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WELCOME ABOARD



DEAR READERS,

Welcome aboard SpiceJet!

As the monsoon settles across the country, painting familiar landscapes in shades of green, it also brings with it a renewed sense of optimism. Aviation has always been an industry that tests resilience. Every airline encounters headwinds, but what defines it is the ability to stay the course with discipline, determination and an unwavering focus on its passengers.

For over 21 years, that spirit has defined SpiceJet. Every challenge has strengthened our resolve and every milestone has reaffirmed our commitment to connecting people safely, reliably and affordably.

The global aviation environment continues to remain challenging, with geopolitical developments, supply chain constraints and cost pressures affecting airlines across the world. Despite the challenges, one thing has never changed – the enduring appeal of travel. Every major disruption the aviation industry has faced has eventually been followed by renewed demand. We saw it after the pandemic, when people returned to the skies in record numbers. Travel is about far more than reaching a destination. It is about spending time with loved ones, discovering new places and creating memories that last a lifetime. That enduring spirit continues to inspire us and gives us every reason to look to the future with confidence.

SpiceJet continues to make steady progress, strengthening its fleet, expanding capacity and laying the foundation for its next phase of growth. We recently inducted three aircraft into our fleet and expect to add more aircraft in the coming months. We are also in the final stages of lease arrangements for another 20 aircraft, with deliveries expected to commence shortly. These additions will strengthen our network, enhance connectivity and provide our passengers with greater choice and convenience as we continue to grow in a measured and sustainable manner.

As we continue to grow, our focus remains firmly on delivering a better travel experience. We are strengthening our operations across the board to offer greater reliability, improved connectivity and a smoother journey from booking to arrival. Every addition to our fleet brings with it greater flexibility, allowing us to serve our passengers better while maintaining the high standards of safety and service that remain at the heart of everything we do.

Before I conclude, I would like to congratulate our outstanding Indian boxers, who continue to bring pride to the nation with their achievements on the international stage. Just as every successful flight is the result of discipline, preparation and teamwork, sporting excellence is built on the same values. From Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain leading India's campaign at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow to our young boxers delivering an impressive performance at the Asian U-19 & U-23 Boxing Championships in Jakarta, they have once again demonstrated the immense talent and determination that define Indian sport. We wish them continued success and look forward to celebrating many more milestones in the years ahead.

As I conclude, I would like to thank you for choosing SpiceJet and for placing your trust in us. It is a privilege to be a part of your journeys, and we look forward to welcoming you onboard again soon.

Happy flying.

Jai Hind!



AJAY SINGH
Chairman & Managing Director

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THE COMPANIES WE REMEMBER WERE RARELY THE FIRST

Why do some businesses become unforgettable while others become history?

History has an interesting way of rewriting success.

Ask someone who invented the telephone, and many will answer Alexander Graham Bell. Yet history records earlier inventors who explored the same idea.

Ask who created the light bulb, and Thomas Edison is the name most people remember, despite many inventors contributing to its development.

The Wright brothers are celebrated for powered flight, but they were not the only minds pursuing that dream.

Being first has never guaranteed being remembered. Business tells the same story. Google wasn't the first search engine. Netflix wasn't the first company to rent movies. Uber wasn't the first to offer taxi service. Apple didn't invent the smartphone.
Yet today, these companies have become synonymous with their industries.

Why? Because markets rarely reward those who arrive first. They reward those who create the greatest meaning. Many businesses believe their biggest challenge is competition. Others believe it is funding, talent, technology, or marketing. More often than not, the real challenge is far simpler and far more difficult.

Can people clearly understand why you exist?

The companies that endure don't merely sell products or services. They stand for an idea. Apple challenged convention. Nike celebrated human potential. LEGO turned imagination into a lifelong experience. Patagonia transformed outdoor clothing into a movement around environmental responsibility. Long after people forget a product launch or an advertising campaign, they remember what a company made them believe. That is the difference between a business that competes and a business that leads. Unfortunately, many organisations spend enormous effort improving what they offer, while investing very little in defining what they represent.

The result is a familiar story. These organisations become another option in the market rather than the obvious choice. In today's economy, customers have more information than ever before. What they are searching for is not simply another supplier.

They are searching for confidence. They want to know who they can trust, who understands them, and who will still matter years from now. Building that confidence doesn't happen through isolated marketing campaigns or occasional bursts of publicity.

It happens when every part of a business – its purpose, positioning, communication, leadership, customer experience and execution – works together to tell one compelling story.

That philosophy lies at the heart of Level141.

As a growth architecture company, Level141 believes that sustainable growth begins long before advertising, sales or expansion. It begins by designing a business that people don't simply recognise but genuinely remember, because becoming unforgettable is never an accident. It is the outcome of deliberate choices, consistent experiences and a clear identity.



> THE COMPANIES THAT SHAPE THE FUTURE WON'T NECESSARILY BE THE ONES WITH THE BIGGEST BUDGETS OR THE LOUDEST VOICES. THEY WILL BE THE ONES THAT BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE.

The Next Level Thought

The question every leader should ask isn't: **'How do we become more visible?'**

It is: **'When people think of our industry, will they think of us?'**

Because history doesn't remember everyone who started the race. It remembers those who changed its course.

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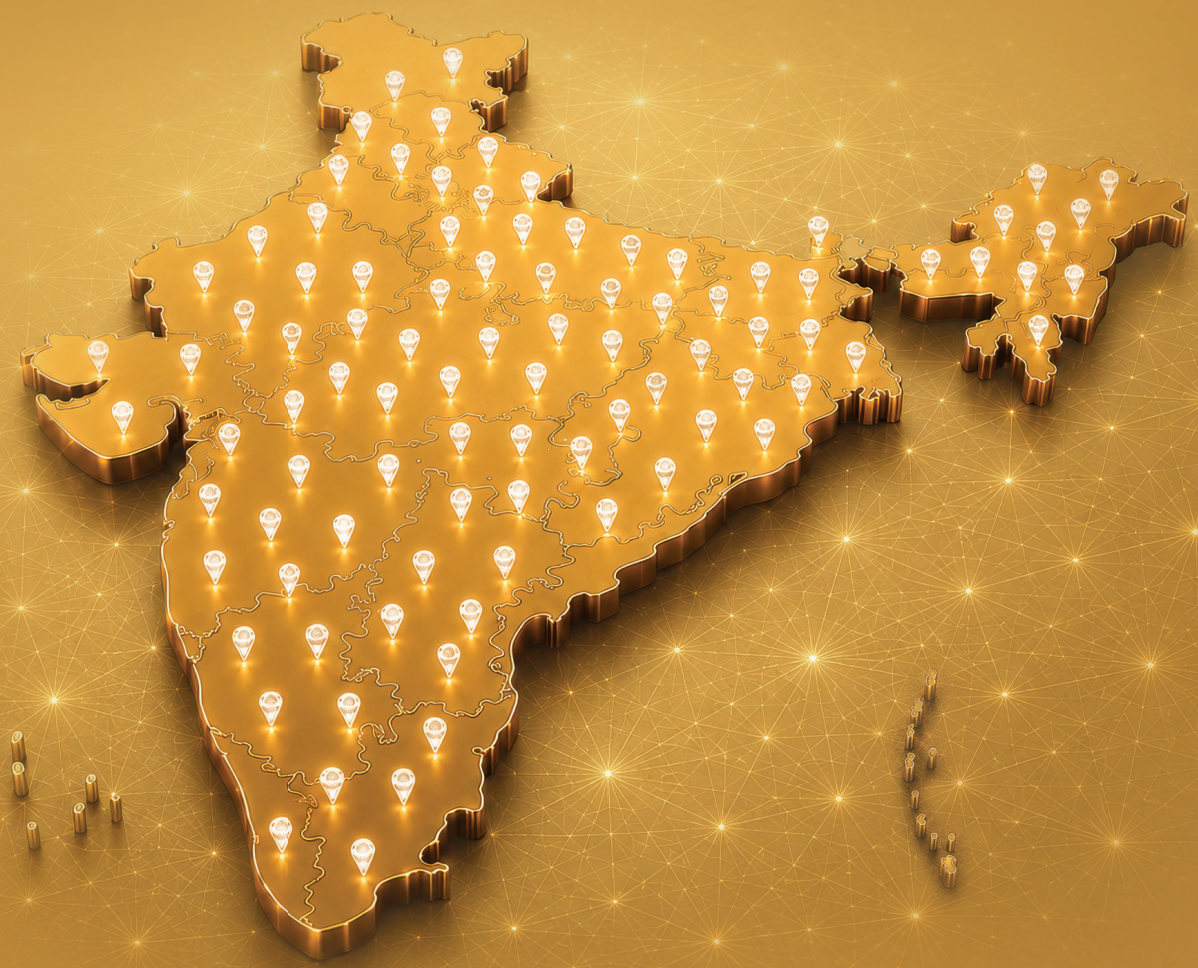

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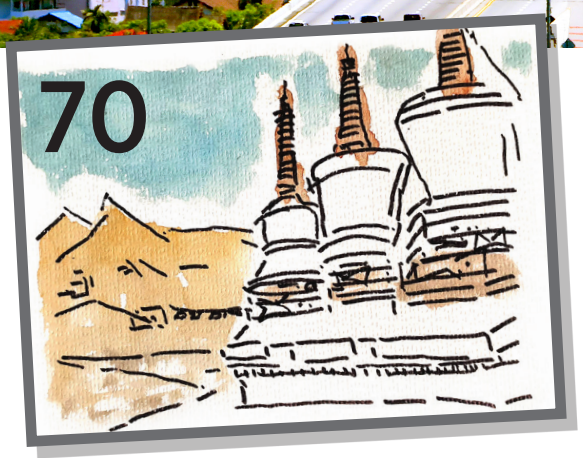


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MENGO

FROM IDEA TO MARKET-READY BRAND

The First 100 Days of Building with AI

"The first hundred days don't determine whether your business survives. They determine how your brand will be remembered."
Jainam Jain - Founder, Mengo



'Every successful business begins with an idea. Every great business begins with a plan.'

Every year, millions of businesses are born. Some start in boardrooms with detailed business plans, while others begin over a cup of coffee, in a notebook, or as a late-night conversation between friends.

The excitement is always the same. The ambition is always real.

Yet, within the first year, many of these businesses quietly disappear.

Contrary to popular belief, they don't fail because the idea wasn't good enough. They fail because transforming an idea into a market-ready brand is far more complex than most founders anticipate.

The first hundred days of a business shouldn't focus only on selling. These days must be about building the foundation that makes selling possible. Unfortunately, many entrepreneurs begin at the wrong end of the journey.

They ask questions like:

"When should I launch my website?"
"Should I advertise on Google or Meta?"
"How often should I post on social media?"

These are important decisions, but they are not the first ones. The journey should begin with far more fundamental questions.

Who are we building for?
What problem are we solving?
Why should customers trust us over our competitors?
What promise does our brand make?

Only when answers to these questions become clear can a business begin creating an identity that customers recognise and remember.

Once that identity is established, the next phase is creating a complete market presence by developing the brand language, visual identity, website, customer journey and communication systems, all of which should consistently reinforce the same message across every touchpoint.

Visibility alone, however, is never enough.

Customers today don't buy simply because they discover a brand. They buy because they understand it, trust it, and believe it can solve a real problem.

That is why the next stage focuses on building credibility through meaningful content, valuable conversations, and consistent engagement, all of which educate rather than merely promote.

Only after these foundations are in place should businesses begin accelerating demand through campaigns, lead generation, audience building and continuous optimisation.

Finally comes the stage that many businesses overlook: turning attention into lasting relationships. Structured follow-ups, personalised communication and continuous nurturing often become the difference between a curious visitor and a loyal customer.

For decades, navigating this journey required assembling teams of consultants, designers, marketers, developers and agencies.

It demanded significant investment, coordination and time – resources that many early-stage businesses simply could not afford. **Artificial intelligence is changing that equation.**

Rather than replacing entrepreneurs, AI is becoming an intelligent collaborator that accelerates research, simplifies execution, improves decision-making and helps founders move from concept to market with greater confidence and speed.

This philosophy inspired the creation of Mengo, an AI Co-Founder designed to support entrepreneurs throughout the critical early stages of building a business. By bringing strategy, branding, marketing execution, and customer nurturing into one intelligent ecosystem, Mengo allows founders to spend less time managing complexity and more time building value.
The businesses that define the next decade will not necessarily have the largest teams or the biggest budgets.

They will be the ones that build with greater clarity, execute with greater speed, and adapt with greater intelligence, because in today's world, success isn't determined only by how quickly you launch. It depends on how well the business is built.

MEET MENGO
YOUR AI CO-FOUNDER





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The design translates the rhythm of the sea into cascading terraces and sky gardens, balancing exclusivity with openness through a collection of private villas and mansions set alongside a vibrant communal realm.

A timeless narrative of identity and aspiration, this project defines a new paradigm of coastal living. Here, architecture moves with purpose, form follows emotion, and every detail reflects a life lived with intent. Conceived through the lens of Tonino Lamborghini's signature Italian design language, it is a daring landmark effortlessly poised against the luminous Al Marjan Island horizon.









AMENITIES

- *Sauna*
- *Yoga Nook*
- *Swimming Pool*
- *BBQ Area*
- *Gymnasium*

Clean architectural lines frame expansive, open-plan spaces, allowing light to move freely across textured surfaces and tailored finishes. Warm neutrals and subtle metallic accents create a fluid continuity with the coastal landscape, ensuring the space remains both contextually grounded and modern.

Every element, from calibrated proportions to tactile details, is deliberate. The result is a space where craftsmanship, comfort, and clarity co-exist in perfect harmony.

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Legacy of Purity, Heritage and Innovation

For over a century, **Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited (KSDL)** has stood as one of India's most iconic public sector enterprises, blending royal heritage with modern manufacturing excellence. Established in 1916 under the visionary leadership of Maharaja Nalwadi Krishna Raja Wadiyar IV, Sir M. Visvesvaraya and S G Shashtry, KSDL transformed India's abundant sandalwood resources into globally admired personal care products. The constant support from Honourable Minister Shri M.B. Patil - Minister for Large and Medium Industries and the guidance of Appaji C S Nadagouda - MLA & Chairman and Dr. Prashanth P.K.M, - Managing Director(KSDL) has led to the brand's immense growth and success.

The Great Beginning

The company's journey began with the establishment of the Government Sandalwood Oil Factory in Bengaluru, a strategic initiative to process the kingdom's rich sandalwood reserves domestically. This vision culminated in the launch of the legendary Mysore Sandal Soap in 1918, a product that remains synonymous with purity and luxury even today.

What sets KSDL apart is its unwavering commitment to authenticity. It is the world's only manufacturer of soaps made using 100% pure natural Indian Sandalwood Oil (Santalum album) distilled in its own facilities. This distinctive capability has enabled the company to build a trusted brand that has transcended generations while maintaining the timeless appeal of natural ingredients.

Today, KSDL has evolved into a diversified FMCG enterprise with a portfolio extending beyond its flagship soap to include premium skincare products, detergents, incense sticks and talcum powder.

Seal Of Excellence

The company's flagship brand enjoys Geographical Indication (GI) protection, ensuring that the heritage and authenticity of Mysore Sandal Soap remain safeguarded against imitation. This distinction reinforces KSDL's position as a custodian of one of India's most celebrated consumer brands. With a turnover of ₹2,016 crore in FY 2025-26, KSDL continues to strengthen its presence across domestic and international markets while pursuing an ambitious vision of achieving ₹5,000 crore in revenue by 2030. Investments in new manufacturing facilities, modern packaging, expanded distribution and sustainable sandalwood cultivation reflect the company's commitment to future-ready growth.

Beyond business performance, sustainability remains central to KSDL's philosophy. Through long-term partnerships with farmers across southern India, the company promotes responsible sandalwood cultivation, ensuring a sustainable supply of its most valuable natural resource while contributing to rural livelihoods and environmental conservation.

More than a century after its inception, KSDL continues to represent the perfect balance of heritage, innovation and trust. By preserving India's sandalwood legacy while embracing evolving consumer preferences, the company remains a benchmark for excellence in the global personal care industry.

In keeping with the current market trends, KSDL has significantly diversified its brand matrix by venturing into Detergent Matrices, Premium Incense and Cosmetic Powders & Washes segments. By positioning itself strictly as a natural, elite health and wellness lifestyle brand, the company commands an impressive 11% market share within India's premium soap category.



MILESTONES

1916 – Government Sandalwood Oil Factory established in Bengaluru.

1918 – Launch of the iconic Mysore Sandal Soap made with pure sandalwood oil.

1944 – Expansion through the Sandalwood Oil Distillation Plant at Shivamogga.

1980 – Formation of Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited (KSDL) through the amalgamation of the Government Soap Factory and Sandalwood Oil units.

2006 – Mysore Sandal Soap and Mysore Sandalwood Oil receive Geographical Indication (GI) Tag protection.

2025-26 – Achieves a landmark turnover of ₹2,016 crore and accelerates national and global expansion plans.

Compiled by Dewnisth Rai

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TOP 5 EVENTS IN AUGUST

1 Onam Festival



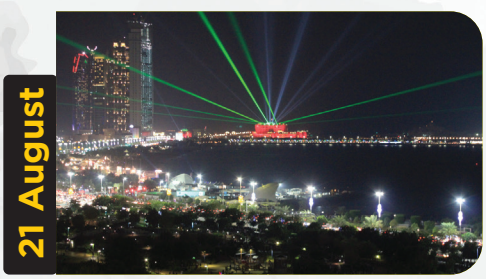
Kerala's biggest harvest festival welcomes the legendary King Mahabali through ten days of celebrations featuring intricate floral carpets (Pookalam), traditional boat races, Kathakali performances, Pulikali (Tiger Dance), temple festivities and the grand Onam Sadya served on banana leaves. The festival attracts domestic and international travellers eager to experience Kerala's rich cultural heritage.

2 Navroz - Parsi New Year

Celebrated by the Parsi community, Navroz marks the beginning of the new year with prayers at fire temples, festive feasts, charitable activities and family gatherings. Cities such as Mumbai, Surat and Navsari host vibrant community celebrations that highlight the rich traditions and culinary heritage of one of India's oldest communities.



3 Sonu Nigam Global Tour



Popular playback singer Sonu Nigam will launch his global tour with a major arena concert in **Abu Dhabi**. Expected to feature his timeless Bollywood classics alongside contemporary hits, the performance marks one of the region's biggest Indian music events and is likely to attract audiences from across the Middle East and South Asia.

4 Marcin Art of Guitar India Tour

Acclaimed Polish guitarist and one-man musical phenomenon Marcin makes his much-awaited India debut as part of Foreword's India Jazz Project. His Art of Guitar tour will feature original compositions, classical reinterpretations and inventive contemporary covers, offering audiences a unique live musical experience across four Indian cities. The show will be held in **Mumbai (7 Aug), Bengaluru (8Aug), Gurugram (9Aug) & Shillong (12Aug)**



5 World Elephant Day



Observed worldwide, **World Elephant Day raises awareness about elephant conservation** and ethical wildlife tourism. National parks, wildlife sanctuaries and conservation organisations, particularly across India, Sri Lanka and Thailand, organise educational programmes, guided safaris and conservation initiatives highlighting the importance of protecting Asian and African elephants.

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3. Baked with love
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~ Mrs Bector.
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THE WORLD, BEAUTIFULLY FRAMED.

This World Photography Day, we invited travel enthusiasts to capture the beauty of travel through their lens. The response was an inspiring collection of stories, perspectives and unforgettable moments.

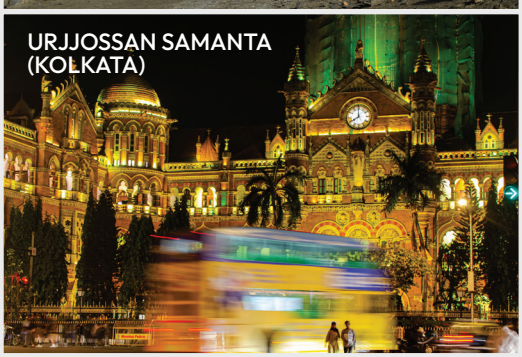
Explore the finest entries from our photography contest, each offering a unique way of seeing the world.

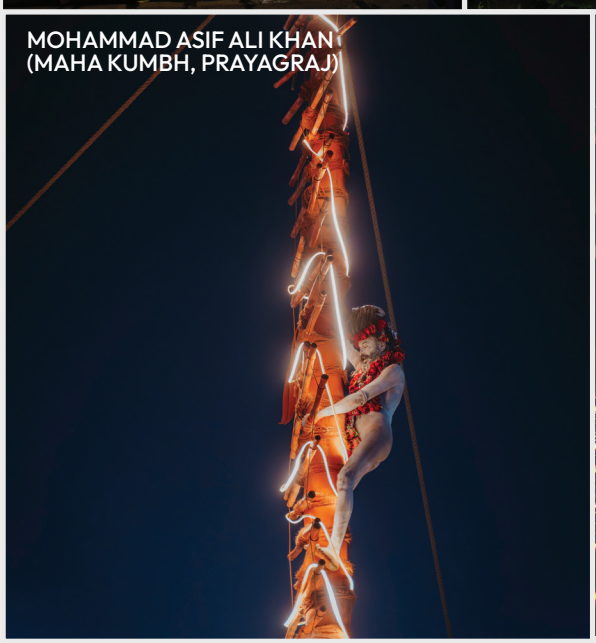


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(MAHA KUMBH, PRAYAGRAJ)


AYANAVA SIL
(GANGTOK)

THE WINNING FRAME.

Chosen from the finest entries of our World Photography Day Contest.



WHAT'S TRENDING

CELEBRATION OF SOUTHERN FLAVOURS



Nadoo continues to celebrate the culinary heritage of South India by presenting the distinct flavours of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Through a refined gastronomic lens, the menu gathers heirloom curries, traditions from royal kitchens, regional comfort food, and street-food favourites. Popular dishes include *Russel Market Raan*, *Chicken* and *Prawn Ghee Roast*, Green Chilli Chicken with Bao, *Malabar Biryani*, *Shivaji Nagar Military Donne Biryani*, and T*angy Brinjal Curry* with *Dibba Rot*i. The experience is complemented by a dedicated Kaapi Bar, created in collaboration with Bharat Singhal of Bili Hu Coffee, offering traditional and contemporary filter-coffee concoctions.

What: Nadoo

Where: Tower A, Global Gateway Towers, Unit 4, Sikanderpur, Sector 26, Gurugram



ELEVATED INDIAN STREET FOOD

Ala-Chaat reimagines the vibrant flavours of Indian street food through a refined dining experience that blends nostalgia with contemporary presentation. Founded by Naveen Sachdeva, Kratika Gupta and Saurabh Vijhani, the brand brings together regional chaat favourites, elevated ingredients and thoughtful craftsmanship to offer a fresh take on familiar classics. From reinvented *Papdi Chaats* and *Golgappas* to innovative flavