

# TTS

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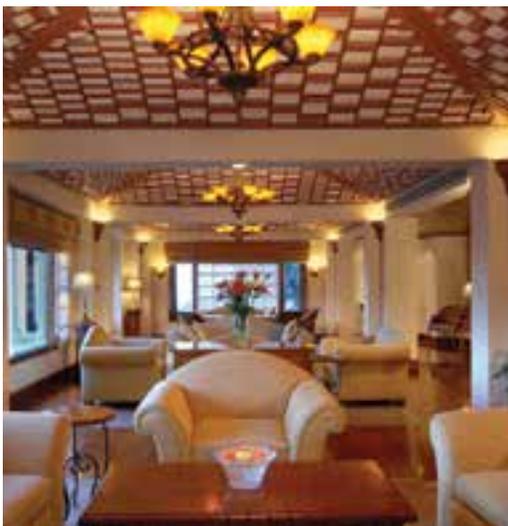
Trendy Travel Trade with Food & Shop



A nation with many  
worlds:  
Incredible India

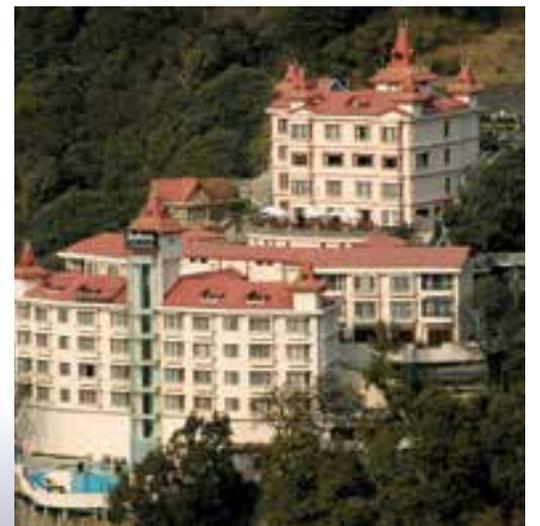
Colors of India:  
Holi has a special place  
in the Culture of India

Hidden Talent  
of India:  
millions of stories



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# Bali

**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
- FREE : 1x Indian Cuisine Voucher at all outlet Gateway of India Restaurant

## 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

## 5D4N Bali Safari

**| USD 258**

*\*based on 4\* hotel*

*(1Night at Lovina Beach +  
3Night at South Bali)*

**Inclusion :**

- Wild Dolphin Searching at Lovina Beach, 2 full day tours
- Indian Cuisine Lunch or Dinner where available and specified in the program
- Free 1 x 60mins massage or set meal at certain hotel



Borobudur Temple, Jogja

**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**



# T3FS

Trendy Travel Trade with Food & Shop

Volume VI • Issue II • March 2019 • Pages 76 • Rs.100/-

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## PUBLISHER'S NOTE



Dear Reader,

When you will bring March issue of T3FS you will find all about India. India is the seventh largest country by area and with more than 1.3 billion people, it is the second most populous country and the most populous democracy in the world stretching from the high mountains of the Himalayas to the tropical greenery of Kerala, and from the sacred Ganges to the sands of the Thar desert.

India is the vast glorious land, being blessed with diverse culture and intensely beautiful landscapes. Each and every state of India has a distinct identity and has something special to offer. Every state leaves an unforgettable impact on the minds of travelers. Some of the remarkable tourist destinations are Rajasthan, Kerala, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Varanasi, Agra and Ladakh that has so much to explore and providing scopes to carry out various activities.

India with its name is a single country but it is a nation of many worlds in its own from tribal tourism to beach tourism, from pilgrimage tourism to adventure tourism, from wildlife tourism to cruise tourism you just name it, you have it. Undoubtedly, India is a 365

Days tourist destination.

In hospitality T3FS covers few of the hotels of India which one must visit once in their lifetime.

In lifestyle we captured Handicraft of India. There are millions of stories about the origin of various forms of Indian handicrafts across the length and breadth of India. The craft of each state in India reflects the different culture and tradition.

The history of Indian handicrafts goes back to almost 5000 years from now. The craft traditions of India have withstood the deprecation of time and several foreign invasions and continue to flourish till date. It is mainly due to the open mindness of the Indian handicraftsmen to accept and assimilate new ideas.

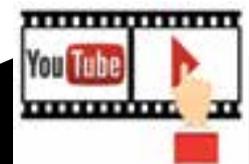
India, with its rich cultural heritage and diversity, holds many stories of artisans crafting magic with their hands. Hidden in every part of the country is a magician waiting to be discovered, to beautify your lives with the tales of his land.

*Vedika Sharma*

[vedika@fabianmedia.net](mailto:vedika@fabianmedia.net)



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Ready to make a splash?

***Enchanting Tamil Nadu.***



DIPR/275/DISPLAY/2019

Shore Temple - Mamallapuram

## Tamil Nadu Tourism

Chennai - 600 002. Tamil Nadu, India. Toll Free No. 1800 4253 1111

Website : [www.tamilnadutourism.org](http://www.tamilnadutourism.org) E-mail: [ttdc.chennai@gmail.com](mailto:ttdc.chennai@gmail.com), [dotdepartment@gmail.com](mailto:dotdepartment@gmail.com)

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# A nation with many worlds:

# Incredible India

India is the seventh largest country by area and with more than 1.3 billion people, it is the second most populous country and the most populous democracy in the world stretching from the high mountains of the Himalayas to the tropical greenery of Kerala, and from the sacred Ganges to the sands of the Thar desert.

• **Vedika Sharma**

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able tourist destinations are Rajasthan, Kerala, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Varanasi, Agra and Ladakh that has so much to explore and providing scopes to carry out various activities. India with its name is a single country but it is a nation of many worlds in its own from tribal

tourism to beach tourism, from pilgrimage tourism to adventure tourism, from wildlife tourism to cruise tourism you just name it, you have it. Undoubtedly, India is a 365 days tourist destination.

The e-Tourist Visa which was introduced in September 2014 with 46 countries has now been made applicable for 166 countries. Recently, government has made series of amendments in e-visa regime, liberalizing it further and making it more tourist friendly. The Ministry of Tourism has been working very closely with Ministry of Home Affairs for easing of the Visa Regime in the country over a period of time.

**Important modifications made are highlighted as under:-**

- Duration of stay in India of e-Tourist and e-Business Visas is maximum upto 1 Year with multiple entry subject to the stay stipulations.
- Also, the existing restriction of allowing foreigner for a maximum of three times has also been removed.

**Changes in e-Tourist Visa**

- On e-Tourist Visa continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 90 days in case of nationals of



**K J Alphons (IAS), Minister of Tourism, Government of Tourism**

all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa except nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan.

- In case of nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days.
- In all cases no registration will be required.

**Changes in e-Business Visa**

- Continuous stay during each visit

shall not exceed 180 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa.

- No registration will be required if the stay is for a period of less than 180 days.

**Other changes:**

- e-Visa is valid for entry through 2 (two) more designated Airports (Bhubaneswar and Port Blair) raising the total number of such airports to 28.
- Attending Destination wedding under normal e-Tourist visa or Tourist visa- No separate category of Destination Wedding Visa.
- Foreign nationals who fall sick during their stay in India can now avail medical treatment without converting their visa into Medical Visa. This would take care of sudden medical emergencies.
- Visa-on-Arrival facility extended to the nationals of Republic of Korea.



**Wildlife Tourism**

India is one of the countries in the world that is home to a vast variety of wildlife including a number of endangered and rare species of fauna and avifauna. There are more than 400 wildlife sanctuaries, 89 National Parks and 13 bio-reserves housing tigers, lions, rhinoceros and elephants, species of deer and other attractive birds.

Wildlife	State	Famous for
Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	Highest density of Bengal tigers
Corbett National Park	Uttarakhand	Royal Bengal Tigers & Great Indian Elephant
Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan	Tigers and Sambar
Sundarbans National Park	West Bengal	Bengal tiger, UNESCO World Heritage Site
Gir National Park	Gujarat	Asiatic Lions, Leopard, Jackals, and Antelope
Kaziranga National Park	Assam	One-horned rhinoceroses, UNESCO World Heritage Site
Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary	Rajasthan	Birds, UNESCO World Heritage Site
Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	Tigers
Periyar National Park	Kerala	Tiger and Elephants
Pench National Park	Maharashtra	Bengal Tiger and Bird Watching





## Spiritual Tourism

For over 4,000 years, India-one of the most spiritually enriched places on earth has been the cradle of spirituality. Actually, the Land of the Vedas and Temples, India is the Spiritual Capital of the World. One of the most interesting things about India is that it is home to a diverse range of spiritual and religious beliefs, traditions and places of worship, these are most evident in the many varied spiritual places in India and make India arguably the most unique and captivating country to explore. Few must visit spiritual places in India are:-

### **Haridwar, Utrakhand**

No spiritual journey is considered complete without a trip to Haridwar in North India. The land of legends and tales located in the foothills of the Himalayas and cleansed by the holy Ganga is considered as the holiest place to wash the sins.

### **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**

Varanasi is also known as Spiritual capital of India. It is one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities and is dripping in history and spirituality. It is one of the seven Hindu and Jainist holy cities, or Sapta Puri, in India. Buddhism is said to have been founded in Varanasi as well.

### **Bodhgaya, Bihar**

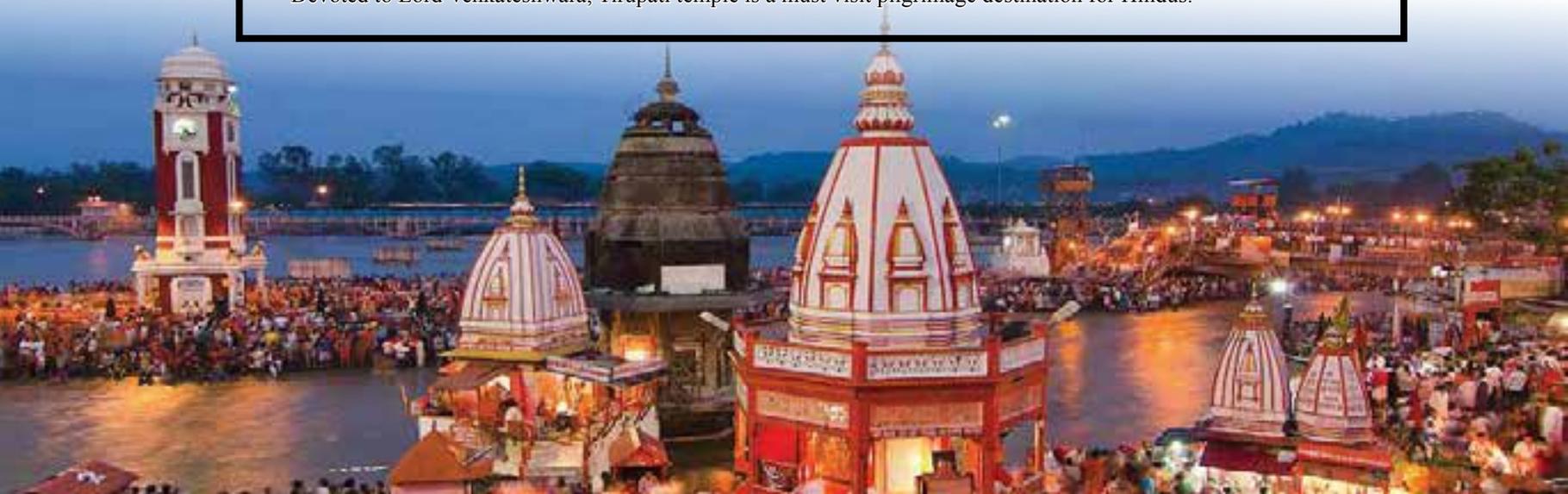
Bodhgaya is a famous Buddhist pilgrimage in the world. Located in Bihar, this is the place where Lord Buddha became enlightened under a Bodhi tree.

### **Golden Temple, Amritsar, Punjab**

The magnificent Golden Temple is situated in the beautiful city of Amritsar. It has four gates, which symbolises equality and is open to its worshipers, irrespective of their caste, creed and sex.

### **Tirupati Balaji, Andhra Pradesh**

Devoted to Lord Venkateshwara, Tirupati temple is a must visit pilgrimage destination for Hindus.



## Beach Tourism

Along with its 7000 km of coastline, India boasts of a number of beautiful beaches. Beaches of India make an ideal holiday destination for nature lovers, beach lovers and holidaymakers. Tourists will have a wonderful time along the silver beaches to enjoy a holiday in merriment. Lie on the smooth sandy beaches and soak the warmth of the sun or simply take a quiet walk barefooted on these beaches. The calming effect will easily penetrate deep into your body. The vast stretches of sea water have a unique ability to carry away all your worries and heartaches along with its waves. Tour to any lovely and picturesque beaches in India will offer visitors an opportunity to catch the glimpse of marine life, coastal vegetation and the picturesque surrounding.

### Beaches In

**Andaman & Nicobar Islands:** Corbyn's Cove And Chirya Tapu Beach, Radhnagar Beach, Harminder Bay Beach, Karmatang Beach, Ramnagar Beach.

**Goa:** Anjuna Beach, Baga Beach, Dona Paula, Calangute Beach, Benaulim Beach, Cavelosim Beach, Chapora Beach, Candolim Beach, Bogmolo Beach, Miramar Beach, Palolem Beach, Vagator Beach, Varca Beach.

**Kerala:** Alappuzha Beach, Beypore Beach, Dharmadam Island, Ezhimala Beach, Fort Kochi Beach, Kovalam Beach, Kumarakom Beach, Kappad Beach in Kerala, Marari Beach, Moppila Bay, Muzhappilangad Beach, Pathiramanal Beach, Payyambalam Beach, Sankhumugham Beach, Tanur Beach, Thangassery Beach, Thirumullavaram Beach, Varkala Beach.

**Tamil Nadu:** Marina Beach - Chennai, Mahabalipuram Beach, Rameshwaram Beach, Kanyakumari Beach, Covelong Beach.

**Andhra Pradesh:** Bheemunipatnam Beach, Ramakrishna Beach, Manginapudi Beach, Mypad Beach, Rishikonda Beach, Vodarevu Beach.

**Gujarat:** Ahmedpur Mandvi Beach, Beyt Dwarka, Diu Beach, Somnath & Veraval Beach, Chorwad, Madhavpur Beach, Gopnath Beach in Gujarat.

**Karnataka:** Bhatkal Beach, Karwar Beach, Malpe Beach, Maravanthe Beach, Murudeshwar Beach.

**Maharashtra:** Baseein, Dahanu-Bordi Beaches, Ganapatipule Beach, Juhu Beach, Marine Drive - Chowpatty Beach, Madh Island Beach, Marve-Manori-Gorai, Murud - Janjira, Harnai Beach, Kihim & Mandwa, Shriwardhan - Harihareshwar, Tarkarli, Velneshwar, Vengurla - Malvan, Vijaydurg - Sindhudurg.

**Odisha:** Balighai Beach, Chandipur Beach, Gopalpur On Sea, Konark Beach, Paradeep Beach, Puri Beach.



## Tribal Tourism

India has the largest tribal population in the world. India houses 437 types of tribes, inhabiting the forest and hilly region, which makes around 8 percent of India's total population. Largely unaffected by the modern world, they're very simple and often curious people, who have retained their rituals and customs. Simple by nature these people are also often very curious. Entry to the lives of the tribal may require you permits but will never fail to give you an experience of another world, separated and secluded from the culture we abode in. On the basis of their native language, the Indian tribes can be segregated into 4 categories: Indo - Aryans Speakers, Dravidian Speakers, Tibet- Burmese speakers and Austric Speakers.

States must visit once to witness Tribal Tourism

### Nagaland

Nagaland's blue-hued mountains and emerald

expanses comprise an intriguing world of ancient rituals and proud people. Nagas has evolved into a generic term for many tribal communities in the North East. There are 16 major and numerous sub-tribes spread over Nagaland's seven districts.

### Andaman & Nicobar

The Andaman Islands are home to four 'Negrito' tribes – the Great Andamanese, Onge, Jarawa and Sentinelese. The Nicobar Islands are home to two 'Mongoloid' tribes – the Shompen and Nicobarese. The 'Negrito' tribes are believed to have arrived in the islands from Africa up to 60,000 years ago. All are nomadic hunter-gatherers, hunting wild pig and monitor lizard, and catching fish with bows and arrows. They also collect honey, roots and berries from the forest. The 'Mongoloid' tribes probably came to the islands from the Malay-Burma coast several thousand years ago.

### Odisha

Odisha is the homeland of 62 types of tribes

and 29% of its population is tribal. Travel to these little villages in the valley, their aged old traditions, the weekly markets, the amazing hikes on the spectacular landscape or the drum bits during the evening as they dance to the tune of Dhemsa can not only be a lifetime travel experience but also a learning experience for all.

### Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh is one of the best states of India for the purpose of tribal tourism. Almost one-third population of the state consists of the people representing various tribes such as Gonda, Baiga, Korba, Abhuj Maria, BisonHorn Maria, Muria, Halbaa, Bhatra and Dhurvaa tribes. Most of them live in the dense forests of the Bastar region the largest tribal district of the state with over 70% of its total population comprising of tribals. This is about 26.76% of the total tribal population of the state.





## Medical Tourism



The capability of wellbeing frameworks, created through hundreds of years of the shrewdness of this old progress would be completely tapped. This is being finished by situating India as a focal point of Ayurveda, Yoga, Sidha, Naturopathy, and so forth together with the profound theory that has been fundamental to the Indian lifestyle.

From the quality of therapy, the range of procedural and treatment options, infrastructure and skilled manpower to play out any Medical system with zero holding up time, the rundown of advantages of going for medicinal treatment in India are many.

The key offerings which bring medical tourism in India are high-quality amenities, cost-effectiveness, zero waiting time, travel opportunities, ease of visas etc.

India is one of the cheapest destinations in the world for the most complicated surgeries and treatments. In India, heart bypass surgery costs only US\$5,200 – compared to US\$144,000 in the US, and US\$15,121 in Thailand.



## Desert Tourism

Whenever you feel like taking a desert camel safari in India, you can experience it in the north-western and northern regions of the country. These arid lands have been quite popular as holiday destinations with travellers.

Large parts of Rajasthan in the north-west and Ladakh in the northern extreme of India contain deserts.

The Thar Desert is the most colourful desert in the world. Lying between the Rajasthan, Western India, Thar desert makes Rajasthan

one of the most sought after destination. Discovering the desert in India is not only full of giving an opportunity to explore the tremendous land of sand, but also be aware of its rich cultural and historical heritage, which comprise its inseparable parts.



**Hot Air Ballooning:** Jaipur in Rajasthan and Lonavala near Mumbai are the two most favourable for hot air ballooning.

**Scuba Diving:** To experience the colourful coral life Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the state of Goa or the town of Murudeshwar in Karnataka are the best places to visit.

**Wildlife Safari:** The country has loads of protected areas like Corbett, Bandhavgarh, Kanha and Pench national parks, where wildlife safaris can be availed.

**Camping:** The places to rejuvenate in the lap of nature while camping are Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh.

