be at the forefront of national efforts aimed at elevating the Emirate's profile as a leading gastronomic destination across the region. This edition will feature an extensive event calendar that highlights the diversity of our culinary delights and our avant-garde restaurant concepts. By collaborating with a wide range of government and private partners, we are able to position Abu Dhabi as a destination of distinction that attracts visitors from across the region who come to enjoy its unmatched offerings and exciting events.

Israel Breaks Tourism Record in India

Israel, for the second consecutive year has broken its tourism records in India along with reaching a whopping 3 million tourists arrival mark this year. More than 49,000 Indians have already visited Israel

until October, 2017 marking a growth of 34% from January to October vis-à-vis the same period last year as per statistics released by Israel Ministry of Tourism (IMOT).



Hassan Madah – Director, Israel Ministry of Tourism India

This has been the best year of incoming tourist arrivals for Israel and India continues to be an important contributor for us. Our effort towards promoting Israel as a dynamic holiday destination as opposed to its otherwise restricted perception as a religious destination is yielding positive results and we are witnessing successful outcomes of our increased investments in the Indian market.

Tourism is an important contributor to the Israeli economy and since the beginning of the year, tourism has brought in \$4.1 billion into the economy. In 2016, 45,000 Indians visited Israel and we have surpassed that number by October itself this year. We hope to have 60,000 Indian arrivals to Israel by end of 2017.

GCC Expected Growth in Indian Arrivals by 2021

Around nine million Indians are expected to travel to the GCC by 2021, according to the latest figures from Colliers International, as destinations throughout the Middle East prepare to showcase their latest offering at Arabian Travel Market, which is being held at Dubai World Trade Centre from April 22-25, 2018.

Reports from the UNWTO suggest the outbound Indian travel market will grow to 50 million by 2021, with the average spend per trip by Indian travellers also increasing – UNWTO statistics reveal

India is among the top 12 source markets globally that showed double digit growth in expenditure in 2016 – visitor spend reached a total of US\$23.1 billion in 2016, up 15.1% year-on-year.

Over the five-year period from 2012 to 2016, the average percentage of Indian arrivals out of total arrivals in Kuwait was 15.4%; KSA, 10.6%; Bahrain, 17.6%; Oman, 11.2%; and UAE 9.8%.



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Strategic Alliance to Develop Tourism

The Management of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), the public sector undertaking under the aegis of the Ministry of Tourism invited State Tourism Corporations/Departments from Pan India for a Round Table to find possible solutions to develop tourism for respective states leading to overall growth of Indian Tourism Industry at The Ashok.

The Session was presided over by Ms Ravneet Kaur, IAS, Chairperson & Managing Director, ITDC in presence of Mr. Piyush Tiwari, Director Commercial & Marketing, ITDC; and other respective heads of the divisions. Mr. Shivdular Singh Dhillon, IAS, CEO, Punjab Heritage Tourism Promotion Board and Mr. Suman Thapa, SCS, CEO,

Sikkim Tourism Development Board were among the senior delegates that attended the meeting. Other State Tourism Corporations/ Departments present in the meeting were from states of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and Tripura.

The Agenda of the meeting was to discuss the possible areas of synergies for collaboration between ITDC and State Tourism authorities that can yield and contribute to overall development of Tourism Industry in the country to enhance tourist convenience and overall experience. Strategic Business Units of ITDC – Ashok Consultancy and Engineering Services, Sound and Light Show, Ashok Travels & Tours,

Ashok Events, Ashok Institute of Hospitality & Tourism Management presented the wide spectrum of services through which State Tourisms can collaborate with ITDC.



Positive Growth Trends Recorded in 2017

Despite yet another year of numerous terrorist attacks, outbound travel volume worldwide has not been affected. The global travel industry is continuing on a growth path, as the number of outbound trips has increased by 6 per cent in the first eight months of this year. Rolf Freitag, CEO of the tourism consultancy IPK International, presented these results at

the 25th World Travel Monitor® Forum in Pisa, Italy.

Looking at the different outbound regions, North America showed the highest growth rate with a rise of 7.5 per cent, followed by Europe with 5.5 per cent. Compared to previous years, Asia so far performed slightly under the global average with an increase of 5 per

cent. Outbound travel from Latin America also showed a growth rate of 5 per cent. Russia seems to be on a path to recovery as it showed a strong comeback with a rise of 18 per cent. On the other hand, a source market with a negative development is Mexico, where outbound trips dropped by 5 per cent, which could be due to tensions with the US.

India City Walks

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board empanelled 'India City Walks', based out of New Delhi a three-time national award-winning brand as their official agency for curation and operation of Heritage Walks and content driven tourism in several cities of Madhya Pradesh - Khajuraho, Orchha, Mandu, and Bhopal.

With a mission to offer engaging interactions with local cultures 'India City Walks' intends to showcase Madhya Pradesh's rich heritage through storytelling and create experiential delivery of tours for showcasing living heritage, which is not just conceptual but has intangible

aspects like regions language, lifestyles, ceremonies, festivities, cultures etc. The heritage walking tours will focus on unique story, develop visitor experience, preserve the assets of the region and increase footprints.

Dr. Srikant Pandey, IAS, Additional Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board said, "Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board's initiative of Heritage Walk is not just a statement but is a commitment. Our inheritance is our history and it is also a testimony of our culture and tradition. So please join us in this great initiative and help us continue the

invaluable legacy of Madhya Pradesh."

Mr. Sachin Bansal, the Founder & Chief Explorer of India City Walks said, "The vision of Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board goes hand in hand with the vision of 'India City Walks'. We are humbled to have been chosen to deliver the heritage walk experiences in the State. We are a passion driven organisation and intend to showcase every city with its own flavour and tale. Madhya Pradesh has a lot to share in terms of history, heritage and culture; we wish to capture it for all our travellers and guests."

Leading World Tourism Trends - New Zealand

According to recently released Annual Report for 2016/17, New Zealand saw total visitor arrival numbers increase by 10% to 3.6 million last year, and holiday arrivals increase by 12% (1.9 million). This puts us ahead of global tourism trends, which show international visitor arrivals grew by 3.9% for the 2016 calendar year and 6% in January-June 2017 (UNWTO World Tourism Barometer). It was a year of dramatic change for Tourism

New Zealand with an expanded presence in South America and the Philippines, leadership changes, challenges associated with the Kaikoura earthquake, the establishment of a significant partnership with the Department of Conservation to enhance the visitor experience on the DOC estate, 2017 DHL New Zealand British and Irish Lions Series promotions, and changes around the organisation's strategic marketing focus.



Tourism New Zealand chair Kerry Prendergast, and chief executive Stephen England-Hall

One of our key objectives for FY17 was to continue our work in shifting the seasonal profile of arrivals by investing all marketing funds into promoting New Zealand holidays in the shoulder and off-peak seasons. We are thrilled to see this working with a combined 13.1% increase in spring 2016 and autumn 2017 arrivals against peak summer growth of 8.3%.

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Jumeirah Group of Hotel's Roadshows in India

Jumeirah Hotels and Resorts conducted a two city Roadshows in Mumbai and Delhi, to strengthen the brand's ties with the Indian travel-trade fraternity.

The two major events of Jumeirah happened during the roadshow to India at Mumbai and Delhi. The Roadshow showcased two major project; firstly the roadshow was signed with Make My Trip as their

direct connectivity Partner and second was the launch of package which included lucrative deals of 15% discount and free passes to Dubai Parks and Resorts.

The roadshows were part of Jumeirah's

newly enhanced focus on India as a source market for its hotels in the UAE, Europe and the Maldives.

Jumeirah recently signed a direct connectivity partnership with Make My Trip (MMT)

Linda Lewis, Vice President for Global Sales Middle East and Asia Pacific, Jumeirah Group

"The India market has witnessed a considerable rise in outbound luxury travel in recent years. Given that this demographic seek superior travel and stay experiences; our current portfolio includes hotels and resorts within a number of favored locations; and we are one of the world's most awarded luxury hotel brands, Jumeirah is well placed to fulfill the requirements of the Indian luxury traveler, including families, couples, the MICE industry and those seeking destination weddings and honeymoons."



India, providing a smooth booking channel for Indian consumers who wish to book Jumeirah hotels around the world. MMT's acquisition of Golbibo.com in January 2017 makes them the biggest online travel portal in India.

India is a key source market into the UAE and into a number of our other destinations including the UK and Maldives. We are focusing on expanding and consolidating our ties with the FITs and the luxury travel segment to reach out to a larger audience and

gain a higher market share. MMT's reach and presence in India goes above and beyond Tier 1 states. With this in mind, our visibility on this platform will help to increase brand awareness and gain new consumers.

VIT-AP University opened up its gate in Amaravathi

Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Vice President, Govt. of India along with the Shri N.Chandra Babu Naidu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, inaugurated the VIT-AP University Academic and Hostel Blocks (Vellore Institute of Technology- AP University) at Amravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh.

While delivering the inaugural address the Vice President said that Education is not only for employment but also for enlightenment and empowerment. He further said that the Destiny of a country is shaped in the Class Room.

"VIT-AP University has created its brand equity in a short period. Good educational institutions are the prime feature of good cities." M. Venkaiah Naidu quoted and added that India has always valued education and Andhra Pradesh is pioneering as an Educational Hub in the country. The purpose of education is for emancipation, enlightenment, empowerment,

empathy and employment, building character and making an ideal human being. Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu opined that everyone should carry forward their inherited values and culture towards the development of a vibrant society. Shri. Naidu further emphasized that economic disparities and social evils should be eradicated. Irrespective of caste, color, creed, religion and sex people should come forward to unite together for the development of the nation.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Shri N.Chandra Babu Naidu VIT-AP University is established in Amaravati with the aim of providing excellent learning experiences. He

appreciated the speedy establishment of VIT-AP University in Amaravati have seen their vision of ensuring international exposure for the students of Andhra Pradesh. He also said that VIT-AP is marching towards making AP as a Knowledge Hub. On this occasion the Chief Minister thanked each and every farmer who gave away their lands for the construction of a new capital. Without the support of farmers land pooling of 33,500 acres would not be possible, he added. Chancellor and Vice Chancellor of VIT-AP University, local MLAs, MPs and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.





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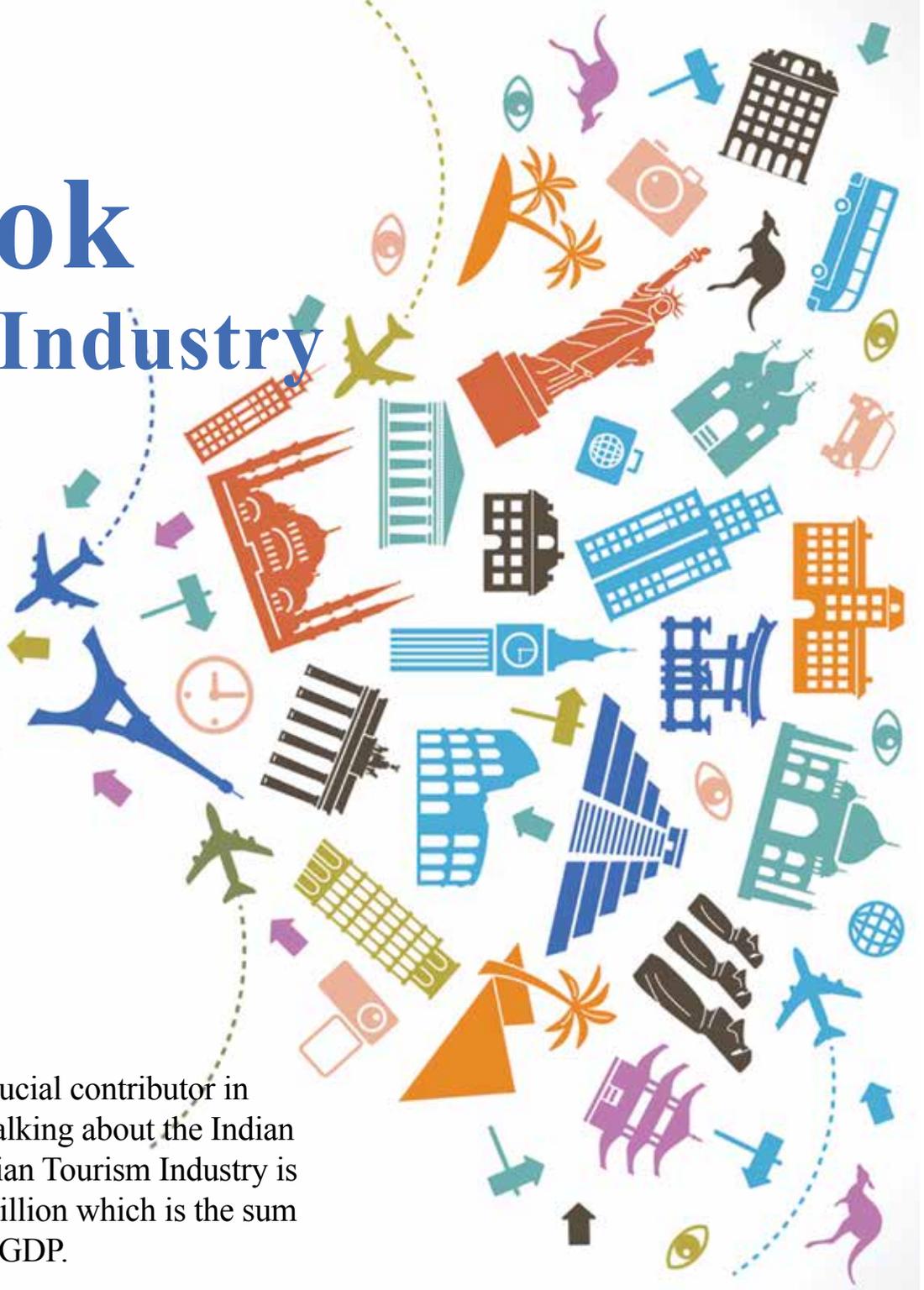
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Yearbook of Tourism Industry

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Tourism Sector is the most crucial contributor in any economy of the world. Talking about the Indian context it is believed that Indian Tourism Industry is contributing around INR15 trillion which is the sum equivalent to 9.6% of India's GDP.

• **Vedika Sharma**



**Brijesh Modi, Chief Financial Officer,
Thomas Cook (India) Limited**

At Thomas Cook India, we did see impact on sales: given their focus on GST, several of our corporate customers relegated travel to a non-essential/non-priority item and this was pronounced during the initial launch period of GST. Due to GST teething issues, which unfortunately continues as of date, while collections from customers has seen impact, we expect this to reach normalcy by December end.

From a tax perspective, input tax credit permitted under the service tax regime (albeit for a short period) paid on various costs pertaining to holiday packages, has been discontinued under GST. There is a scope for simplifying the compliances under GST.



* All the trends are based on the source reports of FICCI and Ministry of Tourism

In the beginning of the year, the industry was under process of its recovery from Demonetization and to twist the tale, story got a new character added as GST (Goods and Services Tax) and other reforms in the policies imposed by the Government and Ministry of Tourism.

The major drivers of tourism industry which are travel and hospitality have also been going through lots of leaps and heaps throughout the year. With the newly structured tax rates, currency switch, digitalization and many reforms in the policy was a bag mixed of returns, falls and growth potentials.

The tourism sector in India was supposed to be the most growing and revenue generating service industries and every corner of the world was keeping an eye on the moves of tourism of India. With diverse tourism hotspots, world-class hospitality and extravagant tourism wanderers, the industry insiders thought of a clean high jump to the revenue but then the results were a low pace of what was expected.

In the Union Budget presented for the financial year 2017-2018, the Government of India announced power packed initiatives to boom the tourism and hospitality sector with schemes of setting up five special tourism zones, the much hyped launch of Incredible India 2.0 campaign special travel modes for the spiritual tourism places, digitalization of services (cashless modes of payment, global bookings), exemption of taxes from religious yatra and many more..

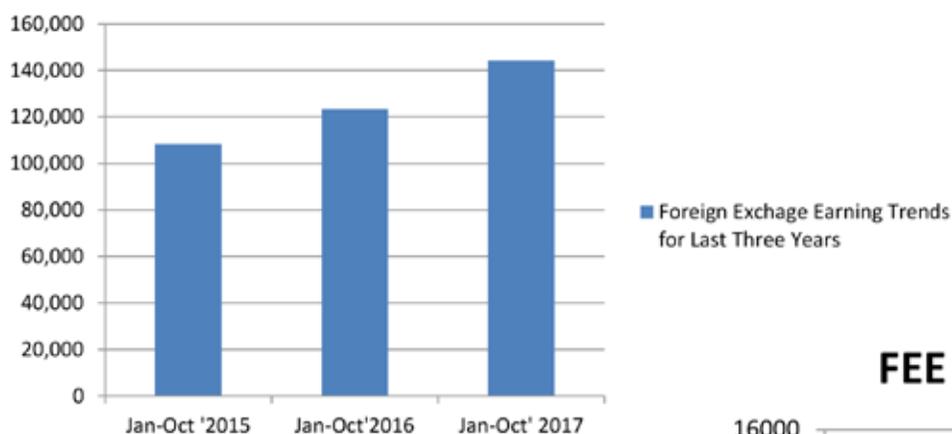


Rajesh Menon – Regional Sales & Marketing Manager – South Asia, Cathay Pacific Airways

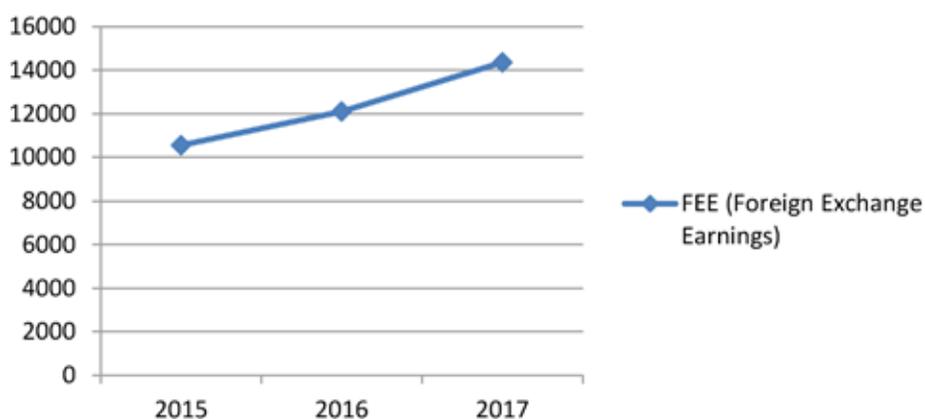
The outlook for the Travel & Tourism sector in 2017 remains robust. Leisure and Business travels have shown promising results during the last 10 months. Lower fuel prices combined with excess capacity and strengthening economic fundamentals were largely responsible for surging traffic. Since demonetization took place in Nov-2016, the market has defied expectations of a slowdown in demand for air travel. Whilst there may have been an initial decline in travel due to non-availability of liquid cash, traffic growth has remained steady. GST is a new tax structure. However we have not seen any visible impact on our airline business at least. I do believe that its long term effects would be beneficial and mutually conducive to our country as well as to the people within the travel industry.

India’s status as the fastest growing aviation market in the world creates tremendous opportunities. As per the World Travel and Tourism Council, the total contribution of Travel & Tourism to GDP is forecast to rise by 6.7% in 2017, and to rise by 6.7% p.a. The IMF also projects that economic performance should improve still further over the next five years. This is good news for us as we operate 48 weekly flights from India to Hong Kong and onwards to the world.

Foreign Exchange Earning Trends for Last Three Years



FEE (Foreign Exchange Earnings)



With the beginning of year, demonetization was still having its post effect on the industry. People were finding it difficult to cope up with cash crunch and the low of rate of cash mobility. Hotels, travel trade and transport sector was being heavily challenged in order to have cashless payments from people just to avoid cash crush and low mobility.

Till the end of October 2017, it has been recorded that there was a growth of 18.1 % in tourist footfall over October, 2016. The budget allocated by the government for Ministry of Tourism had been raised this year by 15.8%.

As per the latest data of KPMG, it is expected to grow at 16.1 per cent Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) to reach INR2, 796.9 crore in 2022.

Positive impacts

With the implication of GST, all the taxes are being erased like VAT, Service Tax, Service Charge, etc due to which somewhere there has been a sense of development of uniformity in the tourism industry for those who travel to India.

Negative impacts

With the implication of GST, the tourism sector, which was under the recovery mode of demonetization wrecked down its growth. Since, in the initial days of GST implication the tax slab levied considered tourism to be a matter of Luxury and it was charged with 28%. Due to which higher tariffs and increased cost buried the growing prospects in the tourism and hospitality sector. Going on to the international scenario, these higher tax rates would have had led India stand nowhere. While, the neighbouring borders of India have cut down their taxes to attract maximum share of foot fall of foreign tourist upto 7% and 8% for their hospitality sector. The higher tax slabs in the sector is likely to make India uncompetitive in the international market.



Ravi Gosain, Managing Director, Erco Travel Pvt. Ltd

In general, Travel and Tourism sector in India remained range bound in 2017. We saw lots of inconvenience to foreign tourists in India during demonetisation which we managed somehow but outgoing tourism affected a lot because many Indians use to travel overseas with cash money and after demonetisation most of them cancelled or postponed their planned trips. GST implementation and further corrections also created chaos in tourism industry because we were not able to give exact prices to our partners and this delay subsequently resulted in losing business. GST on tour operators are minimum but all our input costs have higher GST rates so our over all prices are higher. Secondly, there is still cascading affect of taxes and our industry pays GST on GST. It would be nice if our industry also benefits from input tax credit as a special case to improve tourism sector in India.

Every year, we see one or another problems in and around India & this is affecting tourism which is really unfortunate. Although outgoing tourism is growing with steady pace but incoming tourism specially in leisure segment has decreased in real sense. Many inbound tour operators are facing hard time and merely surviving on cost cutting. Lots of small operators either shut their shops or planning to do so. Unfortunately, our industry don't see any relief coming from government which is very much required to provide some boost. There are lots of people who survive on Tourism and if it goes like this I am afraid, people will be jobless.

S.No	Name of the Countries	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (in %age)
1	Bangladesh	21.66
2	USA	11.57
3	UK	10.23
4	Sri Lanka	3.79
5	Canada	3.36
6	Germany	3.17
7	Australia	3.07
8	France	2.81
8	Russian Fed.	2.81
10	Malaysia	2.76
11	Japan	2.44
12	Thailand	2.10
13	China	1.93
14	Nepal	1.66
15	Rep. of Korea	1.48



Rebooting Travel & Tourism Industry

These days, the main cash cows of tourism industry are youth in the world. Be it adventure traveler, business traveler, leisure traveler or the family ones, youth is the major share. And, the most of the youth researches for best fitted deal for his travel and however, counting as luxury to the travel industry had led it become much costlier as hotel would incur high GST rate, hitting their pockets harder. Whereas the deals provided by other countries is draining Indian Market a big time. With the latest survey, it is speculated that by 2027, Travel & Tourism will account for 16,087,000 jobs directly, an increase of 3.3% per annum over the next ten years.

A sigh of Relief

The revised rate of GST and recovery from Demonetization is somehow hailing the industry from bad times. Earlier, the rate was 28% which has been shed down to 18% after the regular protests and the downsizing of market share. The government still has certain products and services which are to be reconsidered and are facing issues of being wrongly termed under luxury product rate. The revised rate of 18% has been amended for a complete list of 167 products and services which were earlier charged at 28%. Talking about GST, so the tax slab has also been a pain reliever from the added money which consumer had to pay in the form of multiple sub-taxes which had a sense of redundancy in their price due to the involvement of intermediaries or the distribution mediators (majorly in the distribution and transport section).

P.P Khanna, President, ADTOI

2017 has seen a moderate growth in travel and tourism industry with one month to go for the New Year to dawn. Major setback was last year's demonetization which leads to cash crunch in the market that put down travel plans of many and affected the tourism in the initial months of demonetization. However people came out of the worst period after a while when there was improvement of money supply in the market things that started moving slowly upward. Difficulties like restriction on the cash withdrawal and deposit brought by the Government had its own effect on travel. With the rolling out of GST from 1st July the confusion prevailed on its applicability and implementation and also there was escalation in the cost of many things notably in hotel tariff. The Government had to concede to public demand and is in the process of reviewing time and again to give some relief to people in bringing down GST on selected commodities including hotel tariff. Hopefully, we look forward to a bright business year ahead in the tourism industry.



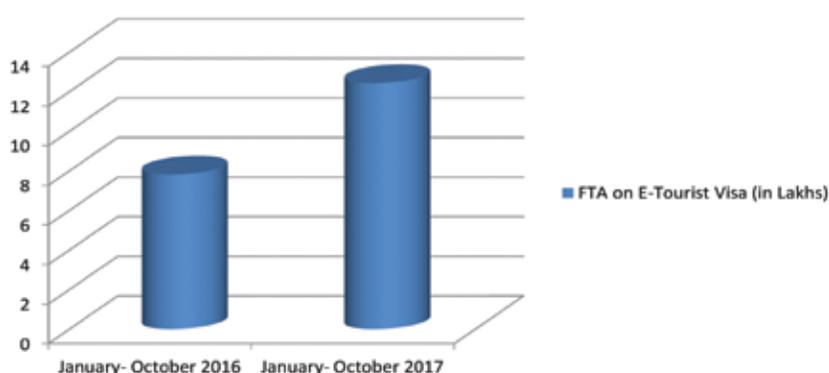
Sudhir Patil, Founder & Director, Veena World

In the year 2017, being one popular sector of Indian economy, Travel & Tourism Sector made the big difference showing a drastic slowdown on domestic front. Overall business was good with little slow down due to all 3 festival which came close to each other in this year leading no time for tourist to think about the holidays. Hence many tourists could not get the price advantage and plan tours well in advance.

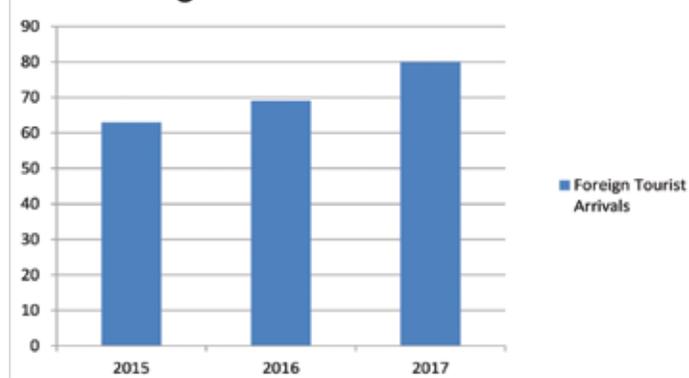
Due to demonetisation, the unorganised sector was slow and got the big hit however, there was less impact for the organised tour operators. GST was welcomed with a little effect on Tour Operators who use 3 or 4 starred hotels for groups. At certain places which were exempted from service taxes earlier got direct hit but now all are streamlined and we expect good season in the near future. In Individual holiday packages, there is slow down of business as the 28% GST for higher category hotels increased the cost of packages and it become very expensive.



FTA on E-Tourist Visa (in Lakhs)



Foreign Tourist Arrivals For Last Three Years



As the year is ending and we are about to welcome a new year handful of recoverable mode and lot of opportunities to grow by, we hope to have new policies, reframed tax structure on those which are still pending to be reconsidered as the economy truly does have lot of scope to be developed and reformed for the better GDP and over all growth rate. Since it is being said that India is one of the most overlooked potential market which is why schemes like FDI, Make in India and liberalized LPGs are helping the industrialists in the nation to grow and generate better opportunities for the general mass. The tourism sector of India has manifolds to grow inclusive of its travel, trade, tourism and hospitality industries. In the context of tourism, everything is interlinked from the high end hotelier to the layman working as ground staff which gets affected with any changes made. The whole structure is pillared over the multiple layers of management and support staff.

Rajiv Kohli, Senior Vice President, IATO

In context with the inbound tourism industry the year gone by 2017 was an exceptionally difficult one. Trends are very clearly showing strong declines from key source markets, from markets with high value which is very disturbing to us as the companies and the associations like IATO. I think the impact of demonetization was operationally very difficult short term. However, the government did support us in certain ways and thus we were able to overcome the challenges. GST, ofcourse, has been a very big problem, implementation of its rules and the most important is high degree area of double taxation which has not been removed and is against the rule of GST system. I think the coming year is still going to be very challenging, the news I am getting from the industry is not positive, the brand value of India is very eroded and the morale of tourism industry is very low at this point that's why I think, we as the private sector and the government need to collectively work together to bring in some new ideas for improving morale of Industry and to see how we can get more interest on the destination in the coming year. If we do not fix this decline now, it will just hurt us even more and then we will not be able to get out of this whole mess so soon. Since, this is not the first time or the last time industry has seen something like this therefore I think, we can solve such problems of Demonetisation and GST by working together. In my opinion, I feel we will conquer the things soon if we work on the collective ideas by compiling are heads together.



Sharat Dhall, President, Yatra.com

The passing of the GST bill is a great step forward and establishes a uniform tax structure which will allow the free flow of goods across the country and should have a positive economic impact. However, the government will need to make an exception for the airline sector as the current service tax ranges from 5.6% to 9% of the base fare, which is considerably less than the GST rate that is being spoken about, of 15-18%.



Variable	2017-18
GDP growth rate at market prices (%)	6.7
GVA growth rate at basic prices (%)	6.5
Gross Domestic Savings (% of GDP at market prices)	30.8
Gross Fixed Capital Formation (% of GDP at market prices)	28.0
Fiscal Deficit (as % to GDP) Centre	3.3
WPI Inflation rate (%)	2.8
CPI combined new inflation rate (%)	3.4
Bank credit growth (%)	7.8
CAD as % of GDP at current price	-1.7

FICCI's Economic Outlook Survey (November 2017)



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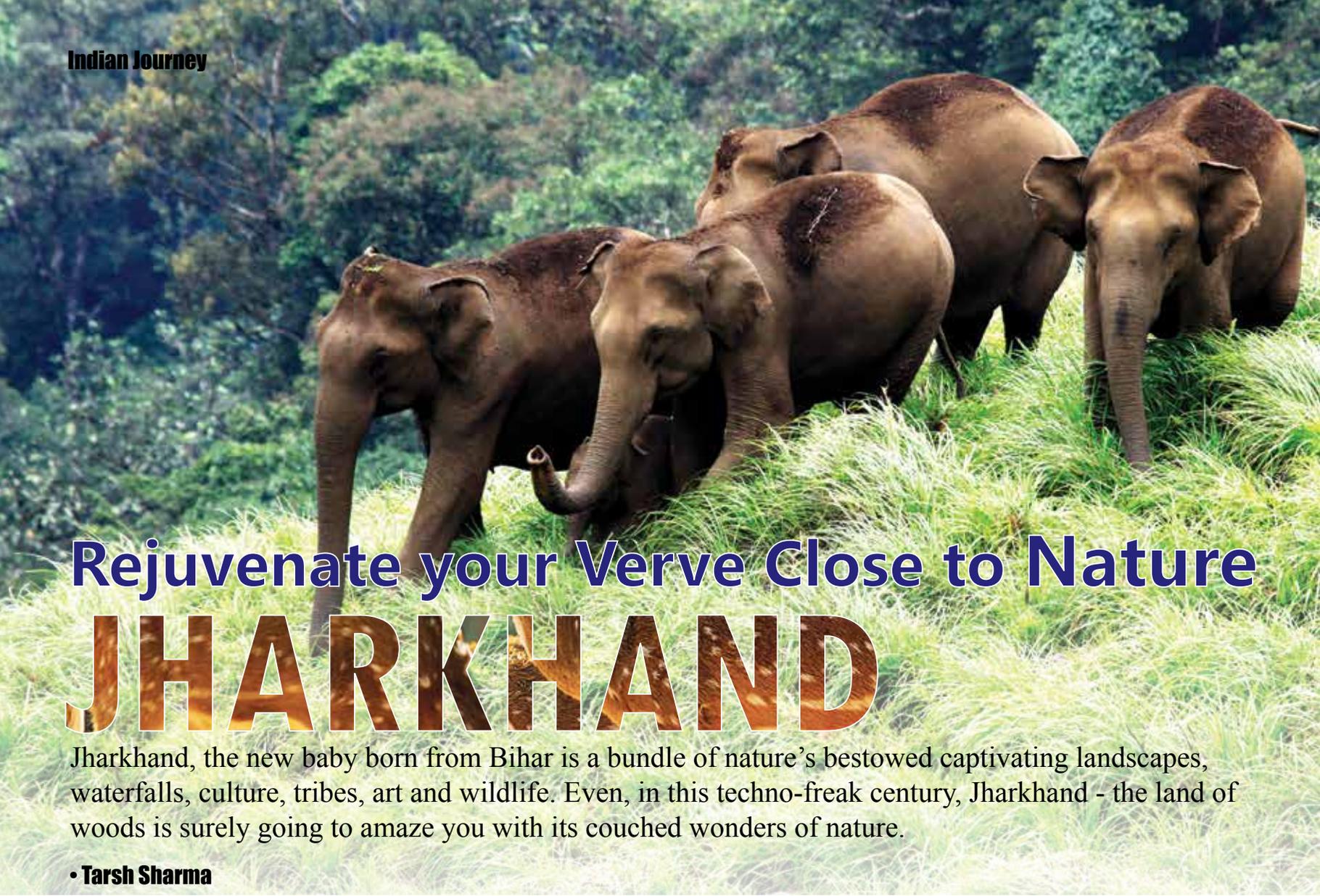
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Rejuvenate your Verve Close to Nature

JHARKHAND

Jharkhand, the new baby born from Bihar is a bundle of nature's bestowed captivating landscapes, waterfalls, culture, tribes, art and wildlife. Even, in this techno-freak century, Jharkhand - the land of woods is surely going to amaze you with its couched wonders of nature.

• Tarsh Sharma

Wildlife sanctuaries of Jharkhand are a major attraction of the state for those who are nature lovers and adventure enthusiast. The sanctuaries of Jharkhand have innumerable variety of flora and fauna astounding you onto many folds once you pay a visit to them. Many of the forest reserves have been shelter to the most endangered and extincting species of animals and birds. The cool breezy and calm ambience of these bio-reserves will rejuvenate your deepest part of the soul with the warmth and selfless love of such

species.

PALKOT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Palkot Wildlife Sanctuary, established in the year 1990 is a land of unadulterated hills, forest areas and the dense environment being its stronghold. dry deciduous forests and dry peninsular sal covered area is spread over to 183.18 Sq. Kms which is crossed by rivers like Panjara, Torpa, Sankh and others bringing it to the perfect finish of scenic view.

Being in the wildlife sanctuary, you will find many chirping and giggling fauna consisting mainly of Sloth Bear, Jackal, Leopard, Monkey, Jungle Fowl, Hare, Koel, and Owl, etc around you wandering on rich various species of flora like Gooseberry, Mango, Mahua, Kusum, Asan.

How to Reach:

Nearest Air: Ranchi, situated around 107 km away, is the nearest airport
Nearest Rail: The nearest important railway station is Bano which is 50 kms from sanctuary
Nearest Road: It is well connected to NH 23 and one can reach by regular buses run by the state transport corporation and private companies.

Betla National Park

The core area of 232 Sq. Kms of the sanctuary was declared as Betla National Park in September 1989. Being a tropical wet and dense land covered with the heavy forests area, Betla National Park has a vast range of vegetation consisting of mixed real feel of moist & dry deciduous forests. The national park has a beautiful lake which is it's centre part of attraction for majority of travelers. The national park has been constituted in the year 1960 covering western parts of the Chhota Nagpur plateau.

The national park is having abundant variants of Bird-life like Black Partridge, Wagtails, The Harial, Doves, Black Ibis, Hornbill, Peafowl, Red Jungle Fowl, Swamp Grey, Quail, The Pied Born Bill, and other birds which can easily be spotted chirping your way. Being heavily dense with the species of



Daltonganj (25 km away Ranchi and Gaya are also convenient railway stations.

Nearest Road: Betla is well connected to Daltonganj (25 kms), Ranchi (140 kms), Patna (384 kms), Calcutta (575 kms) etc by regular buses run by the state transport corporation and private companies.

Gautam Budha Wildlife Sanctuary

Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary was established in the year 1976 and its name has been depicted from the neighboring land Bodhgaya which has its spiritual beliefs in the name of Gautam Buddha. Gautam Buddha wildlife sanctuary was basically a hunting reserved place due to its ambience, nature and wide variety of animals. The rich and diverse ecosystem has created an intense biodiversity in the region with variety of type of forest.

The animals mainly found here are Indian Elephant, Fox, Red Jungle Fowl, Nilgai, Golden Oriole, Porcupine, Jackal, Chameleon, Python Sambhar, Myna and others. According to a statistical report it has been counted that this wildlife sanctuary has 200 deer, 89 sambhars, 15 sloth bears and 4 peacocks.

To add pleasant feel to your trip, the forest department of Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary have set up multiple rest houses for comfortable stays.

How to Reach

Nearest Air: Nearest is Gaya Airport which is 65 kms and Ranchi is 170 kms from the Gautam Buddha Sanctuary.

Nearest Train: The nearest railway station is at Gaya (Koderma) at 30 kms.

Nearest Road: The National Highway No. 2 cuts through the Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary.

common wildlife, one can easily locate animals like Leopard, Tiger, Elephant, Monkeys, Jackals, Sambhar, Chital, Nilgai, Mouse Deer And Mongoose, Nuntjac, Porcupine, Ant Eating Pangolin, etc. The park became one of the earliest 9 tiger reserves in India under 'Project Tiger' in 1974.

How to Reach

Nearest Air: Ranchi, situated around 140 km away, is the nearest airport.

Nearest Rail: The nearest railway station is

Lawalong Wildlife Sanctuary

One of the richest variety in flora and fauna in the state of Jharkhand lies with Lawalong Wildlife Sanctuary which is located in the central part of Northern India. It was set up in the year 1978 in a wide spread area of around 207 Sq. Km. It is being divided in the zones namely Chako Nala, Lilajan and Amanat Rivers in the West, Northwest and South direction. The dry and moist deciduous mixed forest lands with tropical shrubs and bamboo sets up a perfect natural zone to leisure and relaxation.

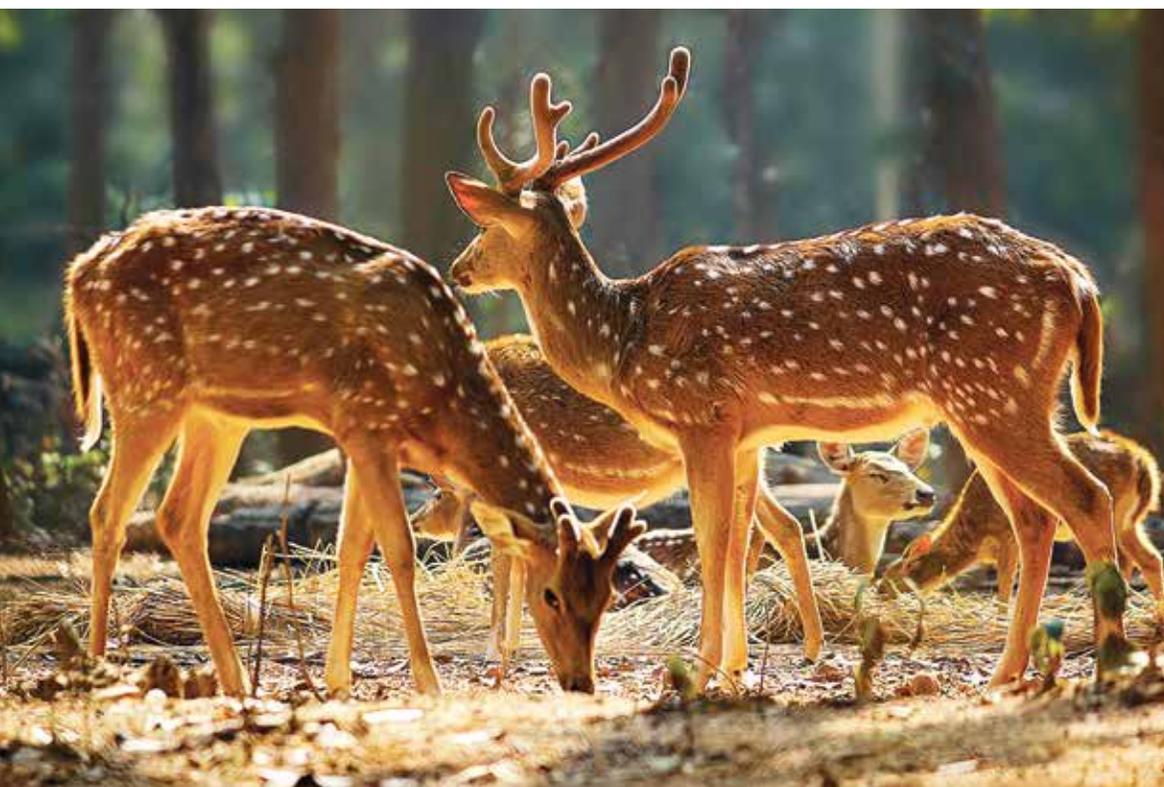
The sanctuary is full of varieties of Leopards, Tigers, Deer, Wild Boar, Sambhar, Cheetal, Wild Dogs, Nilgai And Heavy Amount Of Khair, Siris, Bel, Palas, Dhow, etc.

How to reach

Nearest Air: Nearest is the Ranchi Airport at a distance of 147 kms.

Nearest Rail: Nearest railway station is Hazaribagh Rd Railway Station which is 38.4 kms.

Nearest Road: Public and Private Transport buses are available of Bihar and Jharkhand.



Turkey

Unutulmaz Deneyim

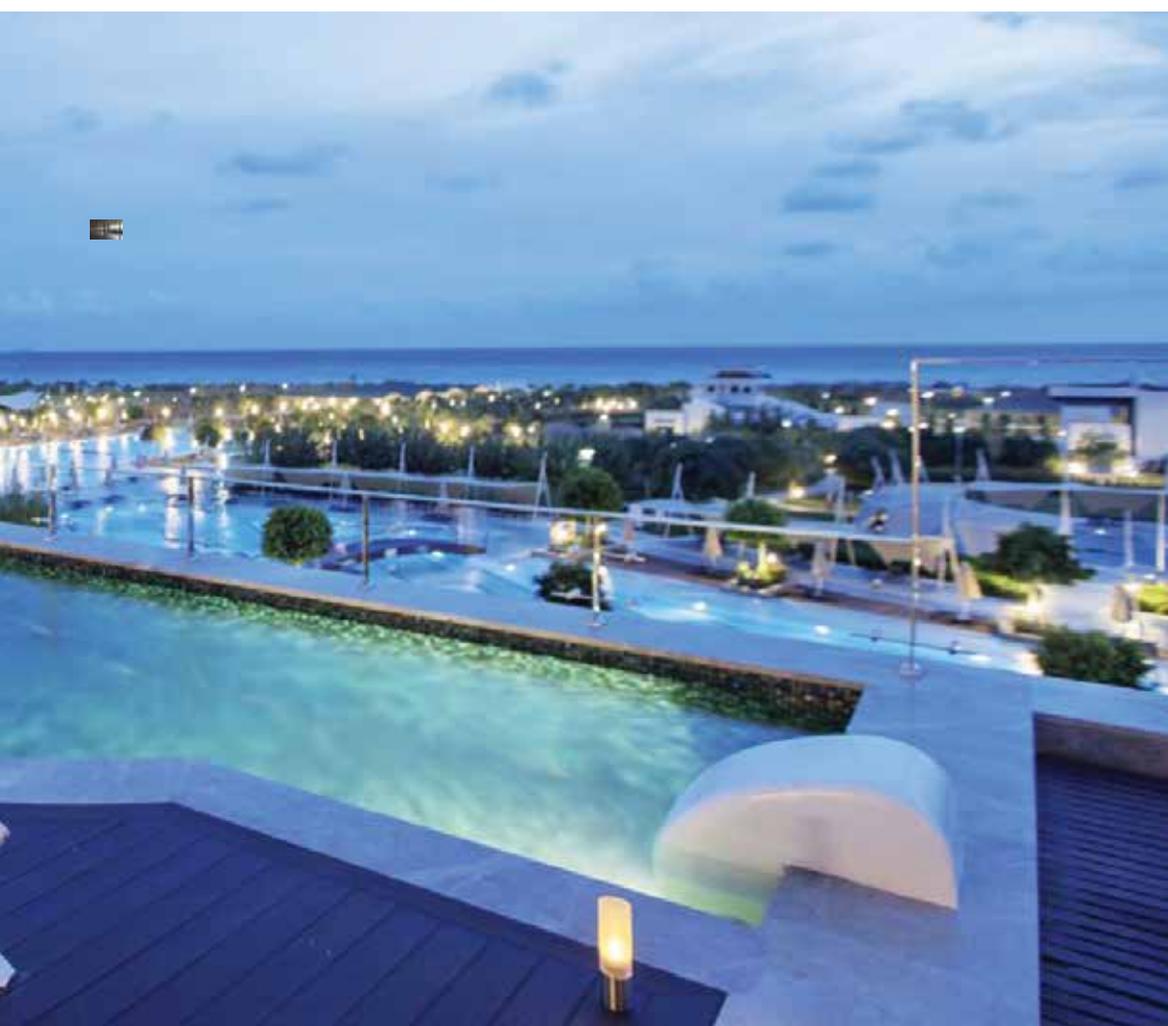
As my wings were spread and I was all set to fly, it was giving me goose bumps on my visit to this beautiful soul child of two beautiful continents of the world – Europe and Asia. Turkey, here I am to explore your beauty and make it the most special memory of my scrapbook.

• **Vedika Sharma**

Being the Eurasia nation, Turkey has always been in my bucket list for its but obvious reason of blend of culture of East and breezing vibes of West. Turkey, as my travel book read, it is said to be on the Mediterranean western region of Eurasia. Turkey is the 37th largest country in the world with over 75,000 square kilometers of area. Apart from being an Islamic country by the religious belief of people, this country makes you experience the most liberal form of Islam and communal harmony in its air.

After a nice fly, it was time to rest wings and explore the country so I checked in this beautiful and sprawling airport of Izmir which is located 18kms southwest to the city center in the Gaziemir district which I saw is quite well





connected with modes of transportation like buses, airport shuttles, trains, etc connecting to the city centre and other major points.

I feel delighted that I got a chance to explore inexplicable beauty of places in Kusadasi city which was an amazing drive from the Izmir Airport en route to my Hotel Korumar for the Check-in. After a long journey what one looks for is relaxing leisure which undoubtedly was hosted by Hotel Korumar for its guests. And the room I entered let me swipe off all my stress and tiredness with the most beautiful sea-view and architectural beauty of its suites and the city view. I must suggest, people who are looking out for a perfect blend of contemporary leisure break with the most apt accommodating space, then Korumar is their answer.

Coming to the most important part of one's stay – Food; then Korumar, you gave me not even one reason to be disappointed by the quality, taste and variety of cuisines you serve to the guests.

Next day, time was to head to Bodrum and explore the Turkish locale, culture, landscape views. Undoubtedly, Bodrum has a lot to justify for being in your bucket list being the Paradise of nation; the city is located on the western coast of Turkey, which gives distinctly European feel. A street shopaholic has all the reasons to roam and shop in the city with ample amount of varieties to choose from. The most fascinating part of shopping experience was the location, shopping

Travel Diaries

amidst cool breeze and being in the lap of nature lets you have the best time of your life.

Hotel Vogue has been my pleasant spot to accommodate in Bodrum. The hotel property is one of the most talked about in the city for scenic views, luxurious comforts, lip-smacking cuisines and bundle of activities in indulge in spending good times with your loved ones.

And finally we reached to the destination I was excited the most for my trip is Dalaman.

Dalaman is a vegetation rich city of Turkey which is located on south western coast of the nation. People were found quoting that it is more alike feel of a heaven being in the city. Dalaman is the perfect craft of nature for one side is the cool, breezy feel of blue seas and on the other side; one may look onto the environmental bliss of green vegetation.

In Dalaman, Hilton group proved to be the perfect host for the next 2 days I spent. Hilton

is a perfect accommodation to rest in after your exploration of the city. Everything about this hotel being from spacious and comfortable rooms to stylish Bars and restaurants with exquisite delicacies justifies its quality and perfection. Hotel staff was found to be with complete dedication and cultured enough to put their best foot forward in our service.

After a luxurious and plentiful stay it was now, Antalya is on the map to navigate and keep





a frame for life. For this, I was hosted with the world's best facilities at the Rixos Hotel. The luxurious place re-energizes your soul and lets you to rest in the tranquil nature environment. The resort city of Turkey is popularly known as the getaway of Turkey's southern Mediterranean region, known as the Turquoise Coast for its blue waters. But what made me enjoy most was the waterfall of Antalya wherein I felt as if all my tiredness and tension dwelt in the milky falling water of the river.

Taken then to the philanthropist and historical city of Konya, I felt like travelling back to the medieval era. The religious centre of Turkey is known for being the adopted city of Celeleddin Rumi, a sufic mystic. The highlight of city exploration is Mevlana Museum. As the city is famous; I also got the golden chance to be a fortunate spectator of Sufi Dance amidst my ethnic dinner.

Heading towards end of my trip, Pamukkale is the destination next. The

word Pamukkale means "cotton castle" in Turkish. The city is known for producing slightly radioactive minerals like calcium and hydrogen. The whiteness in the city takes its color from this very reason only. Experience the best of your times with Byzantine Gate, Thermal Palm, Hot Spring and Temple of Apollo.

Last to the travel stint, it was time to say bye to this beautiful country of amazingly interesting locations, historical sites and vibrant blues of ocean with my finale destination to Cappadocia. Best known for its moon-lit setting, cave churches and carved rocks, Cappadocia was the perfect terminal point of my voyage. The enticing part of my trip to the town was volcanic landscape and hot air balloon experience which is still high on my mind. Hot Air Balloon is must have of your trip to Cappadocia as it lets you feel the warmth of city in the arms of sky and the fascinating view of city parts are surely a treat to watch!!





TAFI Convention 2017

The Ladder towards Success of Business

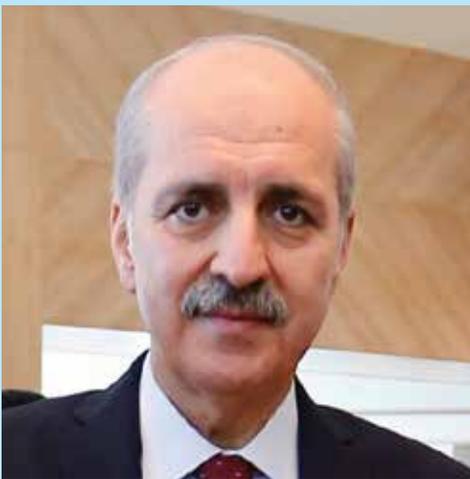
TAFI (Travel Agent Federation of India) came up with its 11th Annual Convention in the two beautiful cities of Turkey - Dalaman and Antalya from 27th October to 31st October, 2017 in Hotel Hilton Dalaman Sarigerme Resort & Spa and Hotel Rixos Premium Belek, Antalya respectively with the mantra of sustainable success.

The convention was attended by all the big Travel Trade personalities from India and Turkey to boost the relationship and bond between two countries on its high. Personalities included His Excellency Numan Kurtulmus, Minister of Tourism, Government of Turkey; Esengul Civelek, Governor of Mugla (Dalaman and Antalya are located in

Mughla); Emin Cakmak, Head of the Turkish Indian Tourism Council (TITC); Yucel Okutur, Director, DOKTOB, Dalaman-Ortaca-Koycegiz Tourism and Hotelier Association; India's Ambassador to Turkey, Rahul Kulshresth; Indian Consul General in Turkey, Azar Ali Khan; Faz Lee Corman, Director General from Turkey's Ministry of Foreign Affairs; TAFI

Convention Chairman, Bharat Shah; President of TAFI, Praveen Chugh and Rajat Bagaria Co- Chairman TAFI alongwith many other travel fraternity including the members of TAFI, TITC, Media, Government officials etc.

The main aim of the convention was sustainable success as the way forward towards creating a vision for exponential business

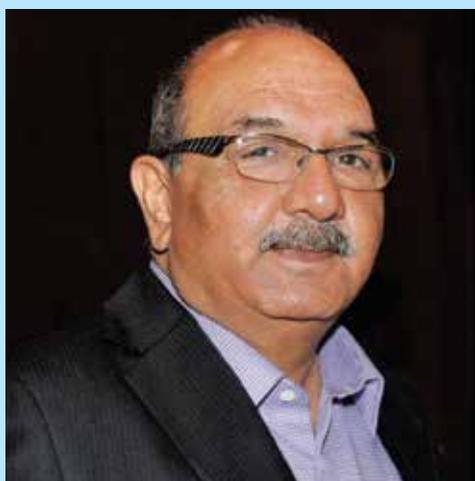


His Excellency, Numan Kurtulmus, Minister of Culture and Tourism, Turkey

"We are pleased to organise 11th TAFI convention in Turkey. This gives me an immense pleasure to welcome huge number of travel fraternity from all the corners of India. For us, Tourism always is an economical key, where we have four major potential countries in terms of tourism that is India, China, South Korea and Japan. We can see there is a great friendship between the two nations (Turkey and India), which we would like to carry forward in future as well. We here take care about the friendship of these two nations and wish to see flow of more and more tourists in Turkey from India and same we wish for India that Turkish citizens will travel to India and boost the friendship between two nations.

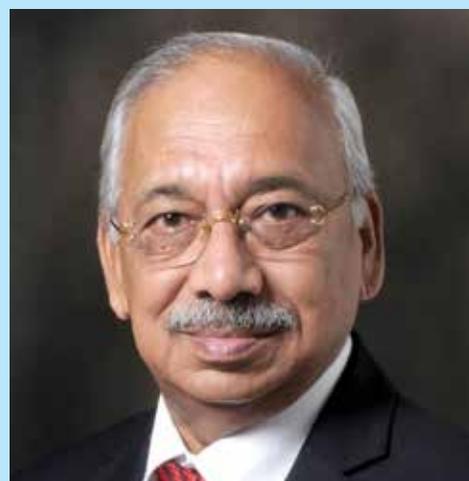


growth for the agent community as well as the destinations. Convention from its inaugural to its ending ceremony created a platform for everyone to come together for the networking and various business opportunities. It was so smoothly managed by the TAFI that everyone was enjoying their work and seemed closer towards their business with an opportunity to boost it up. During the first half of each day of the convention it was all about the great enlightening and motivational sessions, then in the second half it was followed by the sightseeing tours and gala dinners. Moreover, this convention not only creates a mirror to reflect the professionalism but also shows the work to come together.



Praveen Chugh, President, TAFI

We had 20 million Indians travelling abroad in 2016 and by 2022, that figure is expected to touch 50 million. And TAFI's International conventions have also played an important role in this regard. We held our first convention in 1999 in Malaysia. Back then, Malaysia received mere 40,000 Indian tourists. Now, they receive over 600,000. Looking back, other host countries like Singapore, Dubai, Macao, Thailand, South Africa and Israel have also hugely benefited with regard to Indian outbound after hosting a TAFI convention. We expect Turkey to also experience a boost in Indian outbound.



Bharat Shah, Convention Chairman, TAFI

TAFI conventions always raise the bar for the TAFI team to outperform. This Convention has outdone all the previous ones in terms of uniqueness of destination and content. For the first time the Convention was split between two exotic locations offering very different products. Delegates got a new product to offer on their menu besides excellent networking opportunities and business sessions where the speakers were above par. That the Convention was a grand success is amplified by the appreciative notes sent by the delegates. TITC and DOCTOB played an equally important role in this five star convention.





The Magnetizing Warmth of Nature TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu, the most beautiful, tranquil and lush green state is situated in the south-eastern part of Indian Peninsula. The state is covered with breezy beaches of Arabian Sea, enthralling peaks of Nilgiri Mountains, cascading waterfalls and densely covered forest areas wherein numerous species have their home.

• Pradeep Kapur

The state of Tamil Nadu is a rich vegetation of different species of flora and fauna. Though the state has been popularized with its magnificent temples and their architecture or the beaches but surely this beautiful state has other ways to mesmerize you. It is being recorded that Tamil Nadu has more than 2000 species of fauna at its stretch. The wildlife in the state ranges from the species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, marine creatures, insects, etc.

Take a trip down with your family to the lush green spectacular wildlife of Tamil Nadu which is ready to take you in the warmth of their love this winter:

Annamalai (Indira Gandhi) Wildlife Sanctuary:

Annamalai popularly known as Indira Gandhi wildlife sanctuary was set up in the year 1976. Now the sanctuary covers up a massive land area of 108 sq. kms and has acquired the status of a National Park. This moist and deciduous wet park gives you the perfect ambience of being in the lap of nature and restraining you to go back to your hustle routine. The wildlife sanctuary experiences different pattern of rainfall which is sole reason for its diverse variants.

In the sanctuary, there are a rich number of Elephant, Leopard, Gaur, Wild Boar, species of birds like Grey Jungle Fowl, Malabar and Great Pied Hornbills, Ceylon frogmouth and Malabar Trogon Chital, Sambar, Muntjac and Giant Squirrel.

How to Reach:

Nearest Rail: Pollachi Railway Station



(35 kms).

Nearest Airport: Coimbatore Airport (80 kms).

Via Road : Well connected by no. of Government and private buses.

Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary

Mudumalai is edged by the Wynad Wildlife Sanctuary and Bandipura Tiger Reserve. Mudumalai holds a prestigious and heritage importance as it was once a part of temple (the Raja of the Nilambur) property of Tamil Nadu. Mudumalai is abundant with vegetation types ranging from moist deciduous to dry deciduous and dry thorn forests. Being situated in the Nilgiri hills, the place will give you the perfect set up of escapade from city noise directly to the nature's best.

It is commonly popular for Asiatic Elephants and herds of these can be commonly seen along the National Highway enrooting the park. While tigers and Leopards are occasionally seen here along with the varied varieties of Slothed Beer, Barasingha, Chital,

Gaur, Wild Dog, Malabar Squirrels, etc.

How to Reach:

Nearest Rail: Udagamadalam Railway Station (64 kms).

Nearest Airport: Coimbatore (164 kms).

Via Road: Well connected by no. of Government and private buses.

Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary:

Situated close to the town of India's terminating point Kanyakumari, this wildlife sanctuary is a heavenly treat for those who are ardent lovers of nature. This sanctuary is wide spread in a massive area of approximately 402 sq. kms. The enchanting and delightful views from Keeriparai and Maraimalai Hills are surely to hold your breath and let you have the most precious memoir for your lifetime. The scenic beauty of landscape of sanctuary soothes soul and eye of one who is on the hunt of flee from his hectic life.

This virgin environment of sanctuary is affluent in the variants of Black Buck, Indian



length of coastal lines of Tamil Nadu state in southern part of India. The marine park established in the year 1986 attained the status of a national level biosphere reserve in the year 1989.

This biosphere is a unique marine national park which covers more than 11 species of sea grass, 3600 variants of flora and fauna including more than 100 species of hard coral. The marine lives fondly inviting you to live their blue life are the pearl oysters, dolphins, sea-horse and many of turtles, sea cucumbers, barracuda, sprats and herrings can be found enroute the diving or snorkeling. One who loves cuddling the turtles then you can find them on the sea shores. These islands are also visited by the migratory birds.

How to Reach:

Nearest Airport: Madurai (150km) is the nearest airport.

Nearest Rail: The Mandapam Railway Station and the Tuticorin Railway Station are the nearest railway stations.

Via Road: There are a large number of buses available for the Park from these destinations.

Wild Dog (Dhole), Bonnet Macaque, Small Indian Civet Wild Boar, Jackals, Slender Loris, Jungle Cat, Sloth Bear, Mongoose, Indian Fox, Flying Fox, Pangolin, Common Langur or Hanuman Langur, Indian Porcupine, India Hare, Nilgiri Tahr and Sambar, Nilgiri Langur Otter, Large Brown Flying Squirrel, Indian Giant Squirrel. Feel yourself lucky enough to spot rock python enroute your expedition.

How to Reach:

Nearest Rail: Trivandrum Central Railway Station at 47 Kms.

Nearest Airport: Kanyakumari Airport is located at a distance of 67 Kms.

Via Road: Well connected by no. of Government and private buses.

Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park

The Gulf Of Mannar Marine National Park is a must have bucket list for the marine fervent, it is no less than a wonder comprising a group of 21 Islands covering almost 8 KMs





The Leading Global Event – WTM

The numbers of senior industry buyers and travel professionals invited to do business at WTM London, the leading global event for the travel industry, rose in the year 2017.

WTM London 2017 experienced almost 88,000 (87,794) visits across the three days from November 6, 2017 to November 8, 2017. The first day of the event saw 28,154 visits – an increase of 1% on last year. This included 5,715 senior buy-

ers from the WTM Buyers' Club, an increase of 11% compared to the first day of the 2016 event.

On second day, it saw a massive 35,113 visits, including 7,525 senior buyers from the WTM Buyers' Club. The last day experienced

24,527 visits, including more than 4,000 (4,021) from the WTM Buyers' Club – an increase of 21% on the final day of the 2016 event.

WTM London again attracted around 50,000 (49,685) delegates.





“ **WTM London, Senior Director, Simon Press**
 WTM London has grown at an unprecedented rate in recent years with the seniority of delegates continuing to increase. I am delighted to see almost 10,500 senior buyers from the WTM Buyers' Club and more than 16,000 Exhibitor Invitees in attendance. These record numbers further demonstrates that WTM London is the event where the industry conducts its business deals. Around one million business meetings took place over the three days of the event which will lead to £3 billion in contracts being signed.





Explore India – One Country, Many Worlds

The 8th Annual Convention cum Exhibition of ADTOI (Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India) was organized at Novotel, Varun Beach, Vishakhapatnam from 17th to 19th November, 2017. The convention for the year 2017 was themed as “Explore India – One Country, Many Worlds” highlighting inbound tourism.

The ADTOI Convention cum Exhibition welcomed more than 400 delegates with an aim for creating a platform of networking and enhancing knowledge and business.

The convention took place in the presence of many prominent personalities like Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Hon’ble Chief Minister Government of Andhra Pradesh; Smt. Bhuma Akhila Priya, Minister of Tourism, Government of Andhra Pradesh; Shri Mukesh Kumar Meena, IAS, Secretary to Government, Tourism & Culture, Government of Andhra

Pradesh; Shri Himanshu Shukla, IAS, Managing Director, A.P Tourism Development Corporation Ltd, Government of Andhra Pradesh, I S Raja Varma, Managing Director, Sunray Resorts; P.P Khanna, President, ADTOI, Rajat Sawhney, Convention Chairman; Chetan Gupta, Convention Co-Chairman and others who enlightened and envisioned the convention cum exhibition.

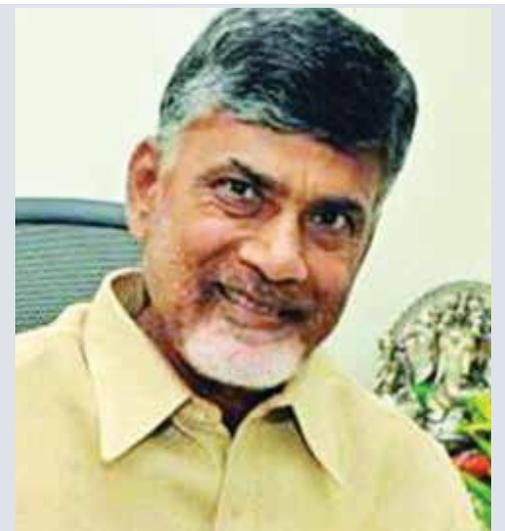
The hosting partner state for the convention was one of beautiful jewels of India - Andhra Pradesh and supported by Incredible India, Gujarat Tourism, Madhya Pradesh Tourism,

Telangana Tourism, Kerala Tourism, Jammu & Kashmir Tourism, Delhi Tourism and hospitalized by TBO Group, Sunray Resorts, LemonTree Hotels, Marriot, Novotel Hotels & Resorts Visakhapatnam Varun Beach in association with Air Asia and Indigo as the airline partners. The inaugural session was conducted in three business session on distinctive themes of Tourism which was very well conducted by groups of esteemed penalists. While, the evening programmes were like the shining starry cultural and musical nights.

The valedictory session of the

Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister Government of Andhra Pradesh

“We are happy to host the eighth ADTOI convention in Visakhapatnam. We would like to welcome all the delegates and Tour Operators who are actively engaged in the promotion of Domestic tourism in India. Tourism is the fundamental key for most of the governments where we spend least as compared to the welfare, agriculture, industry etc to get maximum share of revenue. I can say one of the best sectors to create employment is Tourism. Tourism is increasing, even 50-60% GST is coming from tourism industry be it the tourist inflow, hotels, services, banking etc. We are focusing more on hotels as without hotels we can’t increase the tourism. Taxes on hotels and restaurant will be reducing so that we can promote tourism in a big way. Moreover, we will consider GST and take it forward to the Government of India. Andhra Pradesh has so many advantages of its scenic and picturesque beauty from its rich heritage to the beautiful and clean beaches, from temples to the caves and many beautiful attractions. With great locations and hospitable people it is the safest state for tourist to travel. In terms of connectivity Andhra Pradesh is well connected by road, air connectivity and sea connectivity. Additional to this, we are focusing on infrastructure as well. We are coming up with one of the biggest conventional halls in Amravati.”





Smt. Bhuma Akhila Priya, Minister, A.P. Tourism Development Corporation Ltd, Government of Andhra Pradesh
 "Tourism infrastructure is a major challenge but we as a progressing state are aggressively approaching investors to participate in the creation of such facilities so as to make the visit of tourists more comfortable and memorable. The state is not only promoting Leisure Tourism but also Rural Tourism, Adventure Tourism, Niche Tourism, Buddhist Tourism and Sports Tourism. We are not only focusing on infrastructure for the development of tourism but also to create great hospitality for tourist. For holistic development of tourism we should enable tourist to experience this hospitality and atmosphere first hand."



convention was concluded by Mr. Himanshu Shukla, IAS, CEO, Andhra Pradesh Tourism along with Ms Aashima Mehrotra, Director, Ministry of Tourism, who summed up the proceedings of the Convention by felicitating the concerned supporting officials.

Another interesting part of convention was Pre & Post familiarisation trips by Sunray Resorts and Araku valley which were highly

pleasurable and informative for the delegates. In addition to this, a good number of esteemed travel media from all over nation graced their presence. At last, I would like to conclude that ADTOI Executive Committee and Novotel Hotels & Resorts, Visakhapatnam Varun Beach smartly managed and catered the needs of more than 400 delegates and made this convention the flagship for Indian domestic tourism

industry. Team ADTOI graced their heartfelt thanks to all the members of travel fraternity for making the convention a great success. Every aspect was taken care with great passion of ADTOI team to fill the heart and soul of each delegate with memorable moments with respect to their conscious efforts to choose the new unexplored destination for tourist.





PP Khanna, President, ADTOI

“I would like to congratulate the Convention Committee members and their joint efforts from the initiation of registrations to accommodating delegates and transporting them from convention to FAM tours and hotels. I believe, the success of event was all credit credentials to the whole team of ADTOI especially apex body for the convention. Moreover, we were honoured on the esteemed presence Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Hon’ble Chief Minister and Smt. Bhuma Akhila Priya, Tourism Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh and various other state tourism boards with backbone of tourism in India who are domestic tour operators, hotelier, and the members of ADTOI and travel media.”



Chetan Gupta, (General Secretary), ADTOI Convention 2017

Visakhapatnam, being one of the most beautiful cities of Andhra Pradesh was like the cream on the milk for our 8th ADTOI convention 2017. It was a great pleasure of our committee to see our members happy and to provide them one more destination in their domestic travelling guide for their clients and B2B business. No doubt, the picturesque landscapes of the city, beaches, caves, its rich cultural past adds immense value to make it worth to visit once in a life. The grand success of the ADTOI Convention cum Exhibition 2017 in the august presence of Hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Sh. Chandra Babu Naidu Ji, along with all the key leaders made it one of the highlighting stars on the sky of tourism industry India. ADTOI geared up its continuous growth towards the path of success with the support of its member and various tourism bodies. Lastly, it gave me an immense pleasure to announce the launch ADTOI Andhra Pradesh Chapter. Mr. Vijay Mohan is our Chapter Chairman – Andhra Pradesh and will be looking after the state for ADTOI to promote Domestic tourism. Mr. Mohan promised to bring more members and make this chapter a strong base for ADTOI.”



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On a high note of making your journey less painful and high comfort, T3FS is in exclusive conversation with

Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, IAS, Chairman, Airport Authority of India.

• **Vedika Sharma**

Q. What are the challenges of ongoing projects of AAI?

GM: The foremost challenge is of developing and maintaining the airports in India which are with us as well as the entire air space network in India. As it is known that the aviation growth rate is doing great and is around 20% now, which puts up a lot of challenges and opportunities of development for us. We are constantly upgrading our capacity in the existing airports which is another major challenge and in this series; we have already spent around 2000 crores in distinctive projects. Every year, AAI is constantly upgrading the facilities like terminals, building construction, extension of runways, constructing parallel tracks and many more. Air navigation plays a very critical part in the aviation network which not only is a constant challenge in line with the guidelines mandated by aerospace management but also to be the best in the category. AAI is developing many new airports in the uncovered areas, like construction of airports in the north-eastern areas, Ajmer in Rajasthan, Jharsuguda in Orissa and four Greenfield airports which are in their final stage of completion and hoping to get their license in few months whereas few other new projects under the UDAAN scheme for constructing new airports are in the pipeline. Apart from this, we are constantly upgrading commercial facilities like bringing the advertising facilities. Therefore, these are some of the broader areas in which AAI is working currently.

Q. “The annual profit of AAI surges to 23% which is Rs. 3115 crores.” Comment.

GM. Partly it is due to better management and bringing in more revenues from non-aeronautical and non-commercial revenue. Another reason was higher tariff holder rates like there are in Delhi airport which we will be correcting and will bring it down from this year onwards. Therefore, the scenario will not be same and AAI do not expect the same amount of money to come. As a result, there will be a drip in our gross revenue.

Q. Aviation is such a sector, which has very much wide scope to grow. So, what AAI is doing to support women in Aviation?

GM: In this context, I will come up with two things to answer your question. First, very recently, to increase participation of women in aviation and celebrating their role, most of our airports are launching new schemes and centers like one centre in Delhi airport. Every year, AAI recruits a lot of manpower for its technical support who are technically qualified; similar is

the pool process what ATC and CNS is doing. I also find that almost 40% recruited manpower is that of women, reason being today's women are preferring challenging jobs and they are good in multitasking which is one ground what is crucially required in Aviation industry. And from our side, we are definitely encouraging them and if you see while travelling also that entire employment be it crew, support staff, counters; everywhere participation of women fraternity is higher. Even, majority of women are now pilots but unfortunately those services are not a part of AAI functionals. Similarly, the service sector is largely covered by women like in the segments of support services, desk services; the percentage of women participation is increasing even increasing more. So from our side, we are quite open-minded in this context.

Q. It is believed and being quoted by many NGO's that there is no participation of women in the ground force. What would you like comment on it?

GM: On this, I would again like to bring your attention that there is no bar or mandatory criterion that ground staff should be selected on the gender basis. So, there is manpower from both the section in the carrier staffing, ground clearance, handling aircraft and maintenance. Yes, but it is a general look out what we see that there is a trend wherein women do not find their interest in more machinery oriented (civil and mechanical engineering oriented) jobs. Women are much more interested in jobs related to finance, services and back office operations. Despite many talks, we must appreciate that women are largely responsible for maintenances as well. Some of the airports are at remote places like Leh where they do not find it convenient also so, they can be not a preferred choice, but if talking about metro cities and tier-2, tier-3 cities, there it is no bar for women joining the team.

Q. Another much prestigious and ambitious project of Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of our country is UDAAN. So, please shed some lights on the plans and policies that AAI has in this project.

GM: AAI plays a very key and critical role in the success of UDAAN. The major roles what AAI practices in the smooth functioning of UDAAN are:

1. Firstly if we talk about the entire bidding process of UDAAN, we play a crucial part in maintaining and managing them.
2. Then, there is a trust which provides the royalty and is liable for funding the airlines for



flying the UDAAN and this trust is chaired by the chairperson of Airport Authority of India. 3. We are also supposed to receive the money which comes from the airlines operators coming from their metro connections and it is the backbone of UDAAN funding.

4. The mandate action to be taken by AAI is to ensure that whichever airlines' operators brings to whichever airport despite of the state they come under, we have to develop that airport in the puff line as per the date given by the bidder. Central government has this year marked a very high amount of fund for the development of the uncovered and underserved airports which we are going to use for developing these airports which have fallen under the UDAAN bidding scheme. AAI will be supplying the critical manpower requirements as well. We will get manpower related to manning the ATC, staff for maintaining the airport which is a considerable expenditure with us and is not supported by the government but then also AAI is taking it within the Authority with a motive of laying their contribution in the success of this scheme.

Q. What would like to say about the airport and opportunities of aviation in Uttar Pradesh state?

GM: Being the largest state of the country, it is not a matter of surprise that the state is having so many airports. Even the population of state is probably around 1/6th of the entire country. So, being such a large area it is no wonder that they require so many airports and even showing an increasing trend for travel via air. The mode is becoming the most preferred mode of travel due to less travel time and which is why UP is developing so many airports and we are fully co-operating and participating in the best of state's interest.

Q. So coming to an end of discussion, I would like you to advance your message to the readers.

GM: “Keep Flying” as it is the most convenient and time saving mode of travel. On our part, we are definitely trying to raise our standards to make sure that the journey of flyers should be more convenient, painless and the least time consuming for reaching their destination. I would like to urge to the air travelers to put forward their opinion upon their travel on the portal “Air Sewa” run by Ministry of Aviation which is exclusively designed for best of their interest and issues.

Air Astana - 13 Years of Connecting India and Eurasia

Kazakhstan's Skytrax award-winning full-service carrier Air Astana is celebrating 13 years of connecting India to Kazakhstan and Eurasia.

Air Astana commenced operations to India in 2004 with flights between Almaty and New Delhi. The airline operates 10 flights between Kazakhstan and India each week, including a daily service between Almaty and New Delhi and three frequencies between Astana and New Delhi.

Air Astana launched

direct flights from Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan, to the capital of India, New Delhi, on 2nd July 2017. The three-times weekly service currently operates using Airbus A320 and Embraer 190 aircraft. The carrier's plans for the future will see an increase in the number of Astana– New Delhi flights from three to five times a week. Air Astana is also

exploring on the opportunity of launching new flights from Kazakhstan to other cities in India.

Travel between the two countries continues to grow. The total number of passengers carried between Kazakhstan and India during 2017 reached 43459, an increase of 43% compared with 2016.

Peter Foster, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Astana

India is an important destination on Air Astana's network. We are proud to have played a significant role in connecting business as well as leisure passengers from Kazakhstan to India over the past 13 years. In addition, Air Astana is proud to add New Delhi to our growing network of flights to global capitals. New Delhi is a great new destination for us and we expect to carry both business travellers and holidaymakers between the two capitals, and also between India and cities in Russia and other countries on our network to and from Astana.



Brussels Airlines - More Flexibility and Choice

On March 30th, Brussels Airlines inaugurated its direct flights between Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji airport and Brussels Airport and has since seen its results on the route growing more and more.

After a positive 7-month period with an average seat load factor of almost 80%, the airline has decided to invest even more in the route, by adding an extra flight on Saturday, bringing the total to 6 flights per week. As an ambassador of Belgium, Brussels Airlines wants its Indian guests to discover the best of Belgium. That's why Brussels Airlines proudly participates to the State Visit to the Republic of

India of Their Majesties the King and Queen of the Belgians from November 8-11, 2017 in Mumbai. For the occasion, Brussels Airlines, together with Brussels-Capital Region and its other Belgian partners Brussels Airport, Bal Moderne and Tomorrowland, one of the biggest music festivals in the world, organize "Brussels Dances with Mumbai", a dance event at The Gateway of India with Bal Moderne and

the world famous DJ Lost Frequencies behind the decks. 2000 lucky winners of a Facebook contest were invited by Brussels Airlines to attend the event.

Bernard Gustin, CEO of Brussels Airlines

Our new service received a warm welcome here in the Indian market and we are very happy with the results. Adding this 6th weekly flight confirms our investment in the Indian market. We are therefore very happy to participate to the Belgian Royal State Visit here in Mumbai. With this spectacular event at the iconic gate of India, we are proud to bring the best of Belgium to India and to emphasize on the importance of the economic bonds between our two countries.



Hahn Air Top Performing Agents

Hahn Air hosted an Awards Ceremony to celebrate its top performing travel agencies for the year 2016.

With India having grown to one of Hahn Air's top 3 markets worldwide, Hahn Air has established itself as the leading ticketing specialist across the sub-continent. Over 100 travel agents from the state of Tamil Nadu were invited to attend the awards

ceremony held at the The Radisson Blu Hotel, Chennai City Centre. At the event, Hahn Air awarded certificates of appreciation recognising its top ten agencies for their continued support. The top three agencies also took home trophies featuring Hahn Air's mascot "Martin, the smart

travel agent".

Africa's First 787-9 Operation to Mumbai

Ethiopian Airlines group proudly announces that all is set to launch Africa's first and the airline's youngest and modern operating fleet B787-9 Dreamliner operation into Mumbai.

The aircraft made its debut flight to India's capital and metropolitan city of Delhi on 28th October 2017. Dreamliner fleet which is an integration of design and technology with unique features of biggest

windows in the sky, high ceiling, less noise, distinctive lighting, and higher air humidity, has further redefined passengers' travel experience on board Ethiopian

The 787 Dreamliner is the most innovative and efficient airplane family flying today.

Since 2011, more than 600 Dreamliners have entered commercial services, flying almost 200 million people on more than 560 unique routes around the world, saving an estimated 19 billion pounds of fuel.



Tadesse Tilahun, Regional Director, Indian Sub-continent

Ethiopian was the first airline to introduce Dreamliner 787-8 to India Market in 2012 and Airbus A350 -900 XWB in the month of April 2017. Once again, we are proud to celebrate yet another first with the introduction of the cutting-edge Africa's first 787-9 into Indian Market.

India is a very strategic market for Ethiopian that has been served for more than 46 years and in line with our expansion strategy in Indian Market, we are pleased to deploy our latest fleet and adding capacity on the existing route to better serve our esteemed customers and to further strengthen the growing trade and commercial ties between the booming economies of India and Africa.



Cathay Pacific Introduced Premium Economy to the Travel Agents

Cathay Pacific has introduced the Boeing 777-300ER aircraft on the Mumbai-Hong Kong route, with effect from 30th October 2017.

This change also brings with it the reintroduction of the Premium Economy cabin. The Boeing 777-300ER aircraft will operate on the daily CX660 service from Mumbai to Hong Kong and CX663 flight from Hong Kong to Mumbai. This change will mark a 21% increase in passenger capacity and 67% increase in cargo capacity out of Mumbai on Cathay Pacific flights. Cathay

Pacific Airways conducted a series of sales blitz and workshops in Ahmedabad, Pune and Mumbai to mark the reintroduction of its Premium Economy Class and the increase in capacity on flights from Mumbai. Cathay Pacific used to operate Premium Economy until October 2015.

Workshops were held for the travel trade fraternity in Mumbai which consisted of

interactive sessions and covered a range of topics that include Cathay Pacific's product & service, network and connections, loyalty programme, destination guides etc. This was followed by a week-long sales blitz that included a competition for the travel agents to upload their most fun picture on Cathay Pacific's facebook page.



Cathay Pacific's Regional Sales & Marketing Manager-South Asia, Rajesh Menon

We are thrilled to share these new developments in Cathay Pacific with our key trade and corporate partners. It is their support that has encouraged us to increase capacity on this route and reintroduce our Premium Economy cabin, which will provide ever greater convenience and give our customers another reason for choosing Cathay Pacific.



THAI Smile opened its 5th gateway in India

THAI Smile Airways is pleased to announce yet another milestone by launching its new flights on route Bangkok-Mumbai-Bangkok.

THAI Smile has already been operating since last quarter of 2016 direct flights from Bangkok to Jaipur, Lucknow, Gaya and Varanasi. Recently, the direct flight from Bangkok - Mumbai (Bombay), an important and old Indian

seaport, which is a popular tourist attraction, has been opened. This new route will help all segments like - leisure, corporate and MICE travelers and its excellent timings allow passengers to reach Bangkok just at the right time for meetings and catch

flights beyond. Mumbai has many interesting and diverse attractions including architecture, religious sites of worship, natural and cultural places. Mumbai lies on the Konkan on the west coast of India and has a deep natural harbour.

Best-Kept Secrets of Lufthansa

Lufthansa has revealed one of its best-kept secrets and unveiled the concept for its brand-new Business Class. It will be available on regular routes for the first time in 2020, with the roll-out of the Boeing 777-9.

The new seat is the key element of the service and comfort level in the cabin, which have been improved even further. It was developed with the goal of facilitating the best and soundest sleep up above the clouds. Lufthansa guests can not only look forward to beds with a length up to 220 cm (86.6 inches); the comfort and convenience of the seat also ensure heavenly dreams: the construction of the back rest makes it possible for the shoulder to sink in when you are lying on your side. This keeps the spine straight and makes it possible

for side sleepers to also benefit from ideally healthy and relaxing sleep.

The brand-new Business Class seat was developed exclusively for the German premium airline together with Lufthansa's customers. Over 500 guests provided in-depth support during the development phases. Privacy and an optimum of comfort for sleeping are two of the most important needs of passengers on international routes – both are handled perfectly with the new Business Class concept.

There will already be some innovations in

the existing Business Class in the upcoming year that will significantly improve the comfort level for passengers. Mattresses that have been developed exclusively for Lufthansa will be provided on long intercontinental flights as of early 2018. They will ensure pleasant sleep on board. On request, passengers will also be provided with sleeping sweaters. So far, these have only been available in First Class. Lufthansa will also be offering its Business Class passengers new blankets. They are lined, but still light, and will keep the passengers warm at night.

Harry Hohmeister, Member of the Executive Board, Deutsche Lufthansa AG

The new, ultra-modern Lufthansa Business Class creates a new global benchmark. It offers our passengers a unique travel experience. We have consistently and continuously refined our range of premium products for our guests and modernized Lufthansa. Our focus is and has always been on the wishes of our customers and their specific needs. We want to provide them with the perfect travel experience. The new Business Class showcases the full innovative capacity of Lufthansa.



Kuwait's Jazeera Airways - Daily Flights to Hyderabad

Jazeera Airways, Kuwait's leading low cost airline, operating regionally and internationally, inaugurated its daily flights to Hyderabad.

Upon arrival in India, Jazeera Airways held a joint press conference with GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd. (GHIAL), which operates Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad, bringing together media partners, travel agents from Kuwait and Hyderabad and other distinguished guests.

Kochi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad will follow in early 2018 as the airline expands its network

to serve its Indian sub-continent targeting the nearly 1 million Indian nationals residing in Kuwait.

Hyderabad Airport has witnessed 15.24 Million Passengers Per Annum in FY2016-17, registering a growth of approx. 22% in overall passenger traffic and 23% growth in air traffic movements over FY2015-16. With its extensive route network and choice of airlines for its pas-

sengers, RGIA has firmly established itself as the 'Gateway of Choice' in South and Central Indian region. As a result, RGIA has recorded a 56% growth in domestic transfer passengers in FY17 & over FY16. Now 9 domestic carriers connect Hyderabad with 39 domestic destinations. The airport also connects 17 international destinations with 17 foreign and 3 Indian carriers.

Rohit Ramachandran, CEO, Jazeera Airways

This is a proud moment for us marking the expansion of our network in to India. We are delighted to start with Hyderabad, a 400-year old city and a technology hub, bringing more choice to Indian travelers, connecting them to Kuwait, Riyadh, Jeddah, Bahrain and Dubai. In addition, we offer for religious travelers connections to Taif in KSA, Najaf (Iraq), Mashad (Iran) and Amman for the Holy Land. This new service will address surging travel demands with low cost fares at convenient frequencies for leisure, business or religious travel. India is a financial and tourist powerhouse and we are eager to capitalize on the enormous opportunities ahead.



SGK Kishore, CEO, GHIAL

We welcome Jazeera Airways to Hyderabad and we are very happy to note that they have chosen Hyderabad Airport as their first Indian destination. We are confident that this will further boost the tourism potential between India and various tourist destinations in the Middle East including Kuwait, Iran, Jordan and Egypt among others. With the largest domestic network in the region, Hyderabad Airport is best placed to serve as the Gateway to South and Central India and the launch of this new service to Kuwait by Jazeera Airways is a testament to this fact.



Cooking is a Never-Ending Journey of Discovery

In an exclusive interview with T3FS, Senior Chef Justin Paul of Golden Peacock, The Venetian Macao says, "there is no cuisine as diverse as Indian food because it is composed of amazing ingredients mixed with an array of delicate spices".

• Tarsh Sharma

Q To begin with tell us about your journey so far?

I was born in Kerala, a food lover's paradise in South India. I always aspired to work in the food and beverage industry and spent a couple of years of my early career working in a continental kitchen. This is when I realised that there is no cuisine as diverse as Indian food because it is composed of amazing ingredients mixed with an array of delicate spices. I came to the conclusion that the same spices in different ratios will bring out entirely different flavors. It was exciting to explore food from different regions of India. I am still learning, as cooking is a never-ending journey of discovery.

Q What are the trademarks of your cooking?

After perfecting the flavors of every dish, I then think of unique ways to present these

dishes in a modern way.

Q What are your essential ingredients, the things you couldn't live without?

The incredible spices that India and the world has to offer.

Q Do you find it a challenge to constantly innovate?

It is a challenge but positive feedback from guests inspires me to constantly innovate and create.

Q Do you have anything special planned for the coming Christmas and New Year?

For each and every season, we will have a seasonal menu selection for our customers.

Q Can you share a favourite recipe?
Kandari Murgh Tikka – this is one of

our signature dishes at The Golden Peacock. It is from our capital city of India. We use amazing organic chicken, pomegranate, baby beetroot, cumin seeds, coriander seeds, Kashmiri chilli, hung curds and cashew nuts.

Q What advice would you give home chefs who are inspired by your style of cookery?

The more you practice the closer you come to perfection. A dish cooked from the heart always tastes better.

Q What message you would like to convey to our audience?

If you are passionate about cooking, you should try and spread your wings to discover new flavours from around the world to enhance the foods you love to cook.





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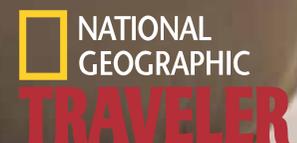
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Cooking Is About Feeling, Not Just Recipes

"An element of what you have learnt that is reflected in your cuisine", says **Chef Robin Zavou, Executive Chef at Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong**, in an exclusive interview with T3FS.

• **Komal Arya**

Q. Was yours a conscious decision to become a chef, or did you find you fell into it?

More of, I fell into it. I started with pot washing and then fell into the chef side of things.

Q. Is there one dish that sums up your adventure?

There's so much that I have learned or been through in my life and it's impossible to sum up everything with just one dish. If you ask me to pick my favourite cooking moment, I would say game cooking in winter in the UK.

For my favourite dish, I would say Beef Charcoal from The Krug Room at Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong (photo attached). The Krug Room is a 'must-try' for all visiting gastronomes, the team creates each evening's dinner according to inspiration and using the most exclusive products in season, paired perfectly with the diners' choice from the largest collection of Krug champagne in Asia.

Q. Where does your inspiration come from?

I usually get my inspiration from the products that we get and source every day. As a chef, one should be connected with the ingredients and be inspired by them. Also, I enjoy reading during my spare time, which always gives me new ideas.

On top of that, working at a hotel like Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong allows me to meet and interact with people from different backgrounds and cultures, which is

a great source of inspiration as well.

Q. Did you find anything that shocked you?

The way that some chefs treat people can be a little bit intimidating, and at first, you get quite shocked by it, but then you become more accustomed to the ways of a chef.

Q. Will any of the dishes you discovered be making their way onto your restaurant menus?

There is always an element of what you have learnt that is reflected in your cuisine. It's how you become a good chef and re-adapt those dishes to your style.

Q. In the coming season of Christmas and New Year, what speciality of yours would you like to present to food lovers?

Festive times are all about sharing and being with family. I always like it if you can have sharing plates for guests to enjoy. This festive season, we will present a special dessert name "Snowball" in The Krug Room. It's fun and delicious, and it's perfect for sharing. Come to Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong and explore more!

Q. What advice would you give home chefs who are inspired by your style of cookery?

Practice, but worry if you fail. Cooking is about feeling, not just recipes. Taste everything and enjoy.



Slice of Life

You believe in taking risks or planning beforehand.

RZ: Plan ahead, so you can enjoy as well.

Your high points.

RZ: Winning "Restaurant of the Year" in England in 2004-05 and a Michelin Star as well.

Your low points.

RZ: Not winning a Michelin star at the hotel I worked at for seven years.

Favourite travel trade leader of the industry.

RZ: Rick Stein.

Which type of novels do you

love?

RZ: Action, crime and mystery.

A movie that motivates you.

RZ: "Bourne Identity".

How do you spend your day off?

RZ: Teaching football and rugby to my two boys at the Hong Kong Football Club.



Ell Bee



ELLBEE GANGA VIEW, RISHIKESH
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A Restaurant is a Promise: Walk in and we'll be ready

In an exclusive interview with T3FS, **John Getanda, Executive Chef, Nairobi Serena Hotel** speaks about his aim to provide his guests with a truly unforgettable dining experience with every meal.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

Q. Was yours a conscious decision to become a chef or did you find you fell into it?

When I was younger, I used to help my mother in the kitchen and with time developed a passion for cooking. Every time I prepared a dish, I received very good feedback and this prompted my decision to become a chef.

Q. Is there one dish that sums up your adventure?

Sweet potato mash with local chicken which is gently braised over two hours and infused with lemon grass.

Q. Where does your inspiration come from?

My inspiration comes from our diners, where my team and I always aim to provide our guests a truly unforgettable dining experience with every meal. I always value client feedback – both good and bad, and this is what encourages me to always do better and better.

Q. Did you find anything that shocked you?

This is a heavy and taxing career choice which may drain ones creative ability if you do not have a deep and innate passion for cooking, and most importantly discipline.

Q. Will any of the dishes you discovered be making their way onto your restaurant menus?

Yes. Sweet potato and olive mash with local chicken that is gently braised and infused with lemongrass.

Q. In the coming season of Christmas and New Year what speciality of yours you would like to come up with for food lovers?

Our fig and orange glazed ham bone is definitely going to tantalize the taste buds of lovers

Q. What advice would you give home chefs who are inspired by your style of cookery?

Simplicity is key – food on every plate needs to be simple (no that does not mean you under compensate on quality), presentable and full of flavor. At Serena we use only the freshest of locally sourced produce and ingredients from local suppliers, and this is a way of supporting our farmers too.

Q. You believe in taking risk or plan beforehand.

A good chef has to plan in advance in order to execute work efficiently. A restaurant is a promise: Walk in and we'll be ready. Select anything on our menu and we'll cook it for you quickly and well. Because of that promise, chefs and cooks can't wing it. They must have all the resources (ingredients, tools, and personnel) to fulfill it. They must know the actions (recipes, procedures, and skills) needed to honor it.



Slice of Life

Your high points.

JG: My high point has been my journey from a Cook to an Executive Chef of a five star establishment, which is known for its high standards of quality, great food and impeccable service. I have also mentored younger chefs and am proud of what they have achieved thus far. I am grateful to God for all my accomplishments.

Your low points.

JG: My low point in this career is that you have to be working and planning the kitchen brigade during holidays and festive season and hence little time to enjoy with family.

Favorite travel trade leader of the industry.

JG: That would be the Serena chain of Hotels

Which type of novels you love?

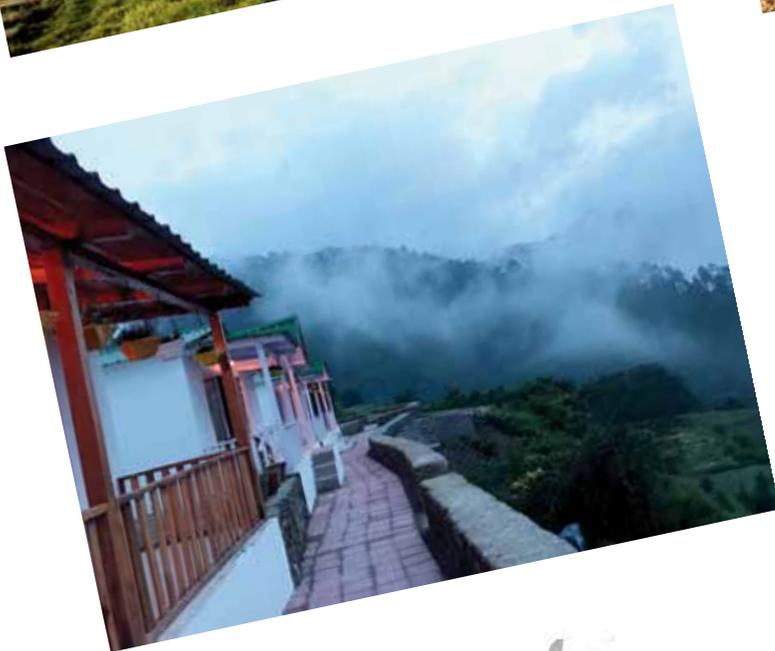
JG: Inspirational novels like Think Big by Ben Carson

A movie that motivates you.

JG: The pursuit for happiness

How you spend your day on day off.

JG: I spend my day of with family my beautiful wife Emily and my two kids Leon and Angel



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The Spectacular Beauty of the Anji

Anila Anji's new 'AERIAL TAPESTRY' destination experience package offers its guests an exhilarating way to appreciate the spectacular beauty of the Anji landscape – on a private scenic sky tour - in your own aircraft. Organized in collaboration with Tianzi Lake Airport, Anji's only airport, located on a spectacular site one hour north of the resort, this amazing flying experience provides an unforgettable journey soaring over the lush tapestry of mountains, towns, bamboo forests and lakes.

Guests can take to the skies with a choice of two aircrafts: a Cirrus SR-20 airplane or a Robinson R44 helicopter. The Cirrus SR-20 is

a piston-engine, four-or- five-seater, composite monoplane, popular with flying schools as well as private individuals and companies. The R44 is a single-engine helicopter that can accommodate a pilot and three passengers.

The Cirrus SR-20 experience offers a choice of two 15-minute routes, flying over Tianzi Lake and Zhangwu Town, or over Tianzi Lake and Xianshan Lake. Those who dare can even have a go at co-piloting the aircraft – a must-try for flying enthusiasts. The Robinson R44 offers an 8-minute tour following the same routes but at a lower altitude of 300m, flying above the canopy of the bamboo forests.



More Choices and More Benefits

Marriott International (NASDAQ: MAR) launched the new Club Marriott in India, a leading dining loyalty program that integrates three powerful dining loyalty programs—Club Marriott, Eat Drink & More, and Star Privilege—into a single paid membership program

The newly combined Club Marriott provides members with more choices and benefits whenever they dine out in their hometowns or visit one of the 250 participating hotels across 16 brands in 13 countries across the region, with more hotels joining every month.

Acknowledging the fact that food brings people together in India, there are special benefits that Club Marriott will be offering in terms of *value for money* dining experiences to its members round the year. Members of Club Marriott can avail maximum discounts on total



food and beverage bills across various Marriott International hotels in India.

Mr. Ralph Frehner, Vice President, Food and Beverages, Asia-Pacific for Marriott International Club Marriott said, "The union of three prestigious dining loyalties, is a celebrated food and beverage loyalty program of its kind in Asia-

Neeraj Govil, Area Vice President - South Asia - Marriott International said, "The integration of our programs has widened the scope of rewards and options for our guests. It will allow our guests to redeem exclusive events, experiences and feel a sense of community at their favourite destinations. We're excited to present Club Marriott and a whole new range of elevated experiences across a vast variety of brands in the region. Pacific. We're all set to recognise and reward our Indian guests with memorable experiences with a distinctive range of dining options and exclusive benefits across our wide portfolio of brands under Marriott International. The core of Club Marriott is to inspire loyalty that extends beyond just a stay and confer special benefits to our loyal members.

Milestone agreement of IHG's

IHG® (InterContinental Hotels Group), one of the world's leading hotel companies, has partnered with SAMHI to re-brand approximately 2000 rooms (operating and under construction) within its India hotel portfolio, to Holiday Inn Express® hotels. The recently signed portfolio comprises 14 hotels, including ten open hotels across key

cities such as Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Mumbai. The additional four hotels are under construction. The signing sees IHG grow its pipeline by 41 hotels, positioning IHG as one of the largest players in India's growing midscale hotel market.

All hotels in the portfolio will be closed

while they are being refurbished and upgraded with the latest design directives, to ensure the portfolio is fully representative of the Holiday Inn Express brand globally. The hotels will feature the next-generation design, several additional public areas and feature brand hallmarks to enhance guest service delivery.

Yes I Can!

Country Inn & Suites by CarlsonSM, Udyog Vihar rebranded to Radisson Gurugram Udyog Vihar – a brand synonymous with outstanding service and comfort. It is the first Radisson hotel to be situated in the millennium city of Gurugram.

Strategically located in the business district of Udyog Vihar, the hotel has completely reinvented itself to better serve its discerning guests with its signature Yes I Can! SM service philosophy. The hotel provides quick and easy access to the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi through a 15 minutes' drive and is situated within proxim-

ity of city's corporate, entertainment and shopping centers, namely DLF Cyber City, Cyber Hub and Ambience Mall. Raj Rana, Chief Executive Officer, South Asia, Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group during the event said, "I am delighted to welcome our first Radisson hotel to Gurugram. Delhi NCR is a key market for us and Gurugram remains a promising destination due to its thriving corporate suburb. We appreciate the investment that the owners have made in upgrading this hotel and the trust they have demonstrated in the Radisson brand."





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1589 Hotels - Luxury Affordable

1589 Hotels, set up in 2014, draws its legacy from the prestigious Clarks Hotels Group. The chain was set up with a view to cater within the upscale and economy hotel segment.

A professional hotel management company, with over 31 operational hotels, 1422 operational rooms. As a unique name in itself, 1589 hotels endeavour to create unique experiences & make luxury

affordable to all.

1589 is promoted & spear headed by Anant Kumar & Udit Kumar, young & very dynamic Hoteliers by birth and fully involved. This makes a marked great difference to the

overall experience and delivery. The chain Operates across a wide spectrum of hotels under its Brand Umbrella of - Brij , Atre', GenX, RnB Select, RnB & 1589 Hotels also being a brand in itself.

“ **Pankaj Giroti, CHA – VP Business Development & PR**
The company has added the following destination within last 60 days – Bhopal(City), Alwar, Bhavnagar, Bhopal(Highway), Jim Corbett & Udaipur, adding on an inventory of 386 Rooms to the Brands Kitty. The Target for the coming 12 months would be to add on 36 Hotels/Resort to the Portfolio and increase the Room Inventory up to 3000 Rooms plus.



Royal Orchid Hotels Partnership With UK's Bespoke Hotels

Royal Orchid Hotels Ltd is pleased to announce that it has reached an agreement to represent Bespoke Hotels Ltd in India. With this strategic partnership, Bespoke and Royal Orchid shall work together to enhance each other's revenues and brand presence in their respective markets. Royal Orchid now has the ability to offer its guests hundreds of hotel options across multiple global markets. Bespoke, in turn, shall promote this new partnership in the Indian subcontinent to its guests.

Bespoke Hotels has grown to represent and manage over 200 properties worldwide, with over 50 represented hotels in India, and stands as the UK's Largest Independent Hotel Group. Founded in 2000 by Haydn Fentum and Robin Sheppard, Bespoke has consistently grown to the point where they now manage over 9,500 hotel rooms, 8,000

employees and £815 million of assets.

Admired as India's fastest growing hotel chain with over 47 hotels under management and ownership, Royal Orchid Hotels encompasses a range of luxury and five star properties in the popular regions of Bangalore, Jaipur, Mumbai, and Goa.

Robin Sheppard, Founder of Bespoke Hotels said,

"We are delighted to have reached agreement to represent Royal Orchid and welcome them to our burgeoning international portfolio. They boast a portfolio in some of India's finest locations, with a commitment to the highest standards of hospitality."

Chender Baljee, Founder of Royal Orchid Hotels said,

"We are thrilled to have Bespoke Hotels on board, to offer our guests 100's of hotels



in abroad, and to market our hotels to inbound International travellers. We are looking forward to growing and reinforcing the standing of both brands in the future."

New Elected Managing Committee of TAAI

The members of TAAI Managing Committee, for the Term 2017-2019, duly elected at the 66th AGM of TAAI, held on the 28th November, 2017, at The Lalit, Mumbai. Managing Committee leadership: Sunil Kumar R, Travel World, Secunderabad – President; Sanjay Narula, Apex Travel and Tours, New Delhi – Vice President; Jyoti Mayal, New Airways Travels (Delhi) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi - Hon. Secretary General; Imtiaz Qureshi, Viceroy Travels Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad - Hon. Treasurer.

Managing Committee Members (SEVEN POSITIONS) are Anil Kumar, Acma Travel Tours Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru; Anoop B. Kanuga, Bathija Travels Pvt. Limited, Mumbai; Bhagwan T. Ramnani, Vensimal World Travel Agents Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata; Devaki Thiyagarajan, Avocet

Tours & Travel Private Limited, Chennai; Gurmeet Singh Vij, Nova Tours & Travels, Nagpur; Rajan Sehgal, Airborne Travels Pvt. Limited, New Delhi and P. Saravanan, Viking Tours & Travel, Chennai.

All the office bearers of Regions and Chapters of TAAI, Chairman; Secretary & Hon. Treasurer, duly elected earlier during the year, at the ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING of respective Regions /



Chapters, for the term 2017-2019; have assumed their respective offices, effective 28th November, 2017.



Lost Yourself in the Lap of Stress Free Life

Sunray Village Resort is a premium getaway resort situated 55 km from the Vizag Airport. The resort is recommended for premium corporate events and flight getaways for guests looking to arrive to an exclusive holiday resort.

The beautiful lush green resort offers Vizianagaram facilities and activities for the premium getaway seekers. The place is completely enclosed by trees with cool weather all day. Moreover, activities arranged by Sunray Village Resort such as cycling

and koi fish feeding are few of the major hits among guests. Vacationers will also enjoy their stay here with recreational facilities like club house, meditation centre, private pools, water slides, basketball court and cricket ground and tennis court.

Fi enabled boardrooms. In short, we can describe it as corporate style yet fun filled. Sun Ray Resort is an ideal for corporate outings, banquets, product launching, dealers' meets, training sessions and annual meets. The management focuses on MICE (Meeting, Incentive Tour, Conference and Exhibition) serving to the best of the corporate community's interests. The Resort makes arrangements for informal events as well like weddings, stage shows and parties which have the best set up option in its landscaped gardens.

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation is divided into two categories namely Deluxe and Executive featuring a host of amenities. These rooms cater to all the needs of a discerning traveller.

MICE

For befitting corporate travellers, the Resort maintains myriad MICE facilities including Wi-

DINING

The Resort features a multi-cuisine restaurant Blossoms which serves Continental, Chinese and Indian cuisines with sumptuous variety of sea food. Another mesmerizing dining option available for guests include open air barbeque.



First Fairmont Flag Unveiled in Morocco

Luxury hotel brand Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, part of AccorHotels announced the official launch of Fairmont Royal Palm Marrakechin Morocco to its exclusive portfolio of distinctive hotels worldwide.

Located nearby the former imperial city of Marrakech within the heart of a century-old olive grove set against the backdrop of the Atlas Mountains, the resort evokes the romanticism of desert-life, offering a perfect fusion of modern architecture and natural surroundings.

The re-flag of this prestigious Marrakech landmark resort reflects the growth of the luxury brand in Morocco, which has been accelerated by the presence of AccorHotels in Morocco with upwards of 40 hotels.

Hamid Bentahar, Executive Vice President, AccorHotels, Luxury & Upscale Brands for Africa & Indian Ocean said, "Fairmont is recognized globally as luxury hospitality leader with a collection of 75 hotels including icons such as The Plaza in New York and The Savoy Hotel in London, as well as flagship hotels in the Middle East and Africa. The Fairmont brand also resonates with today's travelers as well as our guests in Morocco because of its emphasis on personalization, creating exceptional travel experiences and being a part of the community in which they operate them. Fairmont Royal Palm then is well positioned to be part of a distinctive collection of celebrated hotels worldwide."

Afif Salibi, General Manager of Fairmont Royal Palm said, "As custodians of the Fairmont brand, the team aims to provide our guests with exceptional travel experiences, thoughtful and attentive service in a setting that is truly unforgettable."



Chennai welcomes two new hotels

AccorHotels announced the opening of Novotel and IBIS Chennai-OMR, strategically located on the city's Old Mahabalipuram Road(OMR) popularly known as the IT Expressway. The two hotels with a combined 342 rooms are situated in the heart of Chennai's IT corridor and are co-located to form AccorHotels' first joint development in the city. The globally renowned upper midscale Novotel and popular international economy ibis brands from AccorHotels offer travellers a choice offering across different price points and compelling value.

The 153 room Novotel and 189 room ibis Chennai OMR combo are developed as a part of a strategic partnership between AccorHotels, Interglobe Enterprises & APHV IndiaInvestco Pte Ltd. The addition of 342 rooms through the Novotel and ibis Chennai OMR co-development takes the joint venture to a diverse portfolio of 1718 rooms across seven hotels under the Pullman, Novotel and ibis family of hotels from AccorHotels in Delhi, Bengaluru and Chennai.

AccorHotels' focus is on densifying the network and establishing a leading presence in key cities. Novotel & IBIS remain the group's most

prominent brands with an expansive network of 15 and 18 hotels across the country respectively.



ITDC - Financial Year 2016-17

India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) Chairperson and Managing Director (CMD), Ms Ravneet Kaur presented the dividend cheque amounting to Rs.9.93 Cr on behalf of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) to Union Tourism Minister Shri K

J Alphans for the financial year 2016-17. The amount has been paid to the Government of India being the largest shareholder having 87.03% of the paid up capital of the Company. The Ceremony was conducted in the presence of Ms Rashmi Verma, Secretary, Ministry

of Tourism; Shri Suman Billa, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism; Mr Piyush Tiwari, Director Commercial & Marketing, ITDC; Mr. P K Das, Director Finance & CFO, ITDC along with other senior officials of Ministry of Tourism and ITDC at the Minister's office, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi.

India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), the public sector undertaking under the aegis of the Ministry of Tourism, had declared a dividend of 13.30% on the equity share capital of the company amounting to total of Rs.11.41 crore for 2016-17. The decision for the payment of Dividend was taken during ITDC 52nd Annual General Meeting held at the Group's flagship hotel, The Ashok, New Delhi.

For the financial year 2016-17, ITDC posted a robust performance where total turnover stood at Rs 495.14 cr as compared to Rs. 465.69 cr in last financial year clocking a growth of 6.32%. Revenue from operations stood at Rs. 473.15 cr as compared to Rs. 437.13 cr in the last fiscal. Corporation posted profit before tax (PBT) of Rs.17.52 cr and profit after tax (PAT) of Rs.12.05 cr in 2016-17 against Rs. 32.42 cr and Rs. 22.55 cr respectively in the previous year.



Alila Fort Bishangarh

Alila Hotels & Resorts announced the appointment of Binny Sebastian as General Manager of Alila Fort Bishangarh, located 1.5 hours north of Jaipur. He commenced his role at Alila Fort Bishangarh to manage the operations of the majestic heritage resort with 59 suites. With 20 years of global experience in hospitality, Binny brings with him a wealth of industry knowledge in the luxury hotel segment. He successfully ran prestigious hotels and resorts in senior management roles in the Caribbean and India.



InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG®)

InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG®) announced the appointment of Vivek Bhalla as the Regional Vice President, South West Asia (SWA), effective from 1 January, 2018. Vivek succeeds Shantha de Silva who will progress his journey with IHG as Senior Director, New Hotels - Australasia and Japan. Vivek will be responsible for spearheading strategic growth for the company and operational performance of 31 hotels in South West Asia, across four brands: InterContinental®, Crowne Plaza®, Holiday Inn® and Holiday Inn Express®. He will also play an instrumental role in driving IHG's growth agenda to have 150 hotels open or in the pipeline in India within the next 10 to 15 years, starting with facilitating the opening of 33 hotels in India within the next 3 to 5 years.

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Christoph Mares has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer, effective from 1st, January 2018 and will be responsible for global hotel operations as well as overseeing the operational functions of Food and Beverage, Rooms & Quality and Spa & Wellness. Christoph will be based at the Group's Hong Kong corporate office, moving from his current position in London as Executive Vice President, Operations Director, Europe, Middle East, Africa and India (EMEI). Christoph has over 25 years' experience in luxury hotel management around the world.



South African Tourism

South African Tourism is pleased to announce Alpa Jani's appointment to the key trade relations and marketing role for the MEISEA (Middle East Hub/ India/ South East Asia) region. Alpa Jani has served as Trade Relations Manager at South African Tourism's Mumbai office for seven years. The new position will expand the scope of Ms. Jani's responsibility to cover the Middle East and South East Asia in addition to India. She brings great value to the role over and above her many years at South African Tourism because she comes with well-rounded tourism experience that includes airline and tour operator expertise.

SWISS

André Blattmann, former Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS). He will take up his position on January 1, 2018. André Blattmann, former Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces with the rank of Lieutenant General was appointed to the SWISS Board of Directors at the company's Annual General Meeting on 16th November. Blattmann (61) will take up his new duties on 1 January 2018. He succeeds Montie Brewer, who will step down from the Board at the end of 2017. Further current Board member Jacques Aigrain will also be relinquishing his mandate in mid-2018.



Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Richard Baker, currently Executive Vice President, Operations Director – Asia, has been appointed Group Chief Relationship Officer effective 1, January 2018. In this new role, Richard will lead the company's portfolio management focus, bringing new hotel opening projects to fruition, and managing key owner and partner relationships. Richard will continue to be responsible for The Residences at Mandarin Oriental portfolio. He will also coordinate internal projects, ensuring the Group's readiness for its future growth. Richard will remain based at the Group's Hong Kong corporate office. Richard has over 30 years' experience in luxury hotel management.

"Prima Donna" *The Donning Diva This Wedding Season*

The season is here, so is the confusion... And to trick that confusion, I suggest few of my picks for this wedding season which are quick and easy stratagem to get that twinkling glam in every wedding. you mark your presence!!!

• **Vedika Sharma**

Every girl dreams of looking as ravishing and gorgeous as the bride any wedding she marks her presence to. But the biggest problem that arises precisely in the season of winter is of attires to choose from. Summers are always about adding glamour with those low waste lehengas, backless blouses, chiffon drapes, and what not... whereas winter brings with it frosty breeze, chilling nights and the catchy cold which makes her getting apart from looking sensuous and sexy.

But with the innovation in fashion and styling, winters are also becoming sexier in terms of adding that glam touch to your wedding function wardrobe out of which T3FS has come up with the three must try styling to your closet.

THE EVERGREEN INDIAN GRACE



One of the best and the evergreen classic looks of Indian weddings have to be a SARI with some not seen before or exclusive style of its draping and a nice sassy blouse. And winters are all about draping six yards of grace and dignity with the soft and cosy fabric of Silk, a heritage of Indian art and culture

THE BASIC SELECTION:

Silk material based Saris like Kanjeevaram, Baluchari, Paithani and Chanderi are the top of winter charts, one can pick from. For that twist to tradition pick, one can pick from Velvet and Art Silk fabric that gives an equivalent look of silk.

My favorite landed with the choice of Border work Kanjeevaram Sari in a dual tone of Black and Golden.

SORTING THE PERFECT BLOUSE:

Silk sari blouse combination is always a trick what if not done right, then may result to blunder. So, the right piece of advice would be to go for a light and basic blouse for heavy work sari and vice-versa.

Some of the silk varieties look even perfect with brocades, heavy zari works or just a basic silk piece. Styling the blouse can be done with designs like:

- Collar or High Neck Pattern;

- Jacket Style Blouse;
- Sleeveless/Three-fourth sleeves or
- Designer back styles.

My pick for the Kaanjevaram would be a zari woven jacket style blouse in a no-sleeve cut.

Style to Drape

The Silk Saris gleams a perfect grace when draped around with

- Floating Palla;
- All Pleated Palla; or
- Tucked in Pleated Palla

My pick here is favorite with pleated pallas tucked in through the jacket and landed a bit low to waist line.

ACCESSORIES TO ADD ON

The silk saris always mark radiance with the classic golden or pearl jewel. So one can opt for nice carved temple jewellery or studded little pieces of pearl jewellery.

My pick here would be a bit heavy Chandbali studded with pears down and a temple art in it.

The Classic Touch Up: With this one should opt for a nice tucked hair bun and a minimal make up a good red lipstick shade and highlighted black eyeliner.



SCINTILLATING INDO-WESTERN STYLE



Another hottie look of this winter season wedding is teaming up a long wide/low high skirt teamed up with poncho (Ponchu) or a simple floor length jacket with crop top.

THE BASIC BOTTOM:

The primary selection of skirt can be finalized on going for the fabric varieties of either light velvet or dupion/tussar silk or a net fabric skirt.

My selection here ended up on a happy note of going for a dupion silk fabric with wide area of A-line style with low thin border work.

Sassing up the top:

The Skirt style lehengas go best with a crop top over which if you want you can team up a nice stylish poncho or a classy long jacket.

UPPER OPTED CAN ALSO BE DESIGNS LIKE:

- Side slit
- Three cut classic

After a tough competition of choosing one best pick, I opted for a poncho style as I found jacket style classic though commoners.

ACCESSORIES TO ADD ON

A thin line chain over neck line along with long earring or pair of bold studs can let down your look.

My suggestion for that bold quirky look will be in the favor of a good pair of earrings to keep it starry.

The Googly Woogly Woosh Touch Up: An open hair straight or wavy hair will surely add that charm with the minimal pinkish tone make up of rosy cheeks and matt pink lipstick and light shade of eyes



THE TEMPTING TWISTED LEHENGA LOOK

One of the most desirable outfits any girl would like to opt in any Indian wedding has undoubtedly to be a Lehenga-Choli but why not to think indifferent this time while you wear this attire. The twist to the tale would be dropping the idea of draping Dupatta and instead going for a shawl or a cape with the choli.

THE BASIC BOTTOM:

The lehenga will look best if it is not of a very heavy work pattern rather dawn it for a younger trendy way of opting for light colors, shimmers or something out of league.

My out of box idea is wearing a silver sequin work lehenga.

SASSING UP THE TOP:

The choice of choosing a same base choli and teaming it up with a cape or shawl that would help you get the warmth needed in D-day's cold wavy night

The off-beat set up for my diva look is going for a cape over the choli that has long floor length sides.

ACCESSORIES TO ADD ON

The lehengas always look graceful with any indian metallic and gemstone jewels. In my suggestion you may go for some diamond or ADs to add that glitter to your look.

You can have a floral piece over your ears and two layers of stones on the neck.

The Finale: Go for a loose bun in your hair styling or just a half clutch style if you don't want to completely tuck your hair. The touch up can be done with bronze mineralized finish and light grey shade eyes and a plum shaded lips.

My suggestion for that twisted look would be that loose bun with few flinges to take off the beats of other hearts An open hair straight or wavy hair will surely add that charm with the minimal pinkish tone make up of rosy cheeks and matt pink lipstick and light shade of eyes.

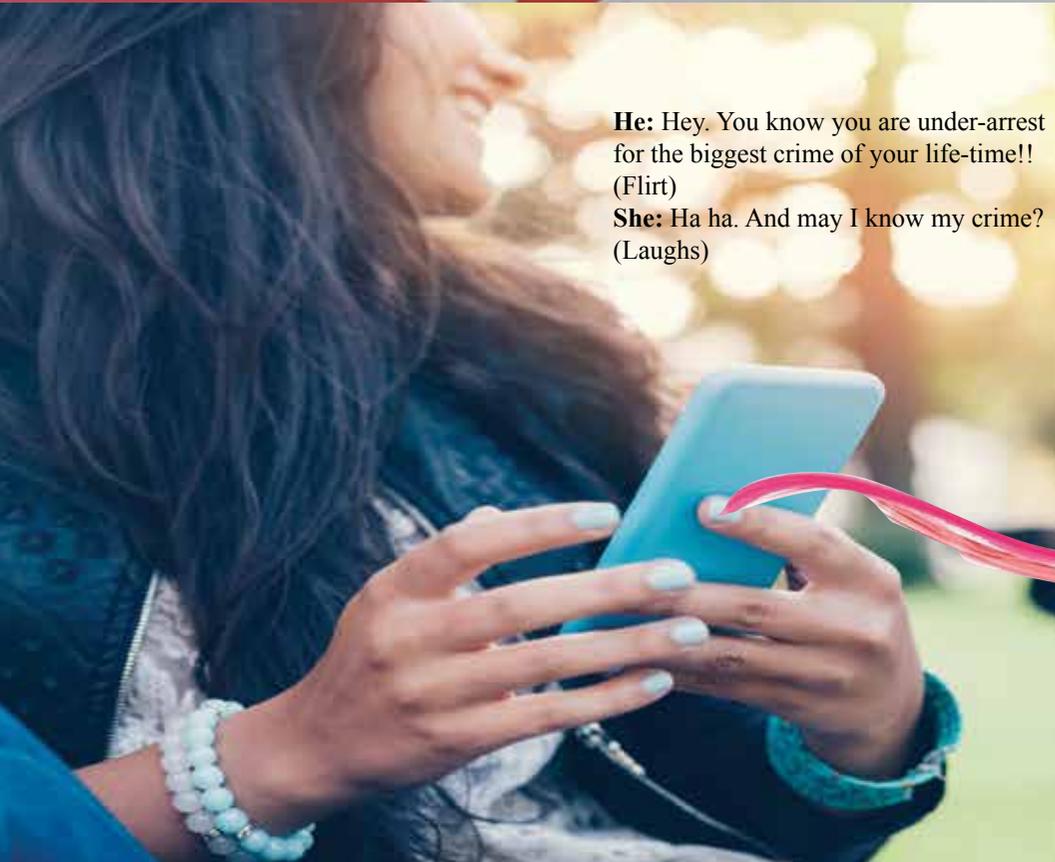


Truly-Madly Tindering Romance

In the world of hashtags, +1, likes, love and emojis, pops up a beautiful story of two people at two ends who were in avid search of their share of happiness, pampering and romance. One picture makes all that required difference in just single swipe.

• **Richa Tiwari**

The heart sunken in the ocean of prediction of text being typed and pictures shared is THE NEW WORLD OF LOVE. Inviting each other with “Meet Me” message is these days “Tindering” on each other's virtual world is where the young generation is setting up a new definition of love to let it “Truly-Madly Happen”. And now, Internet and Mobile is the new cupid of love stories to be given the credit. Now the compatibility is auto checked with the profile description.



He: Hey. You know you are under-arrest for the biggest crime of your life-time!! (Flirt)
She: Ha ha. And may I know my crime? (Laughs)

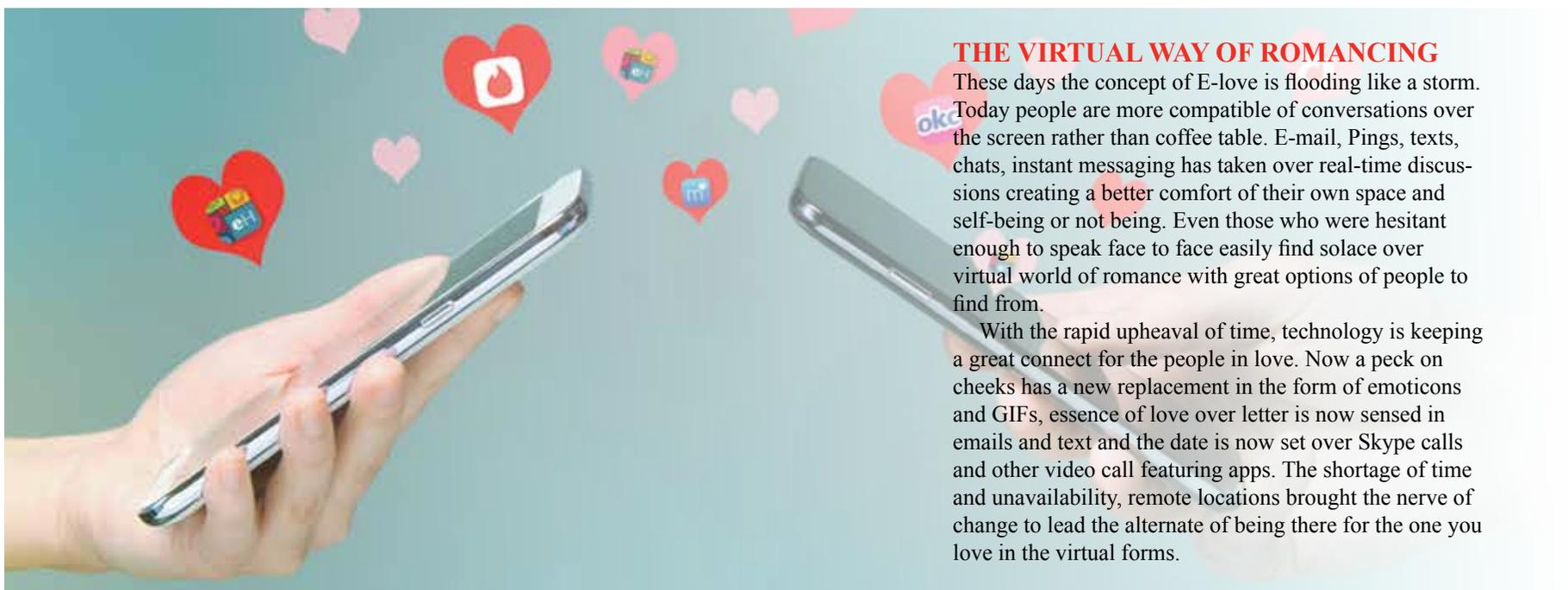
He: You have been found guilty of making my heart skip its heartbeat (heartbreak)
She: I just wish! I am the century count who got this compliment (wink)

He: Hahaha (Laughs)
She: Hahaha (Laughs)





And, there started another saga of new age. Romance, the word with innumerable feeling and sensuality to emoter but not a single word is enough to describe it verbally. But then, there are these texting have become crucial to painting your world red and who would know that one may find his lady luck or just a best friend forever to share all the ups and downs of life before the day ends.



THE VIRTUAL WAY OF ROMANCING

These days the concept of E-love is flooding like a storm. Today people are more compatible of conversations over the screen rather than coffee table. E-mail, Pings, texts, chats, instant messaging has taken over real-time discussions creating a better comfort of their own space and self-being or not being. Even those who were hesitant enough to speak face to face easily find solace over virtual world of romance with great options of people to find from.

With the rapid upheaval of time, technology is keeping a great connect for the people in love. Now a peck on cheeks has a new replacement in the form of emoticons and GIFs, essence of love over letter is now sensed in emails and text and the date is now set over Skype calls and other video call featuring apps. The shortage of time and unavailability, remote locations brought the nerve of change to lead the alternate of being there for the one you love in the virtual forms.

CHALLENGING SOCIETAL ACCEPTANCE

India is still a land of emotions, traditions, customs, values and beliefs where one has to think a lot as the acceptance ground in very niche over love couples in comparison to that of western culture. For Indian, the concept of love is still eternal and deep-rooted. But, those stolen moments of romance, hide and seek games, hesitation in accepting one's proposal is what makes it still worth of having!! With the passage of time and changing trends, people have come up initiating for their perception and stand over what their heart says. So, the biggest question of all times remains whether to enter in the virtual world of romance to find our true love??

As: they say:

Ye Ishq Nahi Aasaan...Bas itna samajh lijiye...

EK aag ka dariya hai aur doob ke jana hai



Shine Bright this Season

Rangriti has become the epitome of fusion fashion with magnificent pieces that leave you wanting more. With the change in season approaching, rejuvenate your wardrobe with Fall/Winter collection by Rangriti, offering a curated range that reflects the needs and aspirations of the masses.

Rangriti adds a contemporary touch to your look, as each piece is comfortable to wear and lends an opulent look making them a must have for any wardrobe. This collection is primarily dominated by Kurtis, Kurtas, Pallazos, Pants, Skirts & Reversible Jackets and many more to choose from. The collection is known for its eccentric & experimental approach as there has been a lot of play in colors ranging from vibrant hues to earthy muted tones. It features a fanciful selection that bursts into elegance of colorful patterns on flowy fabrics to impart a contemporary look to classical styles. This season is a mélange of prints coming together ranging from traditional Indian to chic contemporary, its young and vibrant.



Lyra instant water heaters

Venus Home Appliances, a leading manufacturer of water heaters in India has launched a new range of instant water heaters LYRA in 1 and 3 litre capacities & with 3 & 4.5 kw heating element options. This new range is aesthetically designed with bold panel colors and that can be fitted, in modern bathrooms and kitchens. The superior features include a Porcelain Enamel Glass Lined Tank: Manufactured in a modern, automated plant using European Technology which protects the tank from rust and corrosion.

High quality copper heating element for longer life and better performance. (3R30, 3R45 models) or Glasslined Incoloy 800 element which withstands temperatures up to 1000°C and is long lasting even in hard water. It reduces scale formation and prevents premature element failure. It is available in variants namely 3R30Y, 3R45Y models.

The range also has a High Working pressure of upto 8 bars to ensure smooth working in multi-storey buildings or with pressure pumps.

Lyra instant water heaters add a dash of colour to your interiors with its colourful front panels and give you hot water instantly and helps to save on your power bills.



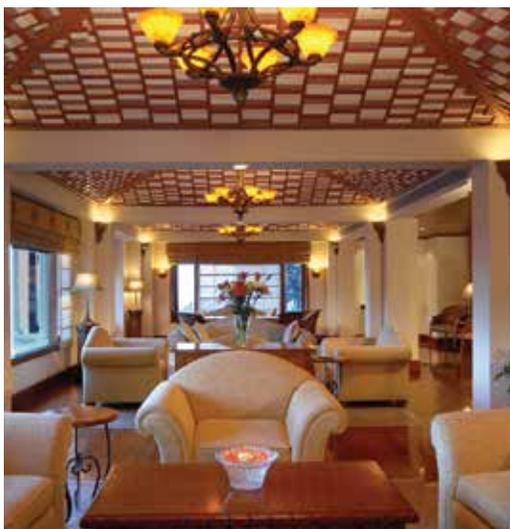
Junior's Fashion Week NCR 2017

After the super success of the preceding seasons, Junior's Fashion Week is taking forward Autumn Winter season and for their third stop of the Autumn Winter season, Junior's Fashion Week came to New Delhi, unveiling trendy AW collection by the associating brands on November 11th and 12th at The Grand, New Delhi. The event witnessed creativity of the national and international brands collaborated with JFW.

Junior's Fashion Week highlights visually soothing, timeless and enlightens charm. Each collection is absolutely unique with regard to the design. Collections are set to debut to an audience of buyers, industry visitors, bloggers, and media. Junior's Fashion Week assists to associate brands to engage consumer communication and strategies to drive demands. JFW allots a display window and networking opportunities to established and emerging brands with new launches and new labels.

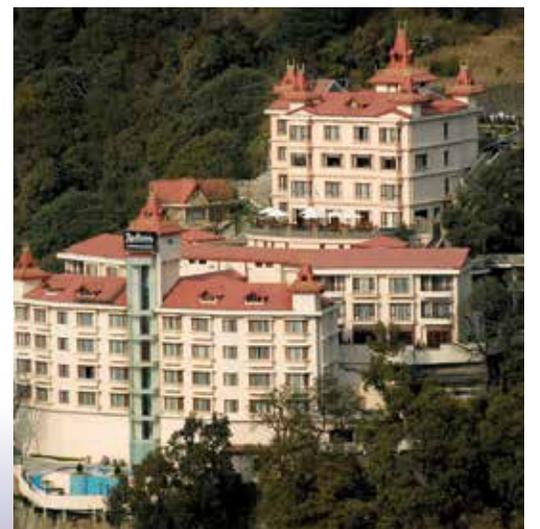
From dresses, cozy active wear and embellished tops to modern jeans, printed leggings to playful graphic tees, and comfy sleepwear, The Children's Place showcased their Autumn Winter 2017 collection that girls and boys loved.





Radisson
SHIMLA

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Prediction for December 2017 by Poonam Sethi

“The more you give, the more you receive” is the motto of renowned Tarot card reader and holistic healer, Poonam Sethi, lives by. She has studied Feng Shui and Tarot card reading at several institutions across the globe and has, through extensive self-study, practice and perseverance, mastered the art of guiding people from the present into the future to precision.



ARIES

You may move base. A change in home/work environment is strong. There will be an increment or a raise in your position. Be careful of a lady who will try to harm you. A new love affair is on the cards, something that might bloom into a permanent one. Its time for you to give up that ego and move on. You will receive some good news through the mail. Watch out for stomach problems.

Lucky color: Purple
Lucky number: 4



TAURUS

Too many unnecessary arguments causing emotional loss. Divert your mind towards work, as there might be certain changes you would have to make. A marriage is well on the cards. Finances dip low this week as you are probably spending more than usual. Do not make any investments yet. Wait a while. The worry on your mind will ease out this week. Look out for blood pressure or diabetes, as health needs a check.

Lucky color: Parrot green
Lucky number: 3



GEMINI

Time for some charity. Get rid of your negative karmas. The disappointments will soon come to an end. Good news comes to you by mid-week changing a lot around you. Your court cases will soon get resolved in your favor. You will also now be able to get rid of your loans. A friend needs you, go ahead and help him. Your health reads fine.

Lucky color: Yellow
Lucky number: 8



CANCER

You need to “let go” or else you will be caught in your own web. Don’t get stubborn. There will be a fruitful travel towards the sea. You may also decide to settle abroad. A project now nears completion, something that was getting delayed for some reason. You should follow the advice of elders; they are guiding you in the right way. Watch out for migraines or sodalities problems.

Lucky color: Sky blue
Lucky number: 5



LEO

You maybe going through problems in marriage. This is due to the interference of a third person. Sit and analyze the situation. It's not as bad as you see it. You are not as bad as you see it. You are undergoing a change, which is why everything dipped low. Business is at a standstill and will start moving by the weekend. You will have to face a tough competition so be ready. Your health will trouble you a bit so be careful.

Lucky color: Black
Lucky number: 9



VIRGO

Its time to reap the rewards now. Your hard work will pay off. There is travel on the cards towards the sea. A lady overseas will be helpful in your venture. There could be a sudden monetary gain too. You could be buying/selling property this week. Watch out for cheating or treachery, from your own people. Some chest or lung problems may come up so be very careful.

Lucky color: Silver
Lucky number: 9



LIBRA

Your decision making power is weak right now; so don't take any major decisions. Your money, which was stuck, gets released but control your expenses, as you will tend to overspend. Give a little more time to your family, as they really need it. You will get rid of the tension caused by your children, as they will start feeling responsible. Health will be fine.

Lucky color: Pink
Lucky number: 7



SCORPIO

Something died out in the past leaving you in a mess. Its time now to lay the base for a new venture/business. You will change your line of work where you will excel. There could be a change in job as well. There is no satisfaction in whatever you are doing which is frustrating you, but wait for the right opportunity. Don't run too fast take time to decide. Watch out for blood related problems.

Lucky color: White
Lucky number: 9



SAGITTARIUS

Just went through a patch of ill health? Take care, as you haven't totally healed. A new alliance is forming soon. Childhood memories will keep coming in your mind making you nostalgic. You will meet a very old friend soon. Some family feuds may arise over property matters so be prepared. Don't wait for things to happen, make them happen. Your health reads fine.

Lucky color: Maroon
Lucky number: 2



CAPRICORN

You have been overworking your mind these days. Don't take so much tension. There will be a monetary gain around Friday. You will get a lot of help from someone most unexpected. You will also make some renovations at home/office. You need to shuffle your staff a bit, get rid of useless people. You will travel towards the sea for work and your ventures will be successful. Throat problems may trouble you.

Lucky color: Royal blue
Lucky number: 4



AQUARIUS

The week begins with a celebration in the family. A lot of workload on you, which does not seem to ease this week. You will meet someone influential who will help you out with a stuck deal. Finances show a small rise towards the weekend. Try to get rid of the negative thinking, remember it's delayed, not denied. Health reads fine.

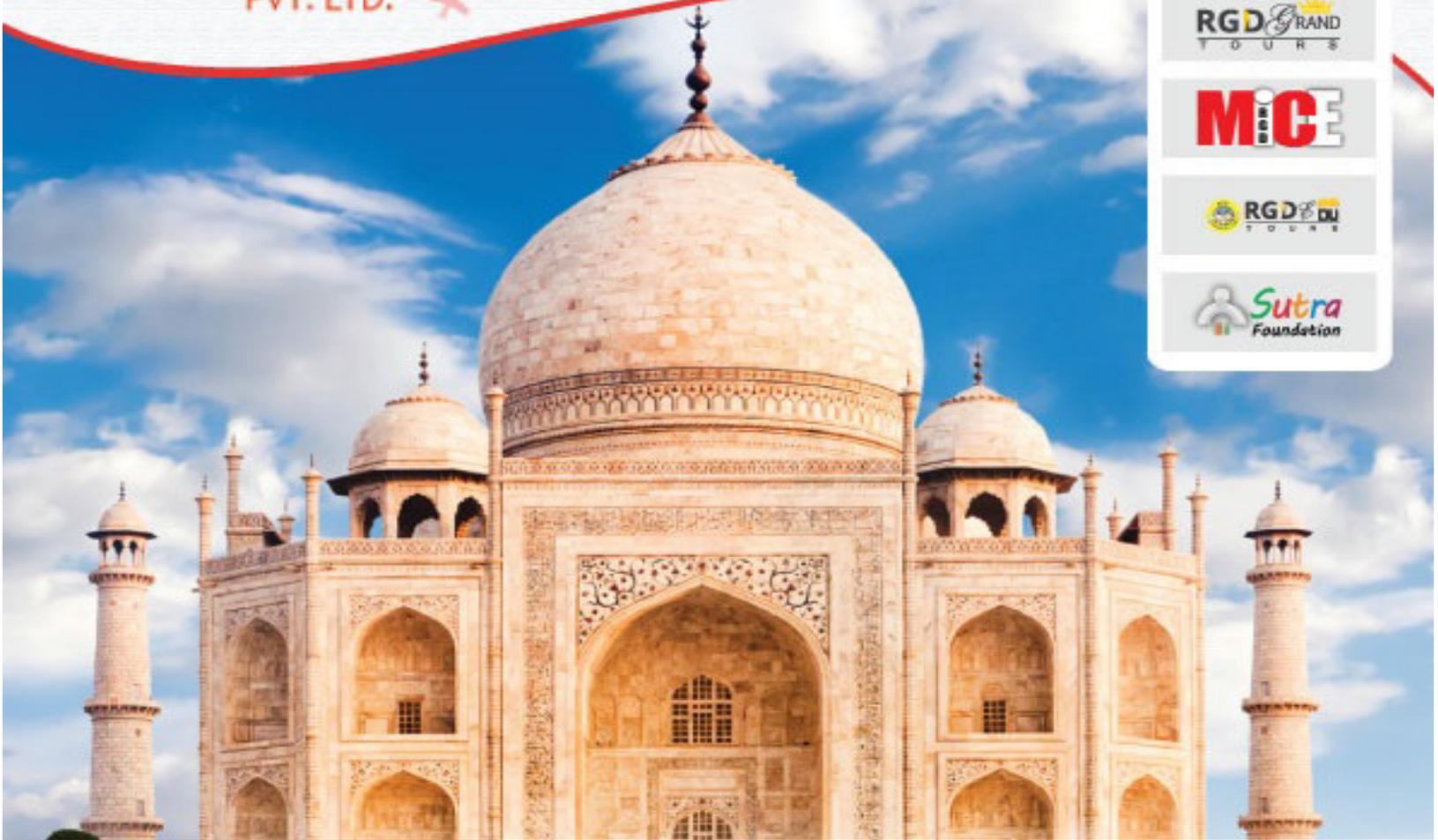
Lucky color: Orange
Lucky number: 6



PISCES

A good day and then a bad one. This might continue for a little while more. Finances are improving. A good time to make investments. Emotionally you will feel all tied up, unable to resolve certain issues. Leave them alone for a while, as time is the best healer. The peace that was lost in the family returns this week. You will make a renovation or will change house. Remove that clutter from the mind and let bygones be bygones. Health reads fine.

Lucky color: Red
Lucky number: 1



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Bali

4D3N Bali Safari

| USD 278

based on 4 hotel
 (1Night at Mara River Safari Lodge +
 2Night at South Bali)



BALI SAFARI & MARINE PARK

Includes :

- Safari Journey at Bali safari Park
- Breakfast with Lion at Tsavo Lion Restaurant
- Indian Cuisine Lunch or Dinner where available and specified

3D2N + 3rd Night Free Relaxing Me | USD 158

based on 4 hotel

Inclusion :

- 3 Nights stay at selected hotel with breakfast included
- Return airport transfer
- FREE : 1x 60Mins Massage OR 1x Meals at certain hotel
- FREE : Hard Rock Cafe Meals Voucher
- Choice of 1x Full Day Tour OR 1x White Water Rafting

3D2N Villa Indugence | USD 278

based on 4 hotel

Inclusion :

- 2 Nights Stay at Selected Villa with breakfast included
- Return Airport Transfer
- FREE 1x 60mins massage (Min. 3 nights stay)
- FREE 1x Full Day Car at Disposal with English Speaking Local Host
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(1Night at Lovina Beach +
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Bali - Jogja 5D4N Discovery USD 308

2 Night at Bali + 2 Night at Jogja
 based on 4 hotel



Gedung Sate, Bandung

Bali - Bandung 5D4N Discovery USD 338

2 Night at Bali + 2 Night at Bandung
 based on 4 hotel



Sand Island, Lombok

Bali - Lombok 5D4N Discovery USD 328

2 Night at Bali + 2 Night at Lombok
 based on 4 hotel

*The rates is based on land arrangement only excluding Internation & Domestic airfare