**Skiing:** Gulmarg and Manali are the destination for best experience of skiing in India.

## Adventure Tourism

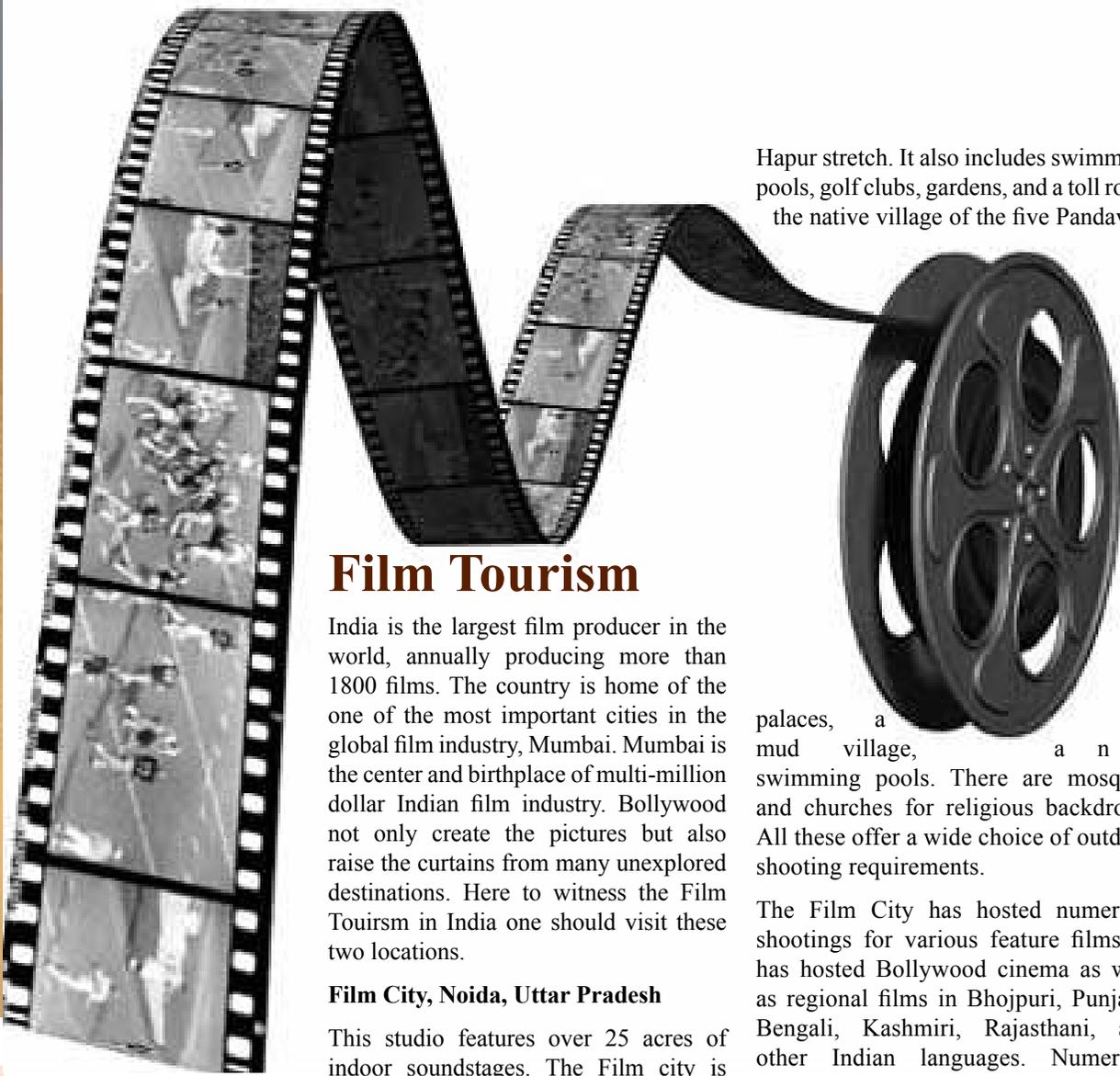
Adventure travel involves exploration or travel to remote exotic areas. Adventure tourism is rapidly growing in popularity as a tourist seeks different kinds of vacations. Here are the few adventure activities with the best location to take one in a lifetime experience.

**Treks:** There are so many trek options at a number of destinations like Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir.

**Motor Bike:** Biking trips on the Leh-Manali highway and through South and West India are the most adventurous activity one must try once in their lifetime.

**River Rafting:** Uttarakhand and the village of Kolad are two prime destinations for the best rafting experience in India.





## Film Tourism

India is the largest film producer in the world, annually producing more than 1800 films. The country is home of the one of the most important cities in the global film industry, Mumbai. Mumbai is the center and birthplace of multi-million dollar Indian film industry. Bollywood not only create the pictures but also raise the curtains from many unexplored destinations. Here to witness the Film Tourism in India one should visit these two locations.

### Film City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

This studio features over 25 acres of indoor soundstages. The Film city is located on the Yamuna river banks. It also has a Massoori village on the Ghaziabad-

Hapur stretch. It also includes swimming pools, golf clubs, gardens, and a toll road, the native village of the five Pandavas,

palaces, a mud village, and swimming pools. There are mosques and churches for religious backdrops. All these offer a wide choice of outdoor shooting requirements.

The Film City has hosted numerous shootings for various feature films. It has hosted Bollywood cinema as well as regional films in Bhojpuri, Punjabi, Bengali, Kashmiri, Rajasthani, and other Indian languages. Numerous views, news, and current affairs programs have been filmed here. This

has attracted politicians, celebrities, and bureaucrats making it a VIP place. Its success story has drawn filmmakers and foreign delegations from outside India. They have explored the possibilities of culture exchange programs and joint ventures.

### National Museum of Indian Cinema, Mumbai, Maharashtra

The Museum is housed in two buildings – the New Museum Building and the 19th century heritage building, Gulshan Mahal – both at the Films Division complex. The Museum showcases history of India Cinema and has ample artefacts, digital elements including kiosks, interactive digital screens, information based screen interfaces, etc.

Film properties and costumes, vintage equipments, posters, copies of important films, promotional leaflets, sound tracks, trailers, transparencies, old cinema magazines, statistics covering film making & distribution etc. are displayed in a systematic manner depicting the history of Indian cinema in a chronological manner. NMIC not only provides a store house of information to the laymen, but also help film makers, students, enthusiasts and critics to know and evaluate the development of cinema as a medium of artistic expression.

## Cultural Tourism

Indian culture often labeled as an amalgamation of several cultures, spans across the Indian subcontinent and has been influenced by a history that is several millennia old. India's culture and diversity make it a land of unlimited opportunities. Each city and state has so much to offer in terms of the heritage, architecture and experience that can be explored.

The diverse culture of India has always intrigued one and all and has been a major crowd puller of tourists from all across the globe. Every city of India has its own culture, thus offering a vacation with unmatched cultural experiences through its food, traditions, clothes, festivals,



structures, topography and more. Indian culture is steeped into tolerant Hindu religion enriched with Vedas, Upanishads, Aranyakas, Puranas, Smritis, Srimad Bhagwat Gita, Ramayana and Mahabharata. Yoga, Ayurveda, several sects, many gods, centuries old rituals and traditions, thousands of years old festivals etc. make culture of India colourful, vibrant and relevant. Such an exotic and incredible culture has given birth to culture tourism in India.





## Heritage Tourism

India is famous in the world over for its rich heritage and ancient culture. The country's cultural diversity and glorious history attracts millions of tourists each year to visit its numerous heritage sites scattered throughout its lands. India's rich heritage is amply magnified by the numerous monuments, temples, forts and palaces that bear testimony to a glorious bygone era. The most popular heritage site

that every person knows about is of course the Taj Mahal and is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The maximum number of tourists who come to India visit the Taj Mahal for it is one of the 7 wonders of the world. It is made of marble which has intricate inlay work done in an exquisite and meticulous style. The Mandawa castle in Rajasthan, built in 1775 reflects India's rich heritage and attracts thousands of tourists each year to Rajasthan which seems especially popular for its antique

paintings, jade jewelry, palaces, and costumes. Mahabalipuram has sculptural and architectural sites which are considered the greatest in India. Mahabalipuram has cave temples that have been carved from granite blocks and belong to the 7th century.

India's glorious past and cultural diversity make a potent blend which attracts millions of tourists each year to its heritage tourist attractions.





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## ADTOI Statue of Unity Fam

To promote the Statue of Unity at Tent City, Narmada, Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd. (TCGL) in association with ADTOI Gujarat Chapter organised a FAM trip for the ADTOI Managing Committee, its Past Presidents, and all Chairman of State Chapters from 15th to 18th February 2019. ADTOI

delegation comprising of 16 officials led by its President, Mr. P P Khanna participated in the trip. The delegation visited Ahmedabad, Vadodra and Kevadiya and went to see Adalaj step well, Gandhi Ashram, Siddi Saiyed Mosque and Hateesinh Jain Temple. The delegates stayed at Narmada Tent City Kevadiya and visited Statue

of Unity and Sardar Sarovar Dam. The group members enjoyed the hospitality extended by Gujarat Tourism and facilities created at Narmada Tent City. They all have a great expectation that this new tourist destination will definitely become a very popular one among both the domestic as well as international tourists.



## Booking.com Presents Instagrammable Stays

Social media has transformed the way we travel. An increasing number of travelers are turning to Instagram not only to document their trips, but also in search of holiday inspiration, including what to do and where to stay. After all, if you went on vacation and didn't Instagram it, did you even go at all?

New research by Booking.com, the glob-

al leader in connecting travelers with the widest choice of incredible places to stay, reveals that 63% Indian travelers admit that staying in attractive properties that they can photograph and use on social media accounts is something they think about when choosing travel accommodation\*. Additionally, 66% of travelers are looking to stay in unique state-

ment accommodations to help them seem like a trendsetter who's different from the crowd. With that in mind, Booking.com has delved into its more than 29 million listings, 5.7 million of which are homes, apartments and other unique places globally to stay, to present a list of instagrammable stays that will make your followers beyond envious.

## Karnataka Tourism Multi City Roadshows

With an aim to increase domestic footfalls, KSTDC and the Department of

Tourism, Government of Karnataka shall organise Multi City Roadshows in the months of March & April, 2019 to promote Karnataka Tourism and Travel Industry, like various tourist places, hotels, resorts, homestays, Tour operators and other service providers from Karnataka. Mumbai, Goa, New Delhi & Lucknow are few select cities for hosting roadshows on the following dates.

- Mumbai, Maharashtra : 19 March 2019

- Panaji, Goa: 20 March 2019
- New Delhi: 9 April 2019
- Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh: 10 April 2019

This exclusive B2B Roadshow will have over 20 travel agents from Karnataka interacting with more than 100 travel agents/tour operators of the respective cities. The main objective of Karnataka Tourism is to promote the State as a destination for Leisure, MICE, Adventure, Wildlife and Wedding Destination in the Indian market. KSTDC shall be the nodal agency to conduct the roadshows in various Tier 1 and Tier 2

cities of India.

The Roadshow will have B2B interactions and presentations and cultural programs that will showcase the destination and also open up new avenues in bringing the destination in new light to the travel and trade community. Cultural performance will be organised to showcase the vibrant art forms that Karnataka is known for. The Roadshow will bring together different aspect of Karnataka tourism such as Nature, Wildlife, Adventure, Pilgrimage, Heritage and cultural heritage, and many more.



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## Seven Seas Splendor

With a ceremonial good luck champagne bottle shattered against the freshly-painted Seven Seas Splendor™ hull, the highly anticipated new Regent Seven Seas Cruises® luxury ship celebrated a major construction milestone last weekend as she floated from the building dry dock to touch the sea for the first time.

Now buoyant at Fincantieri’s shipyard in Ancona, Italy, final-stage construction on Seven Seas Splendor will focus on her interior spaces including 375 lavish suites, elegant lounges and gourmet restaurants that will all represent luxury perfected. The fifth ship in Regent’s fleet sets sail in February 2020.

“One year from now, guests will begin

immersing themselves in elegance and hospitality, while fully discovering the hundreds of destinations around the world Seven Seas Splendor travels, returning home at day’s end to the exquisite comfort and care on board with every luxury included,” said Jason Montague, president and chief executive officer of Regent Seven Seas Cruises. “I’m excited for our guests to experience how Seven Seas Splendor will perfect luxury.”

The float out celebration followed maritime tradition, first by flooding the basin where Seven Seas Splendor has been under construction since summer 2018, followed by a ribbon-cutting by the launch ceremony’s madrina, and a prayer by the shipyard Chaplain. Francesca Giovagnoli

served as madrina of the ceremony. A 17-year Fincantieri employee, Mrs. Giovagnoli is the daughter of Mario Giovagnoli, who has worked at the Ancona shipyard for more than 30 years.



## Singapore Weekender

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) continues to bring the Passion Made Possible brand to life in India, this time, with a series of engaging activities at the Singapore Weekender in Delhi. As part of its second phase promotions of the brand to highlight the Passion Tribes of Culture Shapers, Socialisers and Action Seekers, the STB has partnered with the St+art India Foundation for a three-day experiential festival which will be held in Delhi from the 15th to the 17th of February 2019 at Lodhi Colony, KONA and antiSocial outlet at Hauz Khas.



The Singapore Weekender Since the launch of the Passion Made Possible brand, the STB has embarked on a series of marketing campaigns and activations to showcase Singapore’s passions and talents through storytelling, and to allow visitors to discover a deeper side to Singapore as a destination. This year, the STB, in collaboration with the St+art India Foundation, will launch a special project titled “Singapore Weekender” as part of the St+art Delhi 2019. Please see Annex A for more information on St+art Delhi 2019.

## Pisco Sour Day

Embassy of Peru celebrated Pisco Sour day on 8th February 2019 at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi.

A pisco sour is an alcoholic cocktail of Peruvian origin that is typical of the cuisines from Chile and Peru. The drink’s name comes from pisco, which is its base liquor, and the cocktail term sour, in reference to sour citrus juice and sweetener components.

Peruvian pisco has picked up many plaudits in the past few decades. In 1988, Peru’s National Institute of Culture declared pisco part of the



country’s national heritage. Pisco is also one of the official flagship products of Peru (productos bandera del Perú), an honor shared with Peruvian exports such as coffee, cotton and quinoa. The Peruvian calendar also pays tribute to the nation’s emblematic grape brandy not once, but twice. The first Saturday of every February is the official Día del Pisco Sour (Pisco Sour Day), while the fourth Sunday of every July is celebrated nationally as the Día del Pisco, or Pisco Day.





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# Enchanting 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.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

The state of Tamil Nadu is 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 also 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:

108 Kms from Coimbatore, 67 Kms from Pollachi & 600 Kms from Chennai

## 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 bear, barasingha, chital, gaur, wild dog, Malabar squirrels, etc.





**How to Reach:**

**Nearest Rail:** Mysore (90km) Nearest airport: Coimbatore 164 km by Road : 64 km via Gudalur

**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 lover 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 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:**

The nearest airport to Kanyakumari is located at a distance of about 67 Kms at Trivandrum

Trivandrum central railway station is around 47 Kms.

**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 length of coastal lines of Tamil Nadu state in southern part of India. The marine park established in the year 1986 attained the status as 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:**

**By Air:** Madurai (150km) is the nearest airport.

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

**By Road:** Rameshwaram and Ramanathapura are 5km and 40km away from the Park respectively. And there are a large number of buses available for the Park from these destinations.



## Austria: A Perfect Destination for Indian Families

The Austrian National Tourist Office held its annual roadshow from 4 February – 8 February 2019. The roadshow was held in 3 cities; Mumbai on 5th February, followed by Ahmedabad on 6th February and Delhi on 7th February 2019. Press events in Mumbai on 4th February and in Delhi on 8th February 2019

Delegates from local tourist boards, incoming agencies, attractions, hotels and travel partners were part of the roadshow to showcase Austria as a destination for summer 2019. Partners from Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Swarovski Crystal Worlds informed the media about the growth of visitor arrivals from India in 2018 and laid down the plans for 2019.

Christine Mukharji, Director, ANTO, "Austria witnessed 192,900 arrivals from India in 2018, which was a 8,6% increase from 2017 and the overnights went up to 351,300 which is a

8,4% increase from last year. India is one of the important markets for us. We believe Austria is the perfect destination for Indian families and offers everything for the Indian traveler: from culture, history to shopping, adventure sports and soft sport activities."



## South African Tourism Kick-started in 2019

South African Tourism kick-started 2019 with its biggest travel trade initiative in India – the 16th edition of their Annual Roadshow. The roadshow intends to capitalize on the strong potential consumer demand in India in order to surpass the target of 100,000 Indian visitors to South Africa in the current year. Recognizing the evolving demands of the Indian traveller and in continued efforts to enable trade partners, the 56-member South African trade delegation, that included 6 new SMMEs, reiterated the tourism board's emphasis on expanding the destination and product offering. In addition to experiences, representatives from accommodation establishments, destination management companies, airlines, tourism associations display their products and engage Indian travel and trade partners.

For the period of January to September 2018, Mumbai contributed 45% to the overall Indian arrivals to South Africa while Delhi was at 17.4%, Chennai at 7.7% and Kolkata at 1.6%. Over 1300 Indian travel agents attended the interactive roadshow sessions to better synergize and address the ever evolving demands of the Indian traveller.

"Our brandresearch shows that Indian travellers prefer South Africa as a holiday destination, due to the memorability and value for money it offers. We will continue to drive this demand by introducing a wider geographical area, thus allowing us to introduce new experiences. We remain focused on customizing our engagements and product offerings to suit the unique requirements from each of our target regions within India," said Neliswa Nkani, Hub Head, MEISEA, South African Tourism.



## How couples navigate their first trip together

Visit Anaheim, the official destination organization for Anaheim, released new research on how couples navigate their first trip together and found the smoothest vacation happened when couples had been together for at least 10 months. The survey of 2,000 American adults, who have travelled with a partner, showed that even with a few bumps in the road, the first vacation together is generally a success story.

For a vacation to be successful, respondents say the most important factors are choosing the right destination (69 percent), having a budget that works for both partners (61 percent) and good planning (60 percent). Since the first time traveling with a new partner can be a make-or-break moment, the decision on where to go and what to do for vacation is the key factor in whether a new couple will survive their first vacation together.

"We're not surprised to learn that couples that travel together are happier – we see those happy faces in Anaheim every day," said Jay Burress, president & CEO of Visit Anaheim. "Exploring a new place definitely brings new couples together, especially when there is so much to experience in a destination like Anaheim. Whether you're interested in the thrill of theme parks, the energy of professional sports,

or the excitement of a live concert, you'll be transformed by our unique experiences."



## Abu Dhabi: 10 Million International Visitors in 2018

Abu Dhabi welcomed more than 10 million international visitors in 2018, with the emirate also posting figures showing incredible growth over the last three years, powered by the addition of a host of world-class events and enhancements to all of its specialised tourism sectors, massive improvements to its infrastructure and significant development of its cultural assets.

The UAE capital, which has witnessed an increase in hotel guests to the emirate of 13.62% since the beginning of 2016, has worked hard to reinforce its position as a destination with remarkable global appeal and as a place destined to become a key cultural city of the future.

Abu Dhabi has seen huge advances across all areas of tourism sectors, including the cultural, business, family-focussed and medical sectors, with the cruise sector providing more than 350,000 visitors to the emirate in 2018. The emirate's world-class cultural assets also attracted more than 2,672,732 people to the emirate; further booting visitation metrics.

The UAE capital has also witnessed the addition of a number of world-class cultural institutions, such as the spectacular Louvre Abu Dhabi and the reopening of the iconic Qasr Al Hosn

site, as well as the launch of several high profile events and initiatives which have added to its global reputation.

The key markets of India, the US and China have all posted double-digit growth for hotel guests in 2018, underpinning the impressive surge in visitor numbers to the emirate. India and China remain the two top markets for overseas visitors, with the UK - the top European source market - rounding out the top three markets for overseas visitors.

"We are incredibly pleased to see these positive metrics, as year on year we have exceeded the already ambitious targets set for Abu Dhabi's growth," said HE Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman at DCT Abu Dhabi. "The Department of Culture and Tourism Abu Dhabi has made extraordinary strides since its very inception, and a snapshot of the last three years gives an even clearer indication of the strength of the emirate's

growth and standing on the global stage. We are now firmly established as a world-class cultural destination. With the emirate's natural beauty as a stepping off point, Abu Dhabi has steadily enhanced its touristic and cultural proposition until today, visitors can now enjoy incredible options in entertainment both sporting and artistic - retail, dining and hospitality, as well as top class cultural venues for visual and performing arts experiences. The soaring visitor figures we have seen are evidence of the increase in global appeal of our emirate.



## Finland : Land of Beauty

With an aim to promote Finland as a unique bucket list destination in the Indian Market Visit Finland organized a conference in New Delhi at the Embassy of Finland. This event was witnessed by several eminent personalities such as Ms.Nina Vaskunlahti, Ambassador of Finland, Dr.Jukka Holappa, Commercial Counsellor India,Ms. Sari Hey, Head of PR & Media – Asia & Aus-

tralia, Visit Finland and Ms.Sara Sodhi Juneja, Country Head - India, Visit Finland to promote Finland as a travel hotspot.

To position Finland as an ultimate destination, the event highlighted Finland as a location in the crossroads of West and East that provides a great opportunity for travelers to experience Finland en route to or from Europe.

The landscape of Finland is a pristine para-

dise for nature lovers. Design, architecture, culture and shopping are all great exploration angles with stunning National parks, forests, lakes, and the coastline with numerous islands.

Having witnessed a robust growth in tourist arrivals and overnights from the Indian market, Visit Finland reinstated their focus in the India Market in 2018.

### *Nina Vaskunlahti, Ambassador of Finland*

Finland has reinvented itself in just one short century – from a largely agrarian society into a high tech country. Our national character and Northern heritage have boosted us to the top of many kinds of country rankings from quality of life to clean air. Finland is one of the world's most sparsely populated countries, almost 80 % of the land is covered by forest and 10 % by water! So it's no wonder that tourists are blown away by the sheer beauty of the Finnish landscape. We are very excited to be here in India and we look forward to welcome more tourists and travel industry professionals to visit Finland to Experience the country themselves.



### *Sara Sodhi Juneja, Country Head - India, Visit Finland*

Finland received a very warm welcome in the Indian market with the arrivals growing by 15% from India to Finland in 2018. We are focusing on developing Finland as an all year destination for Indians with the four unique seasons. With midnight sun in the summer, and the ephemeral allure of the Northern Lights in the winter, Finland possesses a wealth of rare beauty, and a truly distinctive ambience.

# The Scope and Challenges for Indian Travel Startups in 2019

Over the years, many young, budding entrepreneurs have approached me, asking me about the potential of a new start-up in the travel sector. The figures and statistics certainly point towards a boom in this industry and it is no surprise that so many young men and woman (women) want a piece of the pie.

**W**hile the signs are positive, one must remember that with opportunities come challenges. Let me begin with the scope of starting your own travel startup. Here is why the time is indeed rife to kickstart your own business:

- a) **Size of the Indian market:** India is the second most populous country in the world. At 1.35 billion people, the size of the market is immense. In 2017, India generated \$210 billion in revenue from the tourism sector alone which accounted for 9.4% of India's GDP. The size and strength of this market makes it aflood with opportunities. The industry is also becoming stronger as the population spends more money on tourism, ensuring that the time is rife for budding businessmen.
- b) **Demographics:** When you analyse Indian demographics, you can see that there's an upward trend in the travel industry. In other words, it's booming right now. 10.4 million individuals arrived in India from across the world in 2017. As the lifestyle and spending power of Indians improved over time, 23.94 million Indians travelled abroad. Domestic travel was higher than ever, with 1652.49 million Indians travelling to other states. The signs are promising. A travel start-up would thrive in such an environment.
- c) **Travel is Becoming a "Lifestyle":** The biggest change travel and tourism, especially in the younger generation, is the perception of what travel means to them. In addition to a source of recreation and a means to unwind, travel is now seen as a mode of soul searching, of finding oneself and of broadening one's horizons. Travel has gone from what was once a luxury, to a lifestyle choice. It is an experience that helps one grow and mature, to discover themselves.

- d) **Penetration of technology:** People from all walks of life now have access to the internet through mobile devices, laptops and tablets. The travel industry has benefitted exponentially from this boom because this has not only exposed travellers to new, exotic locations but also allowed travel agencies to connect with their customers. The increased reach has allowed the travel industry to grow by leaps and bounds. However, there are challenges that a travel startup may encounter. It makes sense to be ready for them if you decide to tread down this path.
  - 1) **Competitive pricing from Big Players:** Established travel businesses can present competitive rates to a customer that a start-up may not be able to match at least during its initial phase. It is because of this reason that a lot of start-ups take massive financial hits from the very beginning.
  - 2) **Marketing costs:** The cost of marketing in the realm of 'tours and travels' is significantly more expensive than almost any other domain. Established players have access

to important adwords that are integral to marketing that start-ups may not be able to afford because of the costs involved. And unless you're spending on marketing, there's no way for a new player to get noticed by their prospective customers.

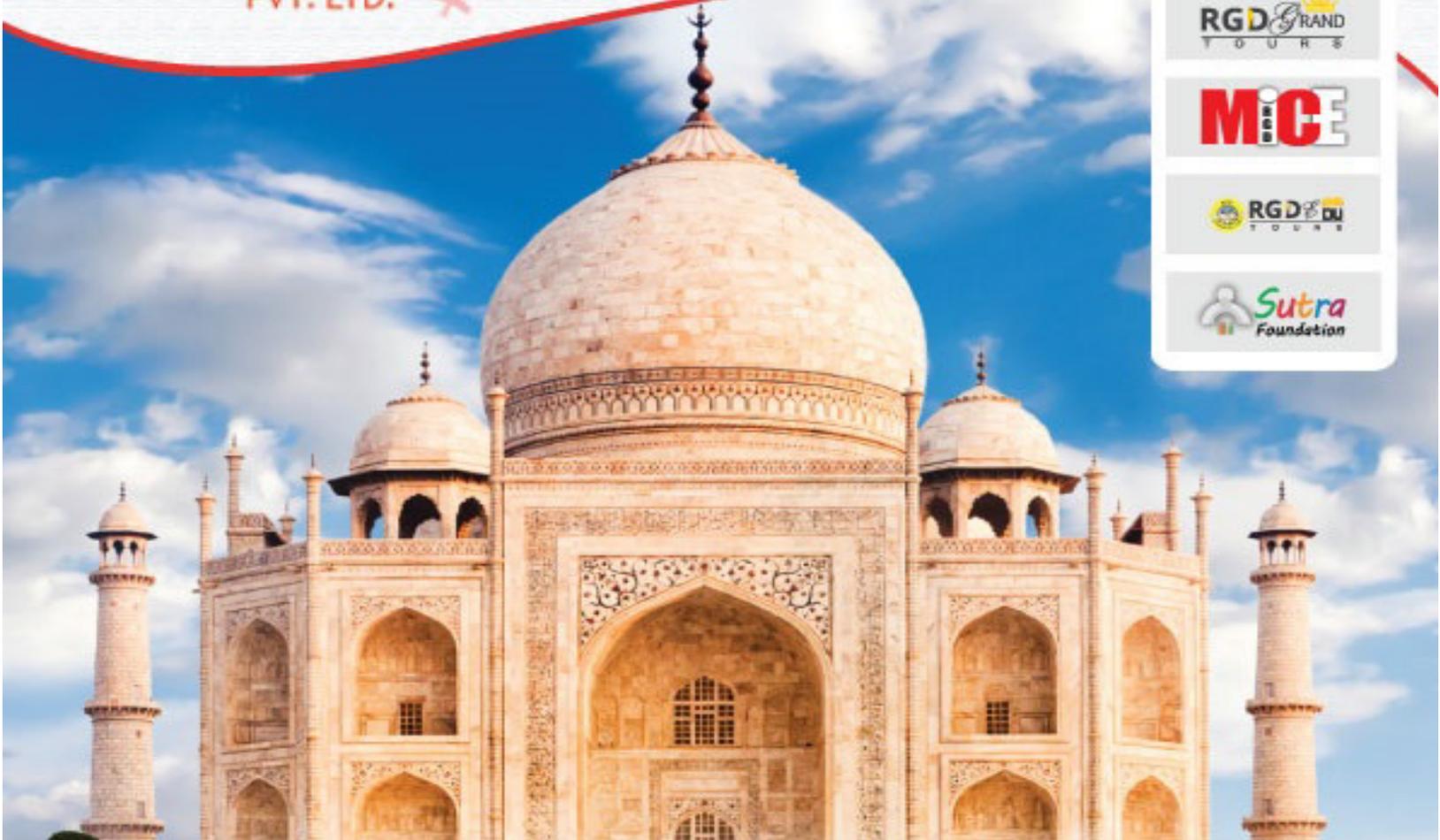
- 3) **Window shopping:** While many start-up travel businesses may have interested parties knocking on their doors to find out about prospective travel deals, the customer may decide to go with an established party in the end. This is because of the spotless track record of the bigger, far more established OTA business.
- 4) **Lack of uniqueness:** In my estimation, few new businesses are unique when it comes to solving issues that customers may potentially face. In other words, instead of trying to solve existing customer problems, they may seek out problems to retrofit solutions into. Your product needs to stand out from the multitude of options available for customers to choose it over every competitor in the already crowded marketplace.



**Vishal Kejariwal, Co-founder, CEO – Taxidio Travel India**

*Don't let these challenges discourage you. A little caution can go a long way. Once you weather out the initial storm, the market is promising and rife for the picking. Best of luck to any aspiring entrepreneur who wants to make a name in this field.*





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# JHARKHAND:

## A Cultural Paradise of India

The cultural mosaic of Jharkhand was dreamt about, shaped and polished by generations of communities, which have inhabited this land since time immemorial.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

From the legendary Asurs and Santhals, to the Banjara, Bihor, Chero, Gond, Ho, Khond, Lohra, Mai Pahariya, Munda, Oraon, Kol or Kavar-over thirty-two tribal groups (28 % of the total population of the state), have left their impression on the culture of the region. And with them, were the cross-cultural influences of local non-tribal communities and successive waves of Buddhism and Jainism, Mughal rule and the reign of the Hindu emperors of Bengal. Art historians ascribe the 'oldest cave paintings' in India, the "scroll paintings" to a Jharkhand tribe known as the Shabars, who today live on the edge of extinction. It is an established fact that Stone Age tools discovered in Hazaribagh district and axes and spearheads found in the Chaibasa area, are remnants of a civilization dating back a few thousand years. 10,000 to 30,000 years old rock paintings, paintings in huge caves in the Sati hills and other indicators of ancient, even pre-historic, human settlements are found in profusion.

### Jharkhand Dances

Most of the folk dance around Jharkhand is accompanied by traditional music played by the musicians using some traditional musical equipment. Some of the very famous Jharkhand dances are as follows:

#### Paika

Paika is one of the very famous dance forms of Jharkhand. In fact, it is a dance form where martial arts are mixed with some other dance steps. This is why the dance form is only performed by the male members of the society. Paika of Jharkhand is a very interesting dance form of the region. It offers a thrilling entertainment to your eyes as the men risk their lives to perform it. In Jharkhand is accompanied by the melodious music of Narsingha, Shahnai, Bheir and the Dhak and Nagara drums. This folk dance of Jharkhand is performed for welcoming guests during various functions.

#### Chhau

Chhau is one of the finest folk dances of Chhota Nagpur Plateau region. The folk dance is performed in various states that lie in this region such as West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha and Jharkhand. The word Chhau is derived from the Sanskrit word Chhaya which implies shade, image, or mask. Chhau of Jharkhand is a very beautiful dance form where the dancers cover their faces during the dance with a mask and it is this mask that attracts your attention towards the dance. Chhau is

different from classical dance because in the latter dance form facial expressions are must, whereas in Chhau, it is the body movements including the neck and head gesture. Some of the very famous stories that have been performed through Chhau in Jharkhand are Ramayana and Mahabharata.

#### Santhal

Santhal is a very popular folk dance of Jharkhand. It is a group dance performed by Santhal tribes

of Jharkhand. This dance was performed by the Santhal tribes during all special festivals and occasions. This dance not only reveals the culture or traditions of the local tribes but also showcases the strength of unity. The main attraction of the dance in Jharkhand are the colorful costumes worn by the tribal people. The typical garments worn by men during the Santhal are dhoti and a turban but the main attraction is their body decoration with various species of flora. Since the Santhal are believed to be close to nature, they use natural things such as leaves, branches and flowers to do their make-up and design their clothes. The Santhal dance would also help you in exploring the life style and culture of the Santhals.

#### Karma

Karma is a very popular folk dance of India. Though the folk dance is performed in other states such as Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, it can be enjoyed the best in Jharkhand. The folk dance is performed in the month of August during the Karma festival. This folk dance of Jharkhand has derived its name from a tree named Karma



which is considered sacred because people believe that it brings good luck and prosperity. Hence the Karma festival is nothing but a celebration for the plantation of this tree. Karma at Jharkhand seeks the participation of both men and women.

### Art, Craft & Living

Jharkhand is full of surprises. Archeologists have unearthed pre-Harappan pottery, and pre-historic cave paintings and rock-art, that hint at ancient, cultured civilizations inhabiting these parts. Who exactly were the original settlers of Jharkhand? We will never truly know. But one look at the intricate woodwork, the pitkar paintings, tribal ornaments, stone carvings, dolls and figurines, masks and baskets, will tell you how deep into time these manifestations of culture go, how the well-spring of creativity continues to recharge the spirit of the tribes and the state itself. Among the most delicate, fragile, beautiful and threatened indigenous traditions of India are for example, the Kohvar and Sohrai paintings, which are sacred, secular and relevant to a woman's world. This is the art practiced exclusively by married women, during weddings and at harvest time, and the skill and the information is handed down to younger females of the clan. Comb-cut or finger-painted, Kohvar art celebrates marriage, and the wall-painted Sohrai, bumper crops. Elaborate design motifs, animal and plant forms, fertility motifs are abundant and often echo ancient cave art found in the surrounds. The colours used are all natural - neutral earth shades, red oxide from stone, red ochre, kaolin white, manganese black earth etc.. Blue and green are aberrant colours and do not feature prominently.

Jharkhand is known for its wood work, bamboo works, pitkar paintings, tribal ornaments



and stone carving. The beautifully carved wood products and bamboo products show the craftsmanship of the people. Lack of promotion and marketing for these products has mostly resulted in extinction of some crafts like pitkar paintings and stone carvings. Wood Craft: Once a dense forest area, Jharkhand with the abundance of wood, resulted in the use this for creating variety of wood articles for household requirements. Bamboo: The bamboos found in the Jharkhand forest are thin but flexible and strong. Using these, the artisans of Jharkhand produce different artifacts like basket, haunting and fishing equipment. The people here are to be much involved into artistic approaches in whatever they work, to name some of the fame arts in this region could be Oraon Bhitichitra, Santhali Bhitichitra and Jado Patiya are the styles of paintings that still exist.

### Distinctive Traditions

**Each sub-caste and tribal grouping Jharkhand has a unique tradition to uphold.**

**Oraon comb-cut** paintings can be traced back to ancient times. Images of cattle, feeding troughs, papyrus, birds, fish, plants, circled lotus, zigzag

painting and comb cutting techniques. The 'prajapati' style uses filigree work, with emphasis on zoomorphic plants representations and Pashupati (Siva) the God of Animals, and floral motifs filled with colour.

**Kurmi** an unique style of 'sohrai', where drawing outlines are scratched onto the surface of a wall with nails and a wooden compass is used to etch the segmented lotus. Pashupati or Lord Shiva is



depicted as a horned deity on the back of a bull. Red, black and white lines are drawn in pairs on either side to represent the ashes of ancestors. The Kurmis of Bhehvara use glyptic art to represent plants on the walls and floors of their homes.

**Mundas** use their fingers to paint in the soft, wet earth of their homes and use unique motifs like the rainbow snake and plant forms of deities. Lavender-gray coloured mud from rock-art sites next to Munda villages, are used with ochre mud as contrast colour.

**Ghatwals** use glyptic paintings of animals on their forest dwellings.

**Turi** who are a small community of basket-makers use predominantly floral and jungle-based motifs in natural earthy tones on the walls of their homes.

**Birhor & Bhuiya** use simple, strong, and authentic graphic forms like 'mandalas', painting with their fingers. Crescents, stars, yoni, rectangles with corner petals, ovals with flared lines and concentric circles, are common.

**Manjhi Santhal-** the striking warring figures painted in black on simple clay plaster walls are startling reminders that their origins probably had links with the Indus Valley civilization.



square, opposing triangle geometric forms, arches in series - are common. Floral art forms are used during harvest time.

**Ganju** art forms are characterized by images of animals, wild and domesticated, and plant forms. Large murals of animals, birds, and floral exotica, decorate homes. Endangered animals are often depicted in picture-story tradition.

**Prajapati, Rana & Teli** the three sub-castes decorate their homes with plant and animal fertility forms, using both finer



# R(Oman)ice with your loved one

If it's mesmerizing beaches, majestic mountains or desert experience that you are looking for your honeymoon, then Oman has it all.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

Located just 2 ½ hours away from India, the Sultanate is an exotic, adventurous, historic and geologically stunning country offering the most authentic Arabian experience. Also, connected via direct flights with major Indian cities, easy e-visa process and introduction of a short-term 10-day tourist visa makes this destination ideal for a honeymoon getaway.

Here are few activities you must experience in Oman with your loved one:

Discover iconic locations to go camping in

Oman: Choose whether to camp in the deserts of Sharqiyah Sands or the Empty Quarter, on the mountain tops in Jabal Shams (Sun Mountain) or Al Jabal Al Akhdar (Green Mountain) or on the magnificent beaches across Oman.

### Watch an opulent opera

Watching a world class opera or musical performance with your loved one at the state-of-the-art Royal Opera House in Muscat is a privilege one should not miss out on.

### Discover the underwater magic

The waters of Oman are home to countless species of fish, turtles, sharks, rays, dolphins and vast stretches of exotic coral reefs. Couples who love beaches and some water adventure must try scuba-diving, snorkeling, kayaking and surfing.

### Go glamping in the desert

Stay at any of the luxury camping resorts, gaze at the infinite starry desert skies, experience the



perfect Arabian Night gourmet dinner and engage in exciting activities like Sand Boarding, Dune Bashing, Quad Biking, Camel Safari among others.

### Explore art and culture

The historical forts and castles of Oman are the country's most striking cultural landmarks and a major draw for visitors today. Walk up to the gates of the Sultan's ceremonial 'Al Alam Palace', visit the Jabreen castle or get an insight into Omani life by visiting the Bait Al Zubair

Museum or National Museum.

### Cruise along the beautiful coastline

Choose cruising to experience the spectacular mountains, incredible rock formations, turquoise waters, picturesque scenery, bespoke luxury and warm Omani hospitality. Also spot hundreds of dolphins jumping in the air acrobatically and swimming along in the blue waters or enjoy some private moments on one of the secluded beaches.

### Experience majestic mountains

Rent a 4x4 and go on an off-road drive to explore countless tracks through the mountains in Jabal Akhdar or Jabal Shams. Hiking, trekking, mountain biking, cycling, caving, scaling via ferrata routes are some of the must try activities for adventure junkies. Stay at any of the luxury resorts to experience breathtaking views of the canyon.





# Colors of India

Holi has a special place in the Culture of India. Lakhs of tourist from around the world visit India just to be a part of this mesmerizing festival. There are some places where the celebrations of Holi are so unique that you have to be there to witness it for yourself.

## • Vedika Sharma

A colourful festival of Holi in India is celebrating and sharing with the warmth, joy, love and happiness. Holi is one festival in which people celebrate together without bringing the caste, color or status in mind.

Holi is all about the celebration of overcoming your fears or transformation of negativities to positivities in life, whether it's repairing broken relationships, Victory Of Good Over Evil, End Of Winter season over the arrival of spring, Play and laugh, Forget and forgive etc.

Holi celebrated as a festival of love. Entire country wears a festive look when it is time for Holi celebration. Market places get abuzz with activity as frenzied shoppers start making preparations for the festival. Heaps of various hues of gulal can be seen on the roadside days before the festival. Pichkaris in innovative and modern design too come up every year to lure





the children who wish to collect them as Holi memorabilia and of course, to drench everybody in the town.

Womenfolk too start making early preparations for the Holi festival as they cook loads of gujiya, mathri and papri for the family and also for the relatives. At some places especially in the north women also make papads and potato chips at this time.

## History of Holi

Legend has it that there was once a demon king called Hiranyakashyap. He had a sister named Holika and a son, Prahlad. Hiranyakashyap wanted to be immortal so he carried out an extremely difficult task so Lord Brahma was forced to grant him wishes. Since the Lord didn't want such an evil man to remain immortal, he twisted his boon. Once the wish was granted, the demon king became arrogant and wanted himself to be worshiped. His son Prahlad didn't agree and went on worshipping his Lord Vishnu. Angry, the demon king tried to kill his own son, but to no avail. Finally, he called his sister for help. Holika had a cloak which could prevent her from any kind of harm from fire. The king made her sit in the bonfire, with Prahlad in her lap and the cloak around her. She didn't know that the cloak wouldn't work if someone else was under it too. Once inside the pyre, Prahlad kept praying to Lord Vishnu who saved him but Holika burnt to ashes in the pyre. Since then, this is done to symbolize the winning of good over evil.

In every region of this diverse country, Holi

is celebrated with different names with respect to their traditions and culture. Come and enjoy the different flavours of Holi in different states of India. Here we are covering the few of the best places to celebrate Holi in India.

## Barsana, Uttar Pradesh

compound of the Radha Rani temple. Thousands gather to witness the Lath Mar Holi when women beat up men with sticks as those on the sidelines become hysterical, sing Holi songs and shout "Sri Radhey" or "Sri Krishna". Holi celebrated at Barsana is unique in the sense that here women chase men away with sticks. Males also sing provocative songs in a bid to invite the attention



Barsana, a town near Mathura in the Braj region (birthplace of Lord Krishna) of Uttar Pradesh, celebrates Lath mar Holi in the sprawling

of women. Women then go on the offensive and use long staves called lathis to beat the men, who protect themselves with shields.



### Mathura and Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh

Holi in Mathura and Vrindavan attracts thousands of tourists across the globe to witness the grandeur of Holi celebrations. Mathura is the birth-place

of Lord Krishna and Vrindavan is the place where he spent his childhood.

The tradition of playing colors on Holi originated from the leela of Radha and Krishna. Mathura holds a renowned show in the week before Holi. A colourful and musical procession takes place from the temples to the river then to the Holi Gate, where the festival is marked.

A beautiful event that takes place inside the temple premise, Vrindavan's Phoolon ki Holi is extremely famous in India and abroad. Played on the Ekadashi before Holi, people ditch colors and water to play Holi with flowers. The priests at Banke Bihari temple in Vrindavan throw flowers at people as soon as the temple gates are opened. Holi over here is so beautiful that to express it, words are also very limited.

### Shantiniketan, West Bengal

At Shantiniketan, Holi is celebrated as Basanta Utsav or spring festival. It is a tradition set by Rabindranath Tagore and inspired by spring season and the colours of Holi. On the day of Holi festival, students of the institution dress up in yellow and red shades, put up a gala cultural programme for the visitors including foreign tourists.

The students perform dances and sing Tagore's songs on the day of Holika Dahan. After the cultural programme, the usual throwing of dry colours on one another is followed. This part of the festival is called Dol is played with dry colours called 'abler', good wishes to one another while dancing to the soft tunes of music often.

In Shantiniketan, Holi has a special musical flavour. Visitors on Holi are offered traditional dishes that include malpoa, kheer sandesh, basanti sandesh (saffron), saffron milk, payash, and related foods.





### Anandpur Sahib, Punjab

Anandpur Sahib can be found on the Himalayas, its bottom spurs, bordered by the Sutlej river. It is the popularly called the city of bliss. Hola Mahalla is an important Indian Sikh festival held in Anandpur Sahib in Punjab. It is a tradition which is followed with utmost diligence by the Sikhs. It was started by the 10th Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Gobind Singh. Unlike the festival of Holi, when people playfully throw colored powders on each other, Hola Mahalla is an occasion for the Sikhs to demonstrate their martial skills. Sikhs gather here in large numbers to witness a very impressive and colourful procession of Nihangs, in their traditional attire displaying their skill in the use of arms, horse riding, and other war-like sports.



and rituals, are organised around the state to commemorate the festival. The Shigmotsav parades with the first traditional parade take place at Ponda, while the Canacona, Sanguem, Curchorem, Quepem and Vasco Shigmotsav parade are held on subsequent days. The city Shigmotsav parade is held after a week at Mapusa, Pernem, BicHolim, Sanquelim, Cuncolim, and Valpoi.



### Goa

Perhaps the most visually spectacular of the Hindu festivals celebrated in Goa, Holi is the festival of fun and playing with colours which people throw on each other. It is a joyous celebration of the rejuvenation of nature, and renewed hope of happiness and peaceful coexistence. A number of activities, including entertainment programmes



# Cabinet approves Regularization of certain allowances

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the regularization of certain allowances (Rating allowance, Stress allowance, Proficiency allowance, Flying allowance and Instructor allowance) being paid over and above the 50% (pre-revised) / 25% (revised) ceiling prescribed by Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) to the executives of certain operational category employees viz.

Air Traffic Controllers, Communication Officers, and Pilots of Airports Authority of India (AAI) and to keep these allowances outside the purview of 35% (revised) ceiling. Their job entails complex set of tasks requiring very high level of knowledge

and expertise, as well as the practical application of specific skills pertaining to cognitive domains (e.g. spatial perception, information processing, logical reasoning, decision-making) communicative aspects and human relations.

The decision has been taken in view of the fact that air-traffic has increased manifold and these technical personnel are keeping the aviation activity over our skies very safe; in order to attract the best talent and to retain the existing trained manpower to provide world-class facilities to air-travellers, these professionals are required to be compensated suitably.



Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India

# Israeli Airline direct flight to India

Israeli airline Arkia to launch direct flight operations to Goa and Kochi from Tel Aviv starting 28th September 2019.

Israeli airline Arkia will introduce two new routes to India starting from 28th September 2019 using recently acquired Airbus A321LR. The carrier confirmed to begin nonstop flight operations from Tel Aviv to Goa and Kochi with 220 seats and a full flight service on board. With one-way duration of seven hours, Arkia will fly once a week to Goa on Tuesdays and twice a week to Kochi on Mondays and Fridays.

From 27th October 2019, the flight to the latter city will move to Sundays and Thursdays. The air travel will run all year round except during the monsoon season in India. This announcement has come at a time when Israel Ministry of Tourism has recorded a 21% growth with 70,800 Indian tourist arrivals to Israel in 2018 vis-à-vis 58,700 travellers in 2017 leading India to the 12th position as the source market for the destination.

With bookings to commence from 24th March 2019, a one-way ticket price will start at

\$250 from Kochi and \$300 from Goa with priority seating at an additional \$35.

Arkia's A321LR has a BYOD IFE (bring your own device) wherein the entertainment system will use an app for viewing on a passenger's personal device.

In addition to Arkia, El Al Israel Airlines Ltd. (TASE: ELAL) services the direct Mumbai-Tel Aviv sector with three weekly non-stop flights and Air India flies direct from New Delhi to Tel Aviv five times a week.

## Hassan Madah, Director, Israel Ministry of Tourism – India & Philippines

In light of the significant increase in incoming tourism from India over the past few years, the Ministry of Tourism has been encouraging of Israeli airlines like Arkia to foray into the Indian market. We see India becoming one of the key source markets for Israel in the coming years and with Arkia's direct flights to Goa and Kochi, the Indian traveller's interest will surely increase. Goa attracts many Israeli tourists who visit the Indian state for leisure holidays, while Israel has recorded a notable mix of pilgrimage and leisure travellers from Kochi. With non-stop operations from the West, North and now South of India; this will help meet the growing demand and enable us to achieve higher Indian arrivals to Israel in 2019.



# New member on board Lufthansa Group Airlines

Lufthansa Group Airlines announced that it has appointed George Ettiyil as its new Senior Director Sales South Asia.

Effective February 2019, he will be responsible for all commercial activities of the Lufthansa Group Airlines, including Lufthansa German Airlines, SWISS, Austrian Airlines and Brussels Airlines, in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

George Ettiyil has held several key positions within the Lufthansa Group for more than 20 years. For the last few years he served as Head of Global Sales Products & Programs for the Lufthansa Group Hub Airlines. Prior to this position at the Lufthansa headquarter in Frankfurt, he was responsible for the management of different stations and the field of business controlling in Germany and India.

Alain Chisari, Vice President Sales Lufthansa Group Airlines Asia Pacific said: "We are pleased to have George Ettiyil on board in India. His experience within different departments of the Lufthansa Group, combined with his know-how of the local business and culture are a valuable asset for our Group in Asia Pacific. I am convinced that he will play a relevant role in driving our company's success in South Asia."

"I am very much looking forward to be back in one of the most important markets for the Lufthansa Group and to actively participate in one of the fastest growing industries in the country", says George Ettiyil. "Together with a strong team we will continue to drive innovation and digitalisation to serve not only our B2C but also B2B customers in South Asia better."

Senior Director Wolfgang Will who was in the position previously will leave India after five years. He will bring his expertise to Lufthansa headquarter in Frankfurt and be taking over the responsibility for a strategically important project in the B2B sales department.



George Ettiyil, Senior Director Sales South, Lufthansa

# Time to B-E-A-mazed by Next British Airways Heritage Livery

British Airways has revealed the second design in its series of heritage liveries to mark the airline's centenary - an Airbus 319 will be painted in the colours of the airline's short-haul predecessor, British European Airways (BEA).

The announcement comes after huge crowds turned out to see the first heritage livery – a 747 in British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) colours – touch down at Heathrow on Monday, with more arriving at the airport the following day to see it depart on its first flight to New York.

The A319, reg G-EUPJ, will enter the IAC paint bay at Shannon Airport this weekend where

it will be repainted with the BEA livery which flew predominantly on domestic and European routes between 1959 and 1968. However, there will be a significant difference with the replica; the aircraft will have a grey upper wing, rather than the traditional red, to meet current wing paint reflectivity requirements.

It will return to Heathrow and enter service next month flying across the UK and Europe, with the design remaining on the aircraft until it retires next year. The aircraft can be followed using tracking website Flightradar24, which will feature a special image of the livery.

Both the BEA and the BOAC

heritage liveries are part of a special series to mark British Airways' centenary, as the airline celebrates its past while looking to the future. More replica designs will be revealed in due course, while all new aircraft entering the fleet, including the A350, will continue to receive today's Chatham Dockyard design.

In its centenary year British Airways is hosting a range of activities and events. As well as looking back, the airline is also hosting BA 2119 - a programme, which will lead the debate on the future of flying and explore the future of sustainable aviation fuels, the aviation careers of the future and the customer experience of the future.

The airline will be working with expert partners to identify BA's 100 Great Britons; the people up and down the country who are currently shaping modern Britain, and of course, the year would not be complete without some special flying and moments for customers.

## Alex Cruz, British Airways' Chairman and CEO

There's been plenty of speculation about our next heritage livery, so it's great to finally be able to make this exciting announcement. BEA is an important part of our history, and many customers and colleagues will have fond memories flying on its aircraft. We're sure this latest livery will bring back a flood of emotions and pride in not only British Airways, but the UK's impressive aviation history – and what better time to do that than in our centenary year as we celebrate our past and look to the future. I can't wait to see this classic design taking back to the skies.



# Emirates to launch new service to Porto

Emirates announced it will launch a four times weekly service between Portugal's second largest city, Porto, and Dubai, from 2 July 2019.

Porto will become Emirates' second destination in Portugal after its capital, Lisbon, which the airline currently serves with two flights a day. The flight will be operated by a Boeing 777-300ER aircraft in a three class cabin configuration, offering eight private suites in First Class, 42 lie flat seats in Business Class and 310 spacious seats in Economy Class.

Emirates' new service will provide travellers in northern Portugal, a major urban area, as well as those in the north-west of Spain in cities such as Vigo and Santiago de Compostela, due to its close proximity to Porto, with a direct option to travel to Dubai, and onward to destinations across the airline's global network,

particularly in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Middle East.

The flight between Dubai and Porto will operate on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, and depart Dubai as EK197 at 0915hrs and arrive in Porto at 1430hrs. The return flight, EK198, will depart Porto at 1735hrs and land in Dubai at 0415hrs the next morning. The schedule enables travellers to easily and conveniently connect to Emirates' flights from Dubai International Airport to popular destinations, such as Luanda, Johannesburg, Bangkok, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Melbourne and Sydney, amongst others.

Situated along the coast and on the Douro River, Porto is world famous for its Port wine production and historical city centre, a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Besides offering a rich cultural heritage and variety of tourist at-

tractions, Porto is also an important trade and industrial city, attracting business travellers.

Customers across all cabin classes can look forward to award winning levels of comfort and care when travelling with Emirates, from the warm hospitality of its multinational cabin crew, including Portuguese nationals, to having access to over 4000 channels of on demand audio and visual entertainment from the latest movies, music and games on its ice system, as well as regionally inspired meals and complimentary beverages. Families are also well catered for with dedicated products and services for children.

The new service will also enable Emirates SkyCargo to offer up to 18 tonnes of cargo capacity on the flight, giving local businesses the opportunity to increase their exports such as garments, shoes, automotive parts and cork.



## Sir Tim Clark, President of Emirates Airline

Porto is currently enjoying increased levels of tourism, which is also reflective of the growth in the number of visitors to Portugal as a whole. The introduction of this new flight, along with our twice daily Lisbon service, will help meet this growing demand from both leisure and business travellers, as well as provide them with more choice, flexibility and connectivity when travelling to and from Portugal.

# Cathay Pacific launched flights into Hyderabad

Cathay Pacific, a Hong Kong-based airline announced the launch of its fifth non-stop flight service from Hyderabad to Hong Kong. The carrier will begin its services effective from 7th June 2019.

Cathay Pacific launched flights into Hyderabad with four flights a week in December 2012.

This service will be operated by Airbus A330-300 aircraft. It is a two cabin flight –the award winning flat bed in Business class and the popular Economy class. This flight will not only provide comfort and convenience, but also seamless connectivity through Hong Kong into various destinations in North America, China, Philippines, Australia, South Korea and Japan.

This service is designed to cater to travellers in business and leisure segments including corporates from the IT sector, people visiting friends and

relatives and students. On the other hand, the cargo composition of the flights will be focused on IT, pharmaceuticals and textiles business.



**Mark Sutch, Regional General Manager – South Asia, Middle East and Africa**

Aviation has emerged as one of the fastest growing industries in India in recent years. The industry is expected to witness Rs. 35,000 crore (US\$ 4.99 billion) investment in the next four years, which will further fuel its growth. Additionally, the Indian government is planning to invest US\$ 1.83 billion for the development of airport infrastructure by 2026. This displays the country's strong commitment and huge growth potential for the aviation industry in near future. India has always been one of our key markets and with the additional flight starting from June 2019, we aim to further strengthen our network in the country. This will also help increase in capacity out of Hyderabad by approximately 14% on passenger travel and 10% for cargo shipment.

# MoU between Fiji and Japan Airline

Fiji Airways, Fiji's National Airline and Japan Airlines announced a codeshare arrangement that makes travel between Japan and Fiji much more convenient for travellers.

Both airlines are members of the oneworld® alliance family, with Japan Airlines being a

fully-fledged member while Fiji Airways is a member of the oneworld connect programme.

The codeshare arrangement, now open for sale, will allow Japan Airlines to offer up to three weekly flights between Nadi (NAN) and Tokyo Narita (NRT), with two direct services and options via our other Asian gateways Sin-

gapore (SIN), and Hong Kong (HKG), utilizing the 'JL' designator code on flights operated by Fiji Airways.

Once regulatory approvals are obtained, tickets will be progressively made available for sale through various booking channels.

**Andre Viljoen, Fiji Airways Managing Director & CEO**

We're delighted to add our fifth one world airline to our global network as a highly valued codeshare partner. We look forward to working with our friends from Japan Airlines to bring more of their customers to Fiji, one of the world's most sought after travel destinations as well as the wider South Pacific.



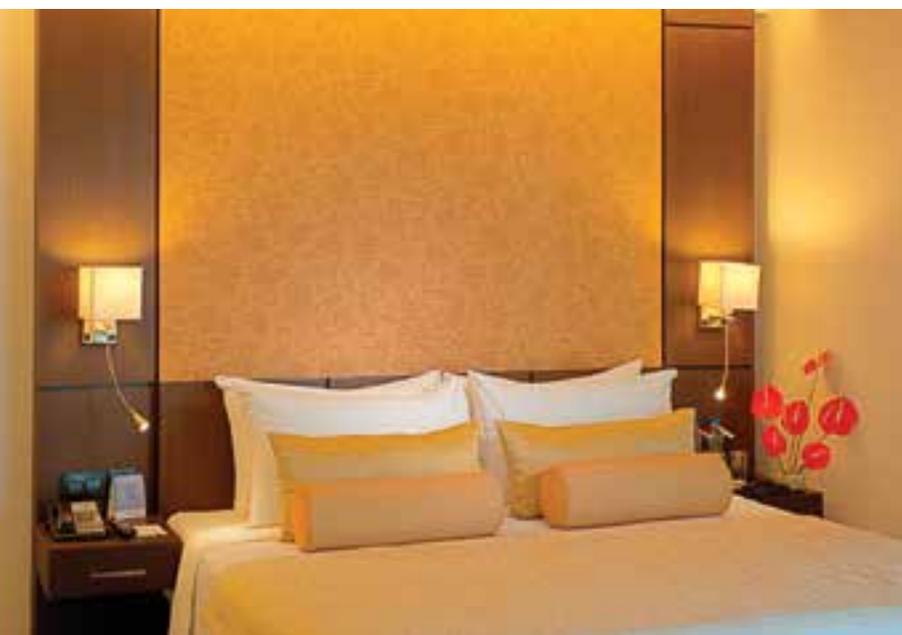
**Yuji Akasaka, President of Japan Airlines**

The partnership with Fiji Airways will provide customers with convenient travel options between Japan and the beautiful destination of Fiji. As we head toward 2020, this agreement will further expand JAL's international network, which is extremely valuable for our business model. We look forward to a successful partnership that will generate excitement to travelers around the world.



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.

Located in the heart of this historical city, where ancient traditions and rich culture blend perfectly with modern way of life is Fortune Select Metropolitan. Being just 10 km away from the airport and 2 km from the railway station, this 5-star hotel is the preferred destination for business and leisure travelers, providing first class facilities and efficient service with traditional Indian hospitality.



**FORTUNE**  
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JAIPUR

Member ITC's hotel group

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Fax :+91-141-3099099



## Relief for Air Traveler

As per new charter, No charges would be applicable in cancellation of ticket within a day of booking.

Air travelers can now cancel tickets without having to pay any amount within a day of the booking but zero cancellation charge won't apply if the tickets are booked less than seven days before the scheduled departure time of the flight, in this case the airline can charge cancellation fee limited to the total of base fare and fuel surcharge. Other components like tax, user development fee, airport development fee and passenger service fee will have to be refunded.

The charter expresses that to decrease burden caused to the travelers because of the cancellation of the flights on which they are reserved to travel, the airline is required to illuminate the traveler of the cancellation two weeks before the departure time and arrange alternate flight/refund as acceptable to

the traveler. In case the passengers are informed of the cancellation less than two weeks before and up to 24 hours of the scheduled time of departure, the airline shall offer an alternate flight or refund the ticket, as acceptable to the passenger.

The passenger charter also prescribes uniform penalties on carriers for poor services such as missing connecting flights and denial of boarding due to overbooking. Passengers can now also make legitimate corrections in their name within 24 hours of booking without paying any charges. The compensation for loss or damage to baggage has been fixed at Rs 350 per kg. The upper limit for compensation has been enhanced to Rs

20,000, up from Rs 3,000 currently.

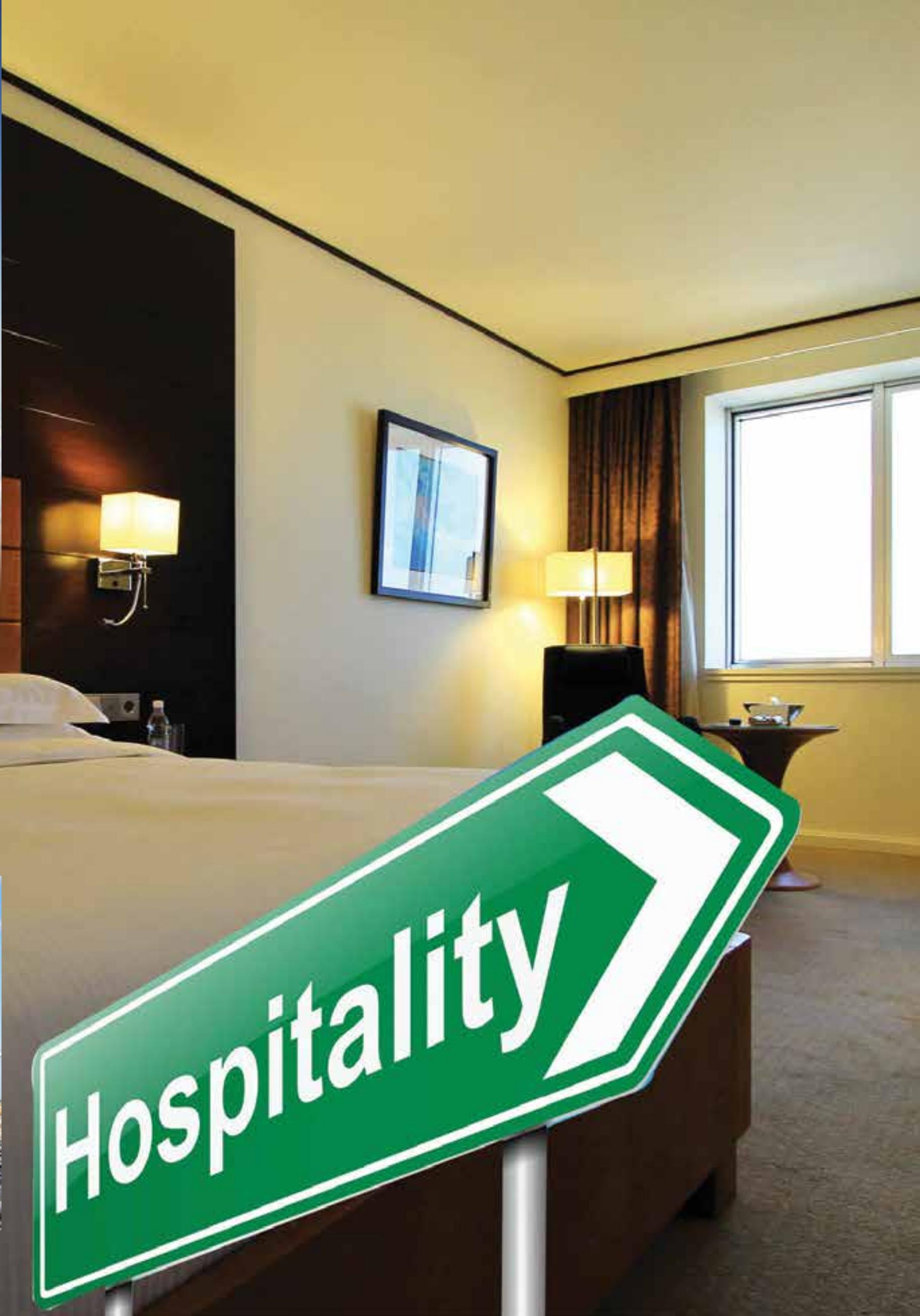
The ministry has also introduced compensation for passengers for missing connecting flights if onward journey is on same PNR. Passengers would be paid between Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 depending on the duration of the flight.



### DO YOU KNOW?

- No cancellation fee on flight tickets cancelled within 24 hours of booking amendment for journey 7 days later.
- Zero fee for legitimate correction pointed out within 24 hours.
- Cancellation charges cannot be more than the basic fare plus fuel surcharges.
- In case of cancelled flight alternate flight should be provided within 2 hours or full ticket refund.
- For delay of over 4 hours, airlines have to offer an option of full refund.
- If delay means flying next day airline has to offer hotel accommodation too.
- Baggage loss compensation Rs 350/kg upto Rs. 20,000/-
- Compensation of upto Rs. 20,000/- if a connecting flight is missed due to delay.
- Compensation for boarding denied due to overbooking upto Rs. 20,000 if alternate flight after 1 hour.





Hospitality



# Restorative Powers of the Nature

Established since in 1984, Swosti Group today has patrons not only within India, but also in most parts of the world. With the motto 'Once our Guest, Forever our Friend'.

With 305 rooms, 9 Restaurants, Largest Convention Centre in the Eastern Region, Swosti Group is the largest hotel chain of Odisha consisting two majestic hotels in Bhubaneswar namely, Swosti Grand & Swosti Premium, the finest luxury resort at Gopalpur-on-Sea namely, Gopalpur Palm Resort and newly opened the Mega World Class Luxury Resort, “Swosti Chilika Resort”, on the banks of pristine Chilika Lake.

All these hotels are competently supported by the largest inbound tour operator of the state Swosti Travels established since 1988.

SWOSTI is an epitome of comfort & leisure – a branded icon of hospitality in the country & abroad. It has received a number of national & international awards during the last 33 years of its dedicated services in hotel & tourism sector.

Swosti Group opens its door to Swosti Chilika Resort, inaugurated on 26th July 2017 by Hon’ble Chief Minister of Odisha Sri Naveen Patnaik, a place for all travel seekers and holiday enthusiasts who revel in the unexplored and untouched tranquility and look to unwind and reconnect in a most spectacular setting one possibly can imagine.

Rooted in the scenic setting of the famed Chilika Lake, the essence of the resort is to unify the mind and the soul with the nature. To allow the restorative powers of the nature harness a tired body and mind delivering pampered serenity in a sanctuary of comfort and wellness.

Inspired by nature, as one step into the sprawling landscape on the banks of a pristine Chilika Lake, you seamlessly will move from time bound madness to timeless bliss.

Awaiting you would be pure gentle breeze that subtly leaves an intoxicating aroma of a vast salt lake. The very moment can get you discover

a world so different from yours. Few steps more and you won’t miss the chivalry of the chirping birds in such natural surroundings. As your head turns for a glimpse of the famed water body, the small fishing boats dancing on what seems like golden hued waves in the reflection of the morning sunlight would be dream like.

Don’t be surprised when you find nature enthusiasts describing sightings of dolphins, exotic migratory birds or their trail into idyllic villages or deep forests.

While your thoughts continue to regale in what you have witnessed, the sight of luxurious cottages, squeaky clean beds and impeccable service standards can get you to a higher echelon. Indulgences like s game zones, cycling pad, fine dining restaurants will ensure a complete surrender of the mind and soul to the place.

Though nestled in a place away from the modern dwellings, the resort is an embodiment of contemporary design inspired from its natural surroundings – uncluttered and understated. The service is not only efficient but intuitive, charming and warm.

Swosti Chilika Resort extends its guests cottages and presidential suites with breathtaking views, while being elegant and well-appointed for a comfortable stay.

4 types of accommodations namely The Sanctuary-The Presidential Suites (01 key), Millpond- The Pool Villas (05 keys), Windchime-The Quad Villas (36 keys) and Midlake County- The Hotel Blocks (36 keys), are on offer for a luxurious indulgence.

The restaurants at the Swosti Chilika resort offers an incredible array of local delicacies and the choicest of international cuisines with the décor and the ambience just adding to the mood. Centrally located coffee shop with all side open walls and green spaces all around, is a perfect settlement for a tired mind to relax or to catch up with friends or colleagues for some light hearted bonhomie. For the sports enthusiasts, who find contentment being active, loads of options are in store.

Ekayaa, the spa is a world of pure bliss. A world of peace, calm and tranquility awaits as one indulges in traditional Indian wellness therapies. Equipped with single and double treatment suites, beauty treatment rooms, meditation and relaxation decks, the experience can rejuvenate and reenergise the mind, the body and the spirit in equal measures.

As the Sun sets, Swosti Chilika resembles a floating paradise surrounded by the most unique natural magnificence. In a moon-lit night, the aura transcends to a higher echelon. A walk in the lush green stretches meters away from the lake perpetuates the joy of existence.





DISCOVER SERENITY IN ITS TRUE SENSE

## A HEAVEN FOR TRAVELLERS SEEKING BLISS!

Situated on the banks of the world's 2nd largest brackish lagoon, Swosti Chilika Resort blends the comfort and the luxury of the modern indulgences with the flawlessness of natural splendor. Built on the land that dives into the beautiful Chilika Lake, Swosti Chilika resembles a floating paradise surrounded by the most unique natural magnificence. Life at the resort just meters away from the lake is tranquil and uninterrupted. So moments spent with loved ones remain etched in memory for eternity!

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- 78 Well-Appointed Cottage
- Global Cuisine Restaurants & Bar
- Coffee Shop (in the open)
- Finest Spa Services
- Jogging and Cycling Track
- Dedicated Adult and Kids Game Zones
- And many more unique offerings



Places to visit in and around Swosti Chilika Resort:

Narayani Temple, Tribal Museum Barkul, Tampara Lake, Nirmaljar, Taratarini Temple, Taptapani, Gopalpur Beach, Mangalajodi & many more...

SWOSTI CHILKA RESORT | Chilika, Odia Alapur, Pathara, Via: Bhejiput, Odisha-761 029.  
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# Spend Some Leisurely Moments in the Beguiling Himalayas

Mussoorie is a wonderful hill station in Uttarakhand situated at a height of 2005 mts above the sea level. It is situated at the foothills of the Himalayas and is known as the Queen of the Hills and to enhance its beauty with comfort stay is Mosaic Mussoorie.



Mussoorie is a captivating paradise for leisure travellers and honeymooners. Mussoorie offers superb scenic view of peaks of the Himalayas in western Garhwal. Mussoorie boasts of some of the most spectacular views of the Himalayas. Hill ridges, irregular in shape and partly wooded, form layer after layer to the horizon, where snow capped mountain peaks are visible as though you can touch them. From West to East, the mighty peaks of Bandar Poonch, Srikantha, the Gangotri group and the Chaukhamba present a mesmerizing panorama.

Nothing beats the warmth of individual, one to one service from people who care. It is with this belief that Mosaic Mussoorie offer genuine and a one of a kind experience to each one of their guests. Whether you want to reach out and touch the clouds or fancy a romantic dinner under starlit skies, Mosaic Mussoorie hospitable staff is there to make your dreams come true.

The location cannot be any better than this. Mosaic Mussoorie hotel is as unique as the city around it. At Mosaic Mussoorie, you get to design your own mix. Sink into the leisurely pace of life or take a walk on the Mall Road to feel the hustle and bustle of the age old city of Mussoorie, the queen of hills.





# Step Into Queen Of The Hills

Mosaic Mussoorie with beautiful location of the city around it brings you unique services to serve you with the random all-day dining restaurant, bar & grill, spa & steam room, kids & recreational room and indoor temperature control swimming pool.



## Mosaic Hotels

Contact numbers 7290039290, +91 135 2636200

Email Id : [reservations.mussoorie@mosaichotels.co.in](mailto:reservations.mussoorie@mosaichotels.co.in)

Website : [www.mosaichotels.co.in](http://www.mosaichotels.co.in)

Address : Mosaic Hotels, Picture Palace End, The Mall Road, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand 248179

# Experience the Desert in Style

Desert Springs is “the” place in Sam Dunes to experience the colorful and valiant history of the Thar Deserts amidst luxury and comfort.

A lifetime experience awaits the guests at this exclusive Luxury Resort & Spa nestled in the deep dunes at Kanoi Village in Sam. This traditional Rajasthani tented camp welcomes you with all the modern amenities to ensure a comfortable and a “Maharaja-like” stay. You can relax at the Spa with a variety of services to choose from or indulge in capturing the desert in your cameras or simply enjoy in your air conditioned tents with every amenity inside.

Embark on a Rajasthani journey with the Camel safari upto the sunset point where you get to watch the Sun immerse in the golden sands of the desert. You can also opt for the SUV/Jeep safari and get into dune bashing to dig into spectacular deep deserts. As the night winds down, a bonfire lits up the vast skies, Desert Springs Resort is the only place to experience exhilarating cultural performances and live Rajasthani music with celebrated dancers and expert musicians. There is a

variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks to choose from while BBQ and snacks are served. A ready feast is spread out with Rajasthani delicacies and a lavish buffet right under the moonlight and millions of stars. Retire to the well decked up tents and tuck yourselves into the bed to start a fresh new day to proceed to the next destination. We assure you that the experience of the Golden Deserts would have never been this luxurious and memorable ever before.





# fantasies... of an exotic desert

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## Desert Springs

RESORT

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Book a luxurious stay with exotic cuisines, desert adventures and amazing cultural performances.



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# Rejuvenate Yourself in the Lap of Nature

Surrounded by Aravali Hills and the farms, Geejgarh offers a true rural experience and to enhance its beauty is Geejgarh Eco Village Resort.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

Interact with villagers, witness organic farming, perform daily village chores which may very well be cutting crop or using the village thresher and more! Surely, what else could one do, given Rajasthan Resorts & Camps' efforts to keep the place free from compulsions of the phone and television, and even plastic bottles!

## Location

Never earlier has a location been so significantly transformed, carved as a tourist haven from sheer expanse! And with all modern amenities to suit the discerning traveler, Rajasthan Resorts & Camps rolls out the carpet for individuals from India and overseas; Groups - Small; Corporates on a get-away or for their conferences and meets.... You are welcome to experience it yourself "The joys of the rural habitat".

## Activities to Experience

Your experience will comprise of 2 night accommodation, breakfast, dinner, activities like camel cart ride, village safari and more. The experience will give you a closer look at village life. It is also a great opportunity for a quick rejuvenation from the hustle and bustle of city life. Spend some quality time with friends and family in the lap of nature and get yourself thoroughly recharged.

## Activities include:-

1. Cooking Classes
2. Visit to the Organic farm
3. Village or Country side tour.
4. Visit to Abhaneri step well - 7th century monument (by your own transport)
5. Interaction with local people, one can also



6. visit the Khadi Gram Udhhyog & local school
6. Camel or Camel Cart ride ( on request at extra cost )
7. Evening Bon Fire with Rajasthani Dances ( Dances on request at extra cost )
8. Morning Yoga classes - on request for groups
9. Nature Walk
10. Cycle Tour of the area - started October 2010 wherein your guest can explore the countryside on their own by cycle with the help of a map of the area. Also they can enjoy Head or Shoulders Massage at the local barbers shop or enjoy Tea at a Dhaba in the Village on direct payment basis.

## Accommodation

It gives a break to your groups and individuals from the monotony of the modern hotels, palaces and busy cities. Relax in the lap of nature with 4 acres of garden with 25 Village Huts with all modern amenities.





## Geejarh Eco Village Resort



Geejarh Eco Village Resort  
Village Geejarh, Tehsil Sikrai  
Dist Dausa

Contacts: 09899101554

E-mail: [rajasthanresorts@gmail.com](mailto:rajasthanresorts@gmail.com)

# IHCL Performance for the Third Quarter of 2018-19

The Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL), South Asia's largest hospitality company reported its consolidated and standalone financials for the third quarter and nine months of the year ending December 31, 2018.

Mr. Puneet Chhatwal, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, IHCL, said "The Company delivered a strong performance in the third quarter of this current fiscal. We saw double digit growth in revenues, robust increase in EBITDA margins of 150 bps and a PAT growth of 50%.

This has been a significant year for IHCL. We retained the iconic Taj Mahal, New Delhi; renewed a long-term agreement for

the landmark hotel, Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur; and won the bid for The Connaught in Lutyens' Delhi. We have signed 20 hotels in this financial year totalling over 2500 rooms in key cities such as London, Dubai, Makkah, New Delhi and Kathmandu. This year also marked the 115th anniversary of our flagship hotel The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai which was celebrated with a charity gala raising funds for the Taj Public Service Welfare Trust."

The historic Taj Connemara, Chennai dating back to 1854 reopened after undergoing an extensive renovation and redesign. Ginger underwent a major repositioning and unveiled the brand's new look in the lean luxe segment at Ginger Panjim, Goa. The

quarter saw the opening of our second hotel in Udaipur - Taj Aravali Resort & Spa.



# IHG® signs Crowne Plaza® Amaravati

InterContinental Hotels Group® (IHG), one of world's leading hotel companies has signed a Management Agreement with Indroyal Hospitality Services Pvt Ltd for Crowne Plaza® Amaravati. The 300 rooms hotel will be the first IHG hotel in the city and is expected to be operational by 2024.

Amaravati, the soon to be capital of Andhra Pradesh is being rapidly developed as a world class city and is expected to attract high-value manufacturing and service industries, creating strong economic growth opportunities in the

years to come. Connected to the major cities in India by land, rail and air through its neighbouring city of Vijaywada, Amaravati is expected to attract both domestic and international travellers.

Commenting on the announcement, Sudeep Jain, Vice President, Development, South West Asia, IHG said, "We are delighted to partner with Indroyal Hospitality Services Pvt Ltd. for our first hotel in Amaravati. Amaravati is being developed as a world class capital city, offering a business-friendly environment, and we are confident it will emerge as an important destination for corporate

travellers. Our brand Crowne Plaza with its business ready services, is a perfect fit for the city's future, and we are very pleased to be one of the first hospitality companies to establish our presence in this upcoming city.

He added: This signing is testament to our growth momentum in the country, and we are pleased to be expanding our presence across our brands, including Crowne Plaza which is a well-established brand and is loved by travellers, both internationally and in India."

# Kickback and Relax

Marriott International opens Four Points by Sheraton Kochi Info park, expanding the brand into Kerala, India. With uncomplicated, comfortable spaces designed for independent travelers seeking balance while on the road, the new hotel offers a chance to kick back and relax for a greater travel experience. The addition of this property strengthens the Four Points brand presence in India to 12 hotels across key gateway cities and upcoming destinations across the country.

Nestled in one of Kochi's largest IT hubs, and located within close proximity to several corporate parks, Four Points by Sheraton Kochi Info park is the ideal destination for any business traveler, while being accessible to nearby attractions as well for those spending a leisure holiday in Kochi.

218 spacious and well-appointed guest-rooms including 23 suites, reflect the brand's promise of integrating timeless classics with



modern details. The rooms feature the brand's signature comfortable bed for a deep and restful sleep.

Commenting on the launch, Neeraj Govil-Area Vice President, South Asia, Marriott International said, "We are delighted to announce the opening of Four Points by Sheraton Kochi

Info park, the twelfth hotel in the Four Points by Sheraton's India portfolio. Business travellers to Kochi are assured of a seamless stay, the hotel's spaces and facilities are smart and flexible, ensuring every aspect of the guest experience reflects the brand's emphasis on uncomplicated comfort and simple sophistication".

# Don't just travel.... EXPLORE

In an exclusive interview Shruti Pandey, Founder, Synergi Hospitality speaks about the key factor of Synergi Hospitality.

• **Vedika Sharma**

**S** Synergi Hospitality is all about off-beat and experiential stays. The properties that it promotes are off-road, in wilderness or remote areas and connect a guest to the natural surroundings of that area. Elaborating about the ethos of the company, Shruti Pandey, Founder, Synergi Hospitality, says, "Every wilderness enthusiast is our guest. Those who are willing to travel away from the normal trail of tourism route and to discover the terrain and it's habitats are the ones whom we look forward to connecting with."

Synergi Hospitality has, over the years, seen increased strength and growth in its efforts to promote off-beat locations and properties in North India. Since then, many new destinations and experiences have been added which have been received well, she says. The company conducts a promotional activity of Gujarat through familiarization trips for tour operators, every year, for past 2yrs. "It is always received very well. In fact, we have already started receiving requests for the next tour. Apart from all the exciting stuff that we are already doing, something new is the creation a Luxury camp at Ardh Kumbh for groups of National

Geographic Expeditions, in Prayagraj. Mobile camping is the only way of ensuring comfortable accommodation at off-beat areas. A lot of bird watching promotions are also in pipeline," Pandey reveals.

According to her, Gujarat, as a destination, is a fascinating state, full of cultural and tribal heritage. "It was a great pleasure to connect to remote destinations in Gujarat and promote them in the international travel circuit. While we will cover wildlife, tribal and textile areas of Gujarat, the group will also experience the state's infrastructure, food and most importantly, its hospitality," she adds.

The experience of creating a glamping accommodation for National Geographic guests and other inbound guests was very challenging, yet very satisfying. We were able to extend an experience of luxury at a temporary accommodation set-up. A team of 4 chefs were instrumental in offering delectable meals, consistently.

Speaking about the challenges the company faces with regards to international guest bookings done through agents, she says that the agents need to be briefed well about the property, it's location

and the facilities available. "Since these properties are experiential, a guest can get miffed if not explained about the character of the place. All said, however, we have not faced any such problem with our trade partners till now as they also understand this concern," Pandey adds.



Kutch Safari Resort, Bhuj (Gujarat)



Mani Mansion, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)



Royal Safari Camp, Bajana (Gujarat)



Darbargadh Poshina (Gujarat)



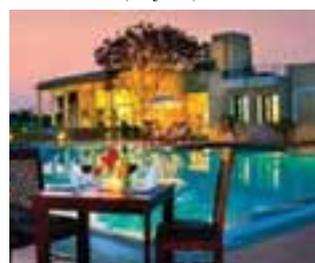
TatSaraasa Resort & Spa, Udaipur (Rajasthan)



Jhadol Safari Resort, Jhadol (Rajasthan)



Jhalamand Garh, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)



Jungle Vilas Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)



Roopniwas Kothi, Nawalgarh (Rajasthan)



Sunset Desert Camp - Luxury Mobile Camping



Aranyawas, Ranakpur (Rajasthan)



Dhula Garh, Jaipur (Rajasthan)



Godwad Leopard Safari Camp, Jawai (Rajasthan)



Himalayan Hideaway Lodge, Rishikesh



The Lavitra, Udaipur (Rajasthan)



Synergi Hospitality Marketing  
Office No.107, B R Complex, Opp. UNA Enclave, Mayur Vihar Phase 1, New Delhi-110091  
E-mail: booking@synergihospitality.com, Contact: +91 9650 633339

Don't just travel... explore

# Third Edition of Accor Showcase

For the third year in a row, Asia Pacific's largest and most successful hotel exhibition and sales mission series is coming back to Mumbai and New Delhi. The 2019 Accor Showcase promises to be bigger and better than before with participation from over 23 countries and representation from more than 70 Accor hotels and resorts worldwide, of which, 45 are international properties.

India's popularity continues both as a destination and feeder market, with markets such as Turkey, France, U.A.E., Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia amongst others have witnessed exponential growth in arrivals from India over the last year. The Accor Showcase serves as an ideal knowledge sharing platform to bring together industry representatives such as travel agents, wedding planners, corporate clients, tourism partners and MICE organisers and Accor representatives from around the world to provide insights into the group's hotels, new developments, products, and services to better serve outbound travellers.

Accor Showcase worldwide is entering its 16th year and this year's Showcase in India, will see exhibitors from countries such as Seychelles, Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, Hungary, New Zealand, Australia, Mauritius, Maldives, Switzerland, Azerbaijan, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Spain. There will be representatives from some of the popular Accor properties such as Raffles Seychelles, Raffles Maldives, Rixos Premium Belek Antalya, Fairmont Monte Carlo, Fairmont Maldives Sirru Fen Fushi, SO Sofitel

Vienna, Fairmont Nairobi, Fairmont Dubai, Fairmont Bab Al Bahr, Fairmont & Swisotel the Stamford Singapore, Fairmont Marina Abu Dhabi, Swissôtel The Bosphorus Istanbul, Novotel & MGallery Phuket, MGallery Bangkok, Sofitel Budapest, Mövenpick Hotel Switzerland, Movenpick Colombo, Pullman Bali, Pullman Baku, Grand Mercure Bangkok, Novotel Madrid Center, Adagio Paris.

"In just three years, the Accor Showcase has become the most awaited event for the travel and tourism industry. With a chance to interact with multiple Accor hotels across brands and countries, the Showcase equips industry representatives with greater insights into the newly launched products and with information that enables them to position our hotels to top clients and partners in the market. We are excited to host the delegates from around the globe along with partners from the industry to make this year's Showcase even more successful than before," said Arif Patel, Vice President Sales, Marketing, Distribution & Loyalty, Accor India & South Asia.

The Accor Showcase 2019 will be held in

Mumbai on Wednesday, 13th March at Sofitel Mumbai BKC and in Delhi on Friday, 15th March at Pullman New Delhi Aerocity. To register for the event, delegates and exhibitors can visit <http://www.accorhotelsshowcase.com/>



# Holiday Inn Express now in Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur

InterContinental Hotels Group announced the opening of Holiday Inn Express Bengaluru Yeshwantpur. Strategically located near World Trade Centre and major tourist attractions in the city, Holiday Inn Express Bengaluru Yeshwantpur is a 40-minute drive from the airport and a 5-minute drive from the Yeshwantpur Junction railway station.

Efficiently designed with a welcoming environment, Holiday Inn Express Bengaluru Yeshwantpur features 118 rooms. Catering to the requirements of the growing travel segment in the country, the rooms are equipped with the latest amenities such as the iPod docking station along with clock radio, wall-mounted flat screen TV and uninterrupted high-speed internet. Ensuring an express start to the day, the guests can enjoy free breakfast or 'Grab and Go' option (included in the rate). Additionally, the hotel features an on-site self-laundry facility, well-equipped gymnasium for the fitness enthusiasts and an onsite business center fulfilling the requirements of business travellers.

Commenting on the announcement, Vivek Bhalla, Regional Vice President, SWA, IHG said- "we have had a great journey with SAMHI since we partnered with them in 2017 for a

portfolio of 14 Holiday Inn Express Hotels. We are pleased to announce the opening of another Holiday Inn Express hotel in Bengaluru, the IT capital of India, from this portfolio. We are confident, the new hotel will cater to the needs of the increasing number of business and leisure travellers visiting the city."

Further commenting on the newly inaugurated hotel, Ashish Jakhanwala, Founder, MD & CEO, SAMHI said- "Post the successful opening of Holiday Inn Express Bengaluru Whitefield ITPL, we are excited to announce the opening of another Holiday Inn Express hotel in Bengaluru. With this new opening, we have taken a significant step towards catering to the growing demand of travellers in the city. With its strategic location, thoughtfully design and great service we are confident that Holiday Inn Express Bengaluru Yeshwantpur will be a suc-

cess."

IHG and SAMHI entered a partnership in 2017 to rebrand 14 hotels (approximately 2000 rooms, operating and under construction) to Holiday Inn Express hotels. The hotels under the portfolio are being renovated and upgraded with the latest design directives, to ensure the portfolio is fully representative of the Holiday Inn Express brand globally.





## Treatment Packages Offered at Kairali-The Ayurvedic Healing Village

### Special Ayurvedic Health Programmes for Weight Loss (Duration: 14 to 21 nights)

Unique individualized program's are created, with external herbal treatments and internal ayurvedic medicines to burn excess fat, to tone up muscles and to reduce weight naturally.

### Kairali's Special Package to Remove Stress & Strain (Duration: 7, 14 or 21 days)

Special ayurvedic massages with formulated herbal oils and steam bath to remove stress and strain for one to lead a fatigue-free life.

### Kairali's Panchakarma Therapy (Five Actions) (Duration: 14 to 21 nights)

Ayurveda's most time tested and well know treatment (5 procedures) to cure major health problems which acts by removing the diseases from the roots. So that the chances of recurrence of that diseases is negligible.

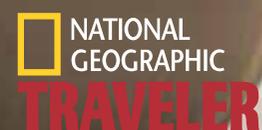
### Proven Remedies for Arthritis, Rheumatism & Spondylitis (Duration: 14 or 21 days)

A combination of various treatments & internal medication help regain lost mobility & subsides pain thus assisting one to live a pain free life once again.

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# Ministry of Crab is Ready to Satisfy India's Palate



**G**ourmet Investments Pvt. Ltd brings Mumbai's most awaited launch of the year with the unveiling of Ministry Of Crab's first-ever outlet in India. The grand launch of Sri-Lanka's beloved restaurant is scheduled to take place at Zaveri House, Khar, Mumbai. Ministry Of Crab is the brainchild of celebrated Chef and restaurateur Dharshan Munidasa in partnership with Sri Lankan cricket legends Mahela Jayawardane and Kumar Sangakkara. With its exemplary services and menu, Ministry Of Crab has safely secured its place for 3 consecutive years in the list of Asia's 50 Best Restaurants.

Ministry Of Crab was inceptioned in Sri Lanka on 12th December 2011 in the renovated 400-year-old Dutch Hospital, where it has successfully hosted the most renowned personalities from all walks of life. A haven for food lovers, Ministry Of Crab promises an unforgettable culinary experience with an array of intensely

delicious recipes. Replicating success from the past, Ministry Of Crab becomes the newest entrant in India's restaurant market by joining hands with GIPL. GIPL has extended unwavering support to a veteran of several landmark restaurant launches in India with the likes of PizzaExpress, Typhoon Shelter, The Bandra Project, The Runway Project, The Market Project, and The Poona Project. Through such partnerships, GIPL is committed to expanding its portfolio in food and beverage industry.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Ramit Bharti Mittal, CEO of Gourmet Investments Pvt. Ltd., said, "We are thrilled to bring Ministry Of Crab to India. It is our constant endeavor to open doors for such brands that resonate with our values and we feel there couldn't be a better choice for us than Ministry Of Crab. We see immense potential in Indian market for Ministry Of Crab and through our strategic partnership, we embark on a new journey to deliver the

best for our customers."

Mr. Deepinder Batth, COO of Gourmet Investments Pvt. Ltd., says, "We envision transforming the gastronomic landscape of the country and with the launch of Ministry Of Crab, we feel we are moving towards that direction. MOC has received an exceptional response from food lovers in Sri-Lanka and Shanghai and we are excited to welcome the outlet in our country."

On coming to India, Chef Dharshan Munidasa says, "We are looking forward to working with Indian chefs in the country. As our delectable recipes are curated to perfection, we are sure the restaurant is slated to be an ultimate dining destination. We are happy to have partnered with Gourmet Investments, as they have shared our value system and are committed to bringing the DNA of Ministry of Crab to give our guests an authentic experience."

## Innovation Center

**P**uratos India, the subsidiary of the Puratos group has launched its third Innovation Center in India at Bengaluru. The Belgium based global food ingredient company presently has two state-of-the-art innovation centers in India at Mumbai and New Delhi. The new Innovation Center in Bengaluru is designed to provide Puratos' customers in South India with access to concept developments, developing industrial applications, expertise and training.

Mr. Ashish Seth, Area Director South

Asia, Managing Director Puratos India said, "We are extremely delighted to unveil our third Innovation Centre in India at Bengaluru. With this new Innovation Center we wish to proactively respond to the demands of our customers in South India who recognize our technical expertise, innovative solutions and outstanding product quality. Given India's growing love for bakery, patisserie & chocolate items we are extremely buoyant in developing products for the future, based on consumer

preferences". Puratos Innovation Center has been developed to support their customers in bakery, patisserie and chocolate sectors in creating the best finished goods. The center will focus on conducting customer engagement events, developing and showcasing new recipes, benchmarking products against competition and conducting trainings. The training and development at the center will cover every aspect of taste, freshness, texture, ingredient interaction, nutrition and food pairing. The new Innovation Center will also provide a dedicated space for presentations, seminars, workshops and product trials.

The facility will bring the company's Sales, Marketing, Technical and Research teams together in a collaborative environment to closely connect with its customers. The center will showcase new product concepts, innovative applications, new product testing and even undertake sensory analyses. With a global team of over 500 technical advisors, Puratos Innovation Centers are committed to supporting customers on both a local and national level. This includes artisans and industrial manufacturers, quick service restaurants and large supermarkets among others.



**Lifestyle**



# The new Audi SQ5 TDI

700 Nm (516.3 lb-ft) of torque, output 255 kW (347 hp): The new Audi SQ5 TDI\* once again has a powerful V6 engine under the hood, just like its successful predecessor of the first generation.

An electric powered compressor ensures that maximum torque is available to the sporty SUV at just above idle; a mild hybrid system further enhances efficiency.

The 3.0 V6 TDI engine in the new Audi SQ5 TDI combines instant and supreme power with high efficiency. 255 kW (347 hp) and 700 Nm (516.3 lb-ft) – this massive torque is available continuously across a broad range from 2,500 to 3,100 rpm. The V6 diesel accelerates the sports SUV to highway speed in 5.1 seconds on its way to an electrically limited top speed of 250 km/h (155.3 mph). In the NEDC it consumes between 6.6 – 6.8 liters of diesel per 100 kilometers (35.6 – 34.6 US mpg), corresponding to 172 – 177 grams of CO2 per kilometer (276.8 – 284.9 g/mi). The SQ5 TDI is certified according

to the Euro 6d-temp emission standard

Audi has systematically refined the drive concept from the full-size SQ7 TDI\* for the new SQ5 TDI. The 48-volt main electrical system includes an electric powered compressor (EPC) and a mild hybrid system. Energy is stored in a compact lithium-ion battery with an electrical capacity of 10 Ah located beneath the luggage compartment floor. An AC/DC converter connects the conventional 12-volt electrical system



# Volkswagen Group brings 2018 to successful close

The Volkswagen Group has brought the 2018 fiscal year to a successful conclusion.

Based on sales revenue of EUR 235.8 billion – a rise of EUR 6.3 billion – the operating profit before special items of EUR 17.1 (17.0) billion was on a level with the previous year. At 7.3 percent (7.4 percent), the operating return on sales before special items was at the upper end of the target range set for 2018. The operating profit stood at EUR 13.9 (13.8) billion; as in the previous year, the figure was negatively impacted by special items of EUR 3.2 (3.2) billion in connection with the

diesel issue. Net liquidity in the Automobile Division was again robust, at EUR 19.4 (22.4) billion. The Board of Management and the Supervisory Board propose an increase in dividend to EUR 4.80 (3.90) per ordinary share and EUR 4.86 (3.96) per preferred share.

The Group's continued positive operational performance in 2018 was carried by a slight overall increase in the number of vehicles delivered. Worldwide, the Volkswagen Group's deliveries to customers increased by 0.9 percent

to 10.8 million vehicles – a new record. Growth was recorded in particular in Europe, South America and the Asia-Pacific region. Volume and mix improvements had a positive impact on sales revenue, offset to a small extent by exchange rates. Profit before tax went up to EUR 15.6 (13.7) billion and the share of operating profit attributable to the Chinese joint ventures was similar to the prior-year level, at EUR 4.6 (4.7) billion.

## *Dr. Herbert Diess, Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG*

We put in a decent showing in 2018, especially against the backdrop of the changeover to the WLTP, which led to considerable upheaval in our sales performance. The headwinds in key markets are expected to strengthen further in 2019. Our e-offensive will gather momentum as new models are launched. Overall, however, we will have to redouble our efforts to meet our ambitious targets in the new fiscal year.



## *Frank Witter, member of the Group Board of Management responsible for Finance and IT*

Our operating business proved resilient once again and we are satisfied with the overall result. Sales revenue performance benefited from an improved mix, while currency effects had a negative effect. The Group's financial situation remains solid. The Group's ongoing transformation in connection with the electrification and digitalization of the fleet will once again require tight cost discipline in 2019.

# Land Rover Evoque

The New Range Rover Evoque traverses obstacles framed by four-metre high warning triangles as part of a unique urban capability test.

Land Rover has brought a series of well-known road signs to life as part of a unique urban capability test for the New Range Rover Evoque. The original compact SUV not only showcased its all-terrain credentials in London’s financial district, but also demonstrated the smart technology that makes

it a leader in its class.

Drivers and passers-by watched on as the Evoque traversed obstacles framed by four-metre high warning triangles, recreating the familiar road sign graphics used to warn drivers of ‘uneven road’ and ‘steep hill’. Both challenges showcased the indisputable all-terrain capabil-

ity of Land Rover’s new vehicle architecture in an urban environment.

The Range Rover Evoque has been built on Land Rover’s new Premium Transverse Architecture to accommodate plug-in and mild hybrid systems; a Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) powertrain will join the range later this year. Offered with a suite of advanced technologies from launch - including the world’s first ‘Ground View’ technology – the new Evoque is more capable than ever before providing driving refinement, precise body control and agile handling across any terrain.

Pete Simkin, Chief Programme Engine, Land Rover said “The New Range Rover Evoque is built for the city, but not at the expense of trademark all-terrain capability. Bringing these two worlds together in such an eye-catching and unique way was a great demonstration of the engineering and technical revolution behind our luxury compact SUV.”



**01 POLSET BLUE**  
General purpose Sheet fed blanket Our cost-effective solution for all sheet fed application using Conventional

**02 MAX GREEN**  
General purpose Sheet fed blanket Our cost-effective solution for all sheet fed application using Conventional

**03 SPECTRA COMBI**  
Strong & Stable. An All-round Blanket. High quality sheet fed blanket for Conventional and UVinks

**04 PRINT UV**  
Specially designed, new generation EPDM base compound suitable for high quality UV printing

**05 UNDERLAY**  
Constructed to enhance the performance and life of the blanket

**PRESSONE CHEMICALS**

**RUBBER BLANKETS**  
Sprint-V impression

**01 FOUNTAIN SOLUTIONS**

**02 PRESSROOM WASHES**

**03 ISO PROPYL ALCOHOL**

**04 CTP & CTCP DEVELOPER**

**05 OTHER CONSUMABLES**

# BMW Group and Daimler Five Joint Venture

The BMW Group and Daimler AG are pooling their mobility services to create a new global player providing sustainable urban mobility for customers.

The two companies are investing more than €1 billion in total to develop and more closely intermesh their offerings for car-sharing, ride-hailing, parking, charging and multimodal transport. The cooperation comprises five joint ventures: REACH NOW for multimodal services, CHARGE NOW for charging, FREE NOW for taxi ride-hailing, PARK NOW for parking and SHARE NOW for car-sharing.

“Our mobility services have developed a strong customer base and we are now taking the next strategic step. We are pooling the strength and expertise of 14 successful brands and investing more than €1 billion to establish a new player in the fast-growing market for urban mobility,” said Dieter Zetsche, Chairman of the Board of Management of Daimler AG and

Head of Mercedes-Benz Cars. “By creating an intelligent network of joint ventures, we will be able to shape current and future urban mobility and draw maximum benefit from the opportunities opened up by digitalization, shared services and the increasing mobility needs of our customers. Further cooperations with other providers, including stakes in startups and established players, are also a possible option.”

“We are creating a leading global game changer. The 60 million customers we already have today will benefit from a seamlessly integrated, sustainable ecosystem of car-sharing, ride-hailing, parking, charging and multimodal transport services. We have a clear vision: these five services will merge ever more closely to form a single mobility service portfolio with an all-electric, self-driving fleet of vehicles that

charge and park autonomously and interconnect with the other modes of transport,” said Harald Krüger, Management Board Chairman of BMW AG. “This service portfolio will be a key cornerstone in our strategy as a mobility provider. The cooperation is the perfect way for us to maximize our chances in a growing market, while sharing the investments.”

The two companies’ mobility services have a wealth of experience and a strong customer base, with a combined total of over 60 million active customers to date. Building on their current, highly attractive product range and robust customer base in the key regions of Europe and America, the companies will grow their global footprint as their existing mobility services combine to form five joint ventures:

1700(app.) International Channels from 20 Countries....

LIST OF COUNTRIES:

ENGLISH	TURKEY	AFRICAN	ROMANIA	BULGARIA	ARABIC
FRANCE	KURDISH	PORTUGAL	SERBIA	POLAND	SPORT HD
GERMANY	RUSSIA	ESPANE	USA	GREECE	PLATINIM HD
HOLLAND	UKRAINE	ROMANIA	AZERBAJIAN	IPFOX CLUB	NEWS
PERSIAN	AFGHAN	SERBIA	BELGIUM	MY HD	KIDS

Total Number Of Channel -- 1700 (approx.)



Product Views



**UHD-777**  
DIGITAL I.T. BOX

# Nethues Technologies

There are countless reasons that position India as a hub of web development services - be it skilled developers, lower operating cost or the enormous support from Government for the IT growth.

The high quality infrastructures like satellite communication and broadband internet has amplified the charm of the present customer-friendly business era by helping companies to stay in touch with their customer anytime, anywhere. While the affordable outsource opportunities in India has set an upward curve in the stiff competition, lamentably, Indian web development organizations have also been embraced by companies with a predefined notion of facilitating a cheap quality. Born with a mission to break this taboo, a New Delhi based Web Solutions Company, Nethues Technologies has been instrumental industry with high-quality, cost effective and timely services since inception.

Rewinding back 15 years when Internet was still a technology wonder, doing things on Web was luring many entrepreneurs to jump on the bandwagon and the story is no different in case of techpreneurs - Lokesh Gupta & Rajesh Gupta. As soon as the truth of being just a small employee in a huge - set up suppressing their creative- minds and personal satisfaction hit their minds, the brothers ventured into booming industry and started a Web Solutions Company. "It was my passion to explore the Internet world and help clients to establish brands online. We

have achieved this in-depth by helping many to grow as a brand globally," proclaims Lokesh Gupta, Founder & Executive Director, Nethues Technologies. Today, the company which started in a garage with minimum investment and few software engineers is 250+ professionals strong today has become the darling of over 1000 clients ranging from startups to medium & large multinationals across 18 countries facilitating them to hog the limelight of the web.

"Nethues Technologies can bring your ideas to life, be it a mobile version of a website, web-store or news-portal. Our hybrid solutions are architected on HTML5 mobile JavaScript framework for web applications that feel native on Android, BlackBerry, and iOS," explains Lokesh. The wide range of customized web solutions at Nethues cover website design & development, web and mobile application development, e-Commerce development, graphic designing and web site maintenance & support. Working in tandem with the creative designers of the industry who provide the finest user interface opportunities, the company is highly acknowledged for their unique automated project delivery platform, CRM, which helps them to stand few cuts above the rest. The brand has also



created internal applications for e-learning and intranet clarifications beyond generalizing the e-Commerce solutions.

Nethues takes a greater pride in their professional team of experts who are engrained with a hunger and appetite to enable the best creative. Empowering the employees to be at the business forefront, the company not only trains them to be abreast with the technology internally and externally, but also propel them to explore the new faces of businesses by providing them a freedom of tasting ownership. Nethues also provides clients a facility to hire dedicated professionals on part-time, full-time, hourly or project basis depending on the unique needs at extremely reasonable rates. With each endeavor that mirrors the company's commitment towards their clients, the ISO 9001:2008 company is currently looking towards expanding their customer base within the verticals where they have strong domain knowledge & experience and market share. With a firm presence backed by the channel partners, the brand also aims to expand more offices in UK & Australia electrifying their boundary-less journey.



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# Doha Jewellery and Watches Exhibition

Bollywood Superstar Aishwarya Rai Bachchan flew in to attend the 16th Edition of the Exhibition including more than 500 brands from over 10 countries and an exclusive Indian Pavilion.

## • Tarsh Sharma

The sixteenth edition of Doha Jewellery and Watches Exhibition (DJWE) had a glittering opening ceremony yesterday by His Excellency the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani. The annual exhibition running for six days at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC) has been organised by QNTC in association with Auditoire Qatar.

Following the opening, His Excellency toured the exhibition and visited the exclusive Indian Pavilion that has been included in line with the Qatar-India Year of Culture (2019) theme, displaying dazzling collections of 13 designers representing the most important brands from across India.

Globally acclaimed Bollywood superstar

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan was also flown in by Qatar Airways to attend the Exhibition's opening ceremony where she visited the booths and met with the designers as well as her fans and visitors at the event. Dignitaries including HE Mr. Akbar Al Baker, Secretary General of the Qatar National Tourism Council (QNTC) and HE Mr. P. Kumaran, the Ambassador of India to Qatar were also present at the opening ceremony.

The exhibition showcases world's finest jewellery and watch brands including more than 500 brands from over 10 countries. World-class brands Tiffany & Co. and L'Atelier du Bracelet Parisien are participating for the first time, while Bulgari will return to showcase its unique collection of luxury jewellery and watches.

Also, Qatar's premier jewellery and watches patrons including Alfardan Jewellery, Ali Bin

Ali Group, Al Majed Jewellery, Amiri Gems WLL, and Fifty-One East are presenting their collections from leading international luxury brands such as Chopard, Harry Winston, Breguet, Dior, Tag Heuer, Concord, etc.

Other highlights of the event include a unique handcraft workshop by prestigious French watchmaking expert Objectif Horlogerie, daily informal discussions with French industry expert Geoffroy Aderin cooperation with Qatar Watch Club and Young Qatari Designers (YQD) initiative showcasing 12 local designers.

Also, taking place on the side lines of the Exhibition will be a Charity Auction and the Second Edition of the DJWE Forum with a series of interactive sessions on trends in the jewellery industry and market economies.



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# UTTAR PRADESH MIRROR of SUCCESS

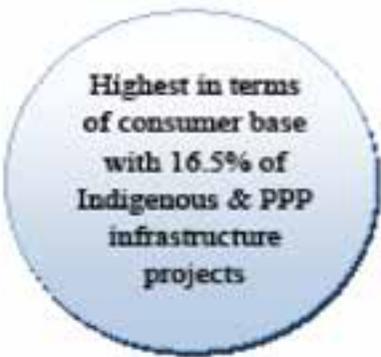
Uttar Pradesh, the land of opportunities ranging up to 243,290 KM<sup>2</sup> in 4 regions with 75 hotspots and over 200 million workforces ready to contribute in building nation-a super power, is the potential hub for investments.

Uttar Pradesh, the heart of motherland India, is the blessed land where spiritual and historical icons like - Rama, Krishna, Buddha, Mahavira, Ashoka, Harshvardhan, Rani Laxmibai and Mangal Pandey were born. In the natural vegetation of the state, it is rich and tranquil land in the meadows of perennial rivers, dense forests and fertile soil that only serves as the multiplier of

worth of the land to being precious.

Uttar Pradesh is a perfect mirror of India's history, heritage, art and culture, besides being an engine of the country's growing economy, technology and development. Now, the state is taking a lead in strengthening the national economy with greater share of investment and projected to race ahead to where it stands under the

dynamic leadership of Yogi Adityanath and his pro-active team. Uttar Pradesh, undoubtedly is a state which is abundant in natural and mineral resources, perennial water resources with major rivers of states like Ganga, Yamuna, massive manpower resources of working age, vast agricultural based regions and the growing service and manufacturing sector.



## Infrastructure

Uttar Pradesh has over 4,800 km of national highways and over 10,000 km of state highways.

The industrial park in Noida has about 4000 functioning industrial units with the state-of-art physical infrastructure.

The latest Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) data for registered manufacturing industries for the year 2013-14 show per unit invested capital in the state at INR 11.72 million for its "UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH" of 45, 14,463 units.

Uttar Pradesh has about 1,500 ITIs and ITCs with an annual intake of approximately 0.18 million students. There are about 350 polytechnics, both government and private, with an annual intake of about 100,000 students. In addition, there are nearly 800 degree-level institutions, mostly in private sector, with an annual intake of 250,000 in technical courses (engineering and management).

NSDC estimates that 11 million jobs are to be generated in the state between 2012 and 2022.

## Focal Industries

Uttar Pradesh accounts for major Focal industries that include Cement Manufacturing, Vegetable production, oils production, Textiles crafting, Cotton, yarn, Sugar, Carpet, Brassware, Glassware & Bangles production industries as well.

The chemicals' sector has shown growth more than 100% in terms of production.

Adobe Systems India Pvt Ltd, Computer Sciences Corporation India (CSC), Dabur India Ltd, ST Microelectronics (STM), Birlasoft Ltd., Jaypee Group, Cadence, Ingersoll-Rand India Ltd (IRIL), Delphi Automotive System, LG Electronics India Ltd (LGEIL), HCL Technologies, Indo Gulf Fertilisers Ltd, EXL Service Holdings Inc, Honda SIEL Cars India Ltd, are among the major industry giants who are already contributing and manufacturing in Uttar Pradesh.

## Skills & Opportunities

About 82 per cent of males and one-fourth of females in the age-group of 15-59 years form the labor force in Uttar Pradesh.

After agriculture, the other important industrial sectors in terms of employment are manufacturing and construction, with each employing about 13.2 per cent and 13.6 per cent of the workforce respectively in 2011-12.

Literacy rate is of about 70 per cent in Uttar Pradesh.

In the span of next ten years, the NSDC estimates show maximum demand for skilled workers at 37 per cent of the total incremental demand. This is expected to be followed by semi-skilled workers at 35 per cent, and minimally skilled workers at 28 per cent.

According to the latest Sixth Economic Census, there were 6.7 million enterprises in Uttar Pradesh where, in these enterprises provided employment to 13.75 million persons in the state.

## Manufacturing

The State of Uttar Pradesh has potential to produce more than 4000 MW of Biomass power.

Uttar Pradesh accounts for 28.03 per cent of India's sugar production.

The state has the longest network of rivers and canals at 28,500 kms fostering the agriculture sector.

Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of electronic goods and is the fourth largest exporter of software products from the country with more than US \$ 900 million worth.

# UTTAR PRADESH

## Witnessing a Transformation

I have changed the perception about UP. Two years back, UP shared a largely credible perception of being a state beset by corruption, lawlessness, anarchy and riots – not only within the country but also internationally. I will be completing two years in March. During my tenure so far, there have been no riots. We have controlled organised crime to a large extent. We have ensured the rule of law. Barring a few cases of family feuds or personal enmity, people in the state are fully safe and secure. This change in perception has attracted investment in the state. Today big industrialists in India and from all over the world are keen to invest in UP. As we complete two years in March, the state would have attracted investment over Rs 2 lakh crore, which is unprecedented.

This is one side of development. UP has made its mark in other areas as well, particularly in the flagship schemes of the centre, on which it performed dismally in the past. For instance, the state had figured at 23rd rank in the Swachh Bharat Mission. But the situation has reversed now as we achieved 100 percent performance as against the national average of 97 percent. When the Swachh Bharat initiative began, UP had 20 percent coverage against the national coverage of 44 percent. In rural areas, we have built 1.73 crore toilets. In urban areas, we have built nearly 8 lakh toilets for those who did not have this facility. Under the PM Awas Yojana, in rural area, UP stood 17th; now we are number one. In our tenure, we have built 12.82 lakh houses in rural areas and 8,66,473 houses sanctioned in urban areas to provide homes to the homeless. Under Saubhagya yojana, we identified nearly 1.75 crore people who had been denied electricity connection. Let us take other issues like procurement of food grains. The state government used to declare the minimum support price (MSP) every year, but that was meaningless till procurement was done. During 2016-17 [under the Akhilesh Yadav government], the wheat procurement stood at 7 lakh metric tonnes through adhatiyas (middlemen). We removed adhatiyas and started purchasing directly from farmers. We bought nearly 37 lakh metric tonnes of wheat and paid them directly in their bank accounts. This year we bought nearly 53 lakh metric tonnes of wheat from farmers. We have ensured payment of over Rs 50,000 crore

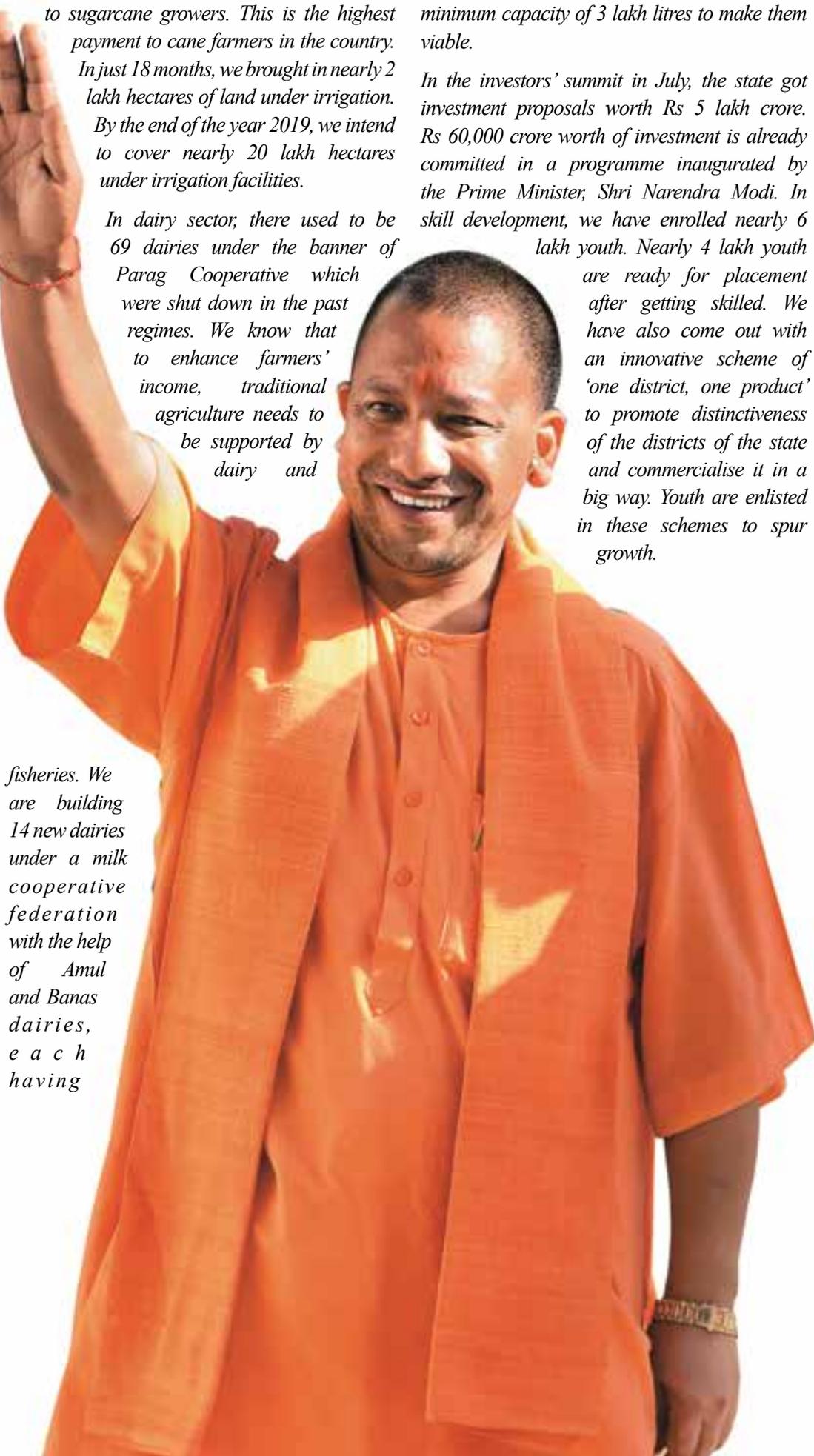
to sugarcane growers. This is the highest payment to cane farmers in the country. In just 18 months, we brought in nearly 2 lakh hectares of land under irrigation. By the end of the year 2019, we intend to cover nearly 20 lakh hectares under irrigation facilities.

In dairy sector, there used to be 69 dairies under the banner of Parag Cooperative which were shut down in the past regimes. We know that to enhance farmers' income, traditional agriculture needs to be supported by dairy and

minimum capacity of 3 lakh litres to make them viable.

In the investors' summit in July, the state got investment proposals worth Rs 5 lakh crore. Rs 60,000 crore worth of investment is already committed in a programme inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. In skill development, we have enrolled nearly 6 lakh youth. Nearly 4 lakh youth are ready for placement after getting skilled. We have also come out with an innovative scheme of 'one district, one product' to promote distinctiveness of the districts of the state and commercialise it in a big way. Youth are enlisted in these schemes to spur growth.

fisheries. We are building 14 new dairies under a milk cooperative federation with the help of Amul and Banas dairies, each having



# Hidden Talent of India

There are millions of stories about the origin of various forms of Indian handicrafts across the length and breadth of India. The craft of each state in India reflects the different culture and tradition.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

The history of Indian handicrafts goes back to almost 5000 years from now. The craft traditions of India have withstood the deprecation of time and several foreign invasions and continue to flourish till date. It is mainly due to the open mindness of the Indian handicraftsmen to accept and assimilate new ideas.

India, with its rich cultural heritage and diversity, holds many stories of artisans crafting magic with their hands. Hidden in every part of the country is a magician waiting to be discovered, to beautify your lives with the tales of his land.

Generally these products developed in villages of India but now days for last few

decades people have been developing these products commercially in the factory due to the huge demand worldwide.

Different regions of India have different style to make handmade items. Here we will explore few states of India with its most famous handicrafts items.



## Bihar

The crafts of Bihar are popular across the country. Of the many interesting crafts of Bihar, the Madhubani Paintings are most famous which have been a part of Bihar lifestyle since the time of Ramayana, or so it is believed. Madhubani Paintings which are mostly practiced in the region of Mithila. These paintings are painted during weddings and festivals as these are regarded as auspicious. These paintings mostly depict religious subjects like marriages of god and goddesses. Bangle making, khatwa works and stone works play an important role in day to day to life. Another reason why tourist are highly inclined towards Bihar handicrafts is that they are quite reasonably priced.



## Rajasthan

Rajasthan popularly called the 'Treasure trove of Indian handicrafts', the state offers perfect shopping opportunity. The handicrafts of this state are famous the world over for their beauty and quality.

The craftsmen show a great deal of expertise in transforming raw materials into arresting handicrafts like wood and ivory carvings, textiles with fast and bright colours, tie and dye and block prints on fabrics, silver jewellery/real stones studded jewellery, blue pottery, miniature paintings, marble statues and lacquer and filigree work.

In the process of fabric colouration, woven fabrics are treated by methods such as tie-dyeing, resist dyeing and direct application. The Rajasthani craft industry is iconic to the identity of India with many of its styles reaching the international market. Tie-dyeing is an example of how international fashion aesthetics have rooted from simple crafts methods of Rajasthan.





## Gujarat

Handicrafts of Gujarat are a beautiful amalgamation of stitches, colours, patterns and embroidery. Gujarat is famous for its classy thread work. 'Zari' industry based in Surat and 'Kathi' embroidery of Kutch are the best examples of thread works. Bandhani or Bandhej is another famous speciality of Gujarat. This basic tie-dye work is available in various textiles like cotton, georgette, and chiffon. Bandhani have found maximum application in sarees, salwars, kurtas, and other forms of dress materials.



## Assam

Assam is a confluence of a number of tribes and cultures and this is reflected in the traditional handicrafts of the place as well. Assam is mostly known for its exquisite silks and the bamboo and cane products. Cane and bamboo are the two most commonly-used materials in daily life in Assam. Products ranging from household implements to construction of dwelling houses to weaving accessories to musical instruments are made in bamboo. No mechanical devices are used in the craft, which is mainly a household industry. Besides basket-weaving, bamboo is used chiefly in the construction of houses and fencing. The men of the household usually weave the bamboo baskets. Each district has its own distinctive style.

Sturdy objects like mugs for rice beer, hukkass, and musical instruments are also made with bamboo stems. Fine cane and split bamboo are used for more delicate articles like hand fans, screens, and floor mats.



## Tamil Nadu

Tamilnadu is famous for fine handiwork of India, which has evolved due to its rich culture and traditions. The various crafts of Tamil Nadu are mostly created in the remote villages and towns of the state and exported all over the country.

The life-like stone sculptures, Rosewood and Sandalwood carvings, Thanjavur paintings, celestial figures in brass and bronze are some of the commendable pieces of art of the Tamil society. Besides these, brass lamps and Thanjavur art plates too are very impressive.

Apart from this, Tamil Nadu is also famous for their Kanjeevaram sarees, which are known for their rich thread work and vibrant colours.



## Himachal Pradesh

This breathtaking Pahari area is known for its chunky thermals and traditional handlooms. Some beautiful handicraft from the area is their antique silver jewellery, the famous Kullu woollen cap, and jackets. Woven with colourful threads by local weavers these vibrant pieces make great one of a kind collectables for personal and gifting purposes.



# Women are half the power of the country: Bachchan

**M**egastar Amitabh Bachchan said he is pained that women who carry hepatitis B virus face discrimination in the society, something he will continue to fight for.

Bachchan, who is the World Health Organization's Goodwill Ambassador for Hepatitis in South-East Asia Region, said women must be treated with respect and dignity.

"Discrimination against women has been most disturbing for me. This shouldn't happen. Women are half the power of the country, they are the strength of the country. They must be given the respect and dignity that all deserve," Bachchan said.

"To be discriminated like this just because they are carrying hepatitis B virus is not acceptable. I will fight for this as long as I am

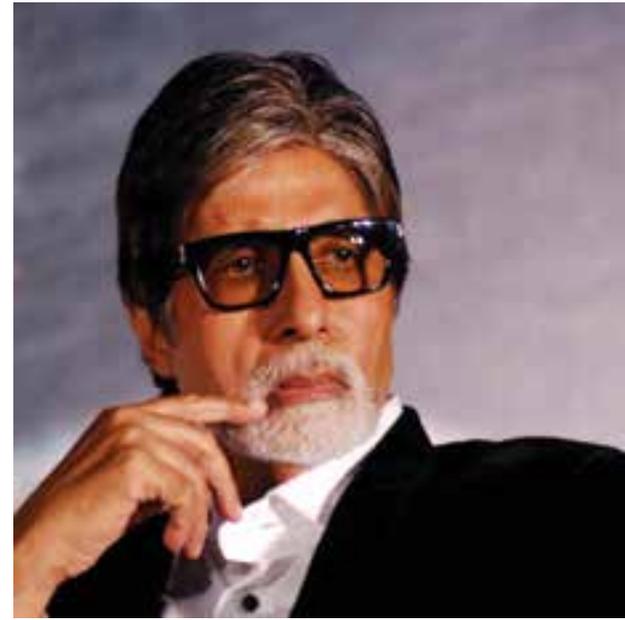
alive," he added.

The 76-year-old actor was speaking at the launch of National Action Plan on combating viral hepatitis in India.

Bachchan said this discrimination is "condemnable" and was shocked to know how things unfold for women suffering from the disease.

"I have heard such horrific stories where married women were thrown out of their houses because they were suffering from hepatitis B.

"I thought if my voice and face can help bring awareness, then I will be glad to do so. If I can be the living example for the citizens of the country that despite being a hepatitis B patient, I am living normally," he added.



# Sharaabi

**F**ilmmaker Abhishek Kapoor has announced his next directorial, "Sharaabi", a comic drama about a dysfunctional alcoholic.

The film will be in collaboration with Bhushan Kumar's T-Series and Pragma Kapoor's

Guy in the Sky Pictures.

"Bhushanji and I have been talking of a collaboration for quite some time now. We wanted it to be special. 'Sharaabi' will be the right concoction of comedy, drama and music to build this association," Abhishek said in a statement.

Bhushan said he is looking forward to back Kapoor's vision and present the audience "with a wholesome entertainer."

Producer Pragma said the team is currently in talks for the casting and a formal announcement will be made soon.

# Texpro

**L**eading textile-apparel-fashion platform Fibre2Fashion is one of the sponsors at the ongoing Pure London trade fair.

Pure London is the UK's number one leading fashion trade event that brings together the entire fashion supply chain, right the way from fibre through to finished ready to wear garments. The three-day event will go on till February 12.

Fibre2Fashion has collaborated with Pure London with an objective to create awareness about one of its service called TexPro: Driving Intelligent Data. TexPro is

a one-of-a-kind user interface service that facilitates a strategic & informed decision making process by covering all rounded information on raw material pricing, export-import data, analysis of brands and retailers, existing tariff rates of various countries, non-tariff barriers in place, trade agreements and government policies and more.

"TexPro is currently being used by leading brands to build their sourcing strategies. Pure London is an apt platform for creating awareness about TexPro as no other UK show offers sourcing and brands together under one central London roof," says Fibre2Fashion executive director Jose Daniel.

"We had fruitful discussions with leading brands on day one of the fair and are expect-

ing a good response," said Fibre2Fashion general manager Priya Mehta who is at the fair.



# iFax App

**B**usinesses around the globe have quickly realized the sincerity of threats related to sending and receiving documents in an unsecured fashion. Many such instances have come to light that makes an institution rely on only the best online fax service provider such as iFax app. Especially, when it comes to handling ePHI (Personal Health Information) which is to be kept secured and protected due to its sensi-

tive and confidential nature under the GLBA and HIPAA compliant guidelines, need a trustworthy fax service to send and receive faxes online conveniently. iFax app adhering to all the guidelines laid down by HIPAA and following utmost secured practices to keep customer's faxes encrypted to protect the said sensitive information and content of the fax by encrypting them.

iFax quickly became imperative when it

came to internet fax services online with its amazing features that ultimately adds up to any business' productivity. Instantaneously, iFax were able to grab a moment of the CEO, Mr Adam Korbl, at an event where Adam humbly replied, "I take this stage to sincerely thank you to our customers who have made iFax, a success. iFax have reached 5 million+ satisfied users and assure that iFax team is constantly striving to provide better services".

## Jeena Mushkil Hai Yaar

**A**T-Series short film “Jeena Mushkil Hai Yaar” which focuses on woes of tribals is being sent to many film festivals world over, shortly. The short film directed by Mohan Singh, is inspired from true and real incidents that have taken place in tribal belts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, where “Baiga”, “gaund” and other tribes took a daunting task of forest conservation and saved acres of forest land facing the system fought with adverse antiquated age-old laws.

Speaking about this film director Mohan says, "The film starts when the popularity of a primetime Hindi news anchor hits a new low when she is accused of sensationalizing

and manipulating the news of a dying superstar. She faces a huge turmoil when she is forced to go to a jungle where she faces turmoil weather to save her career or to save the tribal who fighting a lone battle to save the jungle from a multinational mining company."

The film features the real tribals, who have even composed the title track for the film in there traditional music form ‘Karma’. Khushali Kumar, Yatin Karyekar, Nishant Dahiya, Gopal Singh and others are in important roles.

The film has been directed by Mohan Singh, who has directed many Short films, TV serials and super hit music albums in-

cluding 'Mera Highway Star', 'Raat Kamaal Hai', up till now. This short film is of 53 minutes duration.



## Mango Man's SS19 Campaign

**P**atrick Schwarzenegger, the star of the campaign, encapsulates the best styles of the season.

The Mango MAN new spring/summer 2019 collection campaign shot by Ben Weller on Venice Beach, Los Angeles, starring the model, actor and entrepreneur Patrick Schwarzenegger and surfer and model Luke Stedman, reveals a contemporary style in line with the lifestyle of the modern man.

The son of one of the most-recognised action heroes, Arnold Schwarzenegger and journalist (and Kennedy-related) Maria Shriver, Los Angeles-born and raised, Patrick Schwarzenegger is involved in numerous cultural and entrepreneurial projects. Following the release of the movie *Midnight Sun* with Bella Thorne in 2018, Patrick is working on upcoming movies to be released this year. He is a man of his time.

Both talents are very active and represent the busy lifestyle of stylish men: working during the day but free and enjoying outside activities or surfing on Venice Beach after work under the sun and the palm trees.

The SS19 collection consolidates Mango's commitment to contemporary style and elaborate fabrics. This season offers a smart casual style mixing denim, safari or surfer trends with neutral colours such as off-white, cream and khaki.

Timeless garments such as oversized trench coats or belted field jackets to combine with a simple T-shirt or Hawaiian shirts and check trousers. Through the collection Mango is also introducing its first washable suit, featuring easy-care fabrics that can be cleaned and ironed at home. The range of accessories offers polarised and vintage-inspired sunglasses as well as smart sneakers

made of 100% leather.



## New TASAKI Atelier Jewellery

ASAKI unveiled new jewellery including its TASAKI Atelier line at Creative Director Prabal Gurung's Fall 2019 show during New York Fashion Week. The international lineup of models gracing the runway for the show included Hikari Mori from Japan, making her debut at New York Fashion Week.

TASAKI is a luxury jeweller that consistently delivers innovative, sophisticated designs through partnerships with creators from around the world. Among them is the high-end TASAKI Atelier line designed by the brand's Creative Director Prabal Gurung.

Held on February 10, the show featured new high-end TASAKI Atelier line jewellery

crafted with the finest pearls and diamonds to imbue a modern, luxurious feel, as well as a variety of stunningly unique drop earrings inspired by the far and middle east, formed

with curves and non-convention shapes to adorn the ear and highlight the power of femininity. TASAKI will release pieces from this collection in fall 2019. We invite you to explore TASAKI's world of innovative beauty, created by TASAKI's Creative Director Prabal Gurung.



## Prediction for March 2019 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'll have repeat clients, and some financial increase or profit, but will be waiting for something to happen or turn up, and will fear the work you're doing has little value or that you won't be able to sustain yourself in the future. Financial problems will arise over someone who will stick you with the bill or try to take more than their

share, but you will have enough to get by. You will hold off on an idea because you won't be ready to commit or will feel the time isn't right or that there's too much hard work involved. You will be waiting to see what a lover will do. This could also indicate a sudden flight from home, but not a permanent one. You need to get more rest, and to get rid of those who 'zap' your energy or take all and give nothing in return.

Lucky color: Purple  
Lucky number: 4



### TAURUS

You will prosper in all financial transactions, complete every task you set out to do, and accomplish much more than you thought you would; and/ or you will succeed in launching great plans, building new platforms, and making executive decisions. You can expect an increase in your finances, which will allow you to spend money on gifts or luxuries, and if you

had a problem collecting money it will be resolved. You'll be thinking about the one you love and will want to be with him/her again, and he/she will be thinking the same about you. You will be worried about a physical condition (yours or that of another) and your teeth may need attention. Also, if you are concerned about a tumor, it will be benign. Sex will be much better the second time around.

Lucky color: Blue-Black  
Lucky number: 7



### GEMINI

Someone will displease you, unearth hidden insecurities, or make you feel that your work is inferior or that your job is in jeopardy. You will be feeling a definite crunch in your pocketbook and will wonder where your next rupee is coming from. But your finances are

about to improve. You will review the quality of your love life or relationship(s) and will realize that's exactly what you want- quality not quantity- and so far it's been the other way around. Your teeth will need attention. Wait for time to take its course.

Lucky color: Orange  
Lucky number: 9



### CANCER

You will suddenly become more goal-oriented or motivated and will have the wherewithal to attract whatever it is you need in your work environment, and/or you will receive a considerable increase in salary or income. Expect a new beginning and a fresh

start. A new partnership could also be in the making. You will do very well financially or in your business transactions. Though you don't think so now, a new romantic beginning or rekindled affair is at hand and a great love affair is imminent. You will experience stress and/or will find it difficult to ascertain the problem or obtain the correct medication.

Lucky color: Pink  
Lucky number: 9

**LEO**

There will be discussions concerning travel, schedules, or marketing; new groups or unions; and philanthropic endeavors. Money will be fair or alternating from good to bad, and will be spent on household items, living expenses, and various sundries. And, if a financial transaction

has been bothering you, you'll soon have a pleasant surprise. Also, money will come in through clients, dividends or legacies. There will be no love life at this time because all of your activities will be geared to daily living, family ties or your home. You, a family member or a pet will need attention, shots, grooming or looking after.

Lucky color: Turquoise

Lucky number: 2

**VIRGO**

Professionally, you will make many important contacts, but will have to wait for things to unfold. Personally you will be weighted down with responsibilities and feeling that you will have no one to lighten your load or ease your burdens. Your greatest success will come through new or repeat

business contacts, but will want to make more. You will be easily irritated, explosive or impatient but will change because a new vision or romantic opportunity will inspire more confidence or optimism. You may suffer from tension headaches or lower back aches.

Lucky color: White

Lucky number: 9

**LIBRA**

You will be concentrating on making money or bettering your financial condition so you'll busy yourself with activities geared to promoting or advancing endeavor. You will soon experience better financial conditions and a pleasant surprise. Your sense of connectedness with another is going to end, a partnership will look as if its over and a business is

about to fold. Beware the demon rum, which will give you the courage to act impulsively; or someone you know may have a drinking problem. This also indicates that one who's been ill or had surgery is on the road to recovery.

Lucky color: Red

Lucky number: 2

**SCORPIO**

You will be concerned about the lack of business and money and may begin to feel that you've made a mistake, but you will try to take a positive point of view and wait for the final verdict. But, your financial position will improve considerably and success will come through improved business, new opportunities

and recognition for your talents. An unexpected event will destroy your trust in the one you love or your love for that person.

You'll need to rest before commencing any new ventures. Some unexpected or surprising news is going to overthrow existing conditions and bring a new opportunity...go for it!

Lucky color: Green

Lucky number: 3

**SAGITTARIUS**

You will run into conflicts which will require a great deal of emotional control, but you will master the situation internally rather than moving into an external fray. You will be paid that which is owed or due to you, but will feel shortchanged or cheated. Change will bring a new perspective and a new you, and by putting

your pessimism or insecurities behind you, you'll become a much stronger and happier person. You are going to be disillusioned and disappointed in a relationship you thought would work but didn't. You could have physical premonitions of that which is to come, or be subject to strange sensations, sleeping disorders, or lumps, bumps or cysts.

Lucky color: Black

Lucky number: 8

**CAPRICORN**

Your work will start off bright, and then turn dark, and then bright again. Don't worry, after a slight reversal you'll see material gain or a good outcome. Withhold judgment for now, and don't make premature evaluations. Money that was promised or anticipated will

be delayed, but should arrive shortly. You will

want the same things as before, but with a different partner or in a different way. It can't be the same as it has been... it must be better. You will be an emotional wreck or will have bouts with insomnia or troubled sleep.

Lucky color: Blue

Lucky number: 7

**AQUARIUS**

You'll take a break from your work or current project and do something more pleasurable. Something that moves you from behind the scenes to center stage (maybe a workshop or seminar) or mental work will be very successful and a lot will get accomplished. You will succeed in overcoming difficult situations, and in obtaining the help or a

professional. You are going to experience tension related to finances, but difficulties will be overcome and a payment or settlement is in the offing. An amorous and impetuous suitor is going to try and win your heart...he/she just might. You will finally take a much-needed rest, and will be nursing yourself or a loved one back to good health.

Lucky color: white

Lucky number: 1

**PISCES**

You will handle your affairs skillfully and complete all projects or financial matters successfully... but love will be more important than work. You will be successful in all of your negotiations, agreements or financial transactions. Money that is owed will be paid, and/or money for a subsidy or grant will soon be given. You will

think about love and what it would be like to live with someone or get married. You will try to accomplish too many things at once and that will affect your health adversely. Also, do not ingest food that you are not certain of. In the end you will triumph, and all matters will conclude successfully or to your satisfaction.

Lucky color: Yellow

Lucky number: 2



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- Track the updated progress of the application online and download the NOC/License/Permission within the stipulated timelines.

## Nivesh Mitra Helpline No./ 0522-2238902

Information & Public Relations Department, U.P.



## **GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND** **DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM**

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**Royal Journey of India**  
18 to 20 Nights

Delhi - Jaipur - Pushkar - Ranthambore  
- Sawai Madhopur - Kota  
- Bundi - Chittorgarh - Bijapur -  
Udaipur - Kumbalgarh - Jodhpur -  
Jaisalmer - Bikaner - Mandawa - Delhi



**Archaeological Tour of Rajasthan**  
21 to 23 Nights

Delhi - Jaipur - Samode - Nawalgarh -  
Bikaner - Gajner - Jaisalmer - Osian  
- Khimsar - Manvar - Jodhpur - Rohet -  
Mount Abu - Udaipur - Dungarpur  
- Deogarh - Ajmer - Pushkar - Pachewar  
- Ranthambore - Agra - Delhi



**Majestic Kerala**  
14 to 15 Nights

Mumbai - Mangalore - Bekal - Wayanad  
- Kozhikode(Calicut)  
- Cochin - Thekkady - Kumarakom -  
Quilon - Varkala - Kovalam



**Enchanting Himalayas with Taj**  
13 to 15 Nights

Delhi - Agra - Darjeeling - Gangtok -  
Phuntsholing - Thimphu - Punakha -  
Paro - Delhi



**Tribal Trail**  
15 to 17 Nights

Bhubaneswar - Dangmal - Bhubaneswar  
- Baliguda  
- Rayagada - Jeypore - Rayagada -  
Gopalpur - Puri - Bhubaneswar



**Buddhist Temple with North East India Tour**  
14 to 16 Nights

Delhi - Varanasi - Bodhgaya - Patna  
- Kolkata - Bagdogra - Darjeeling  
- Pelling (Pemayangtse) - Gangtok -  
Kalimpong - Bagdogra - Delhi

# Travok

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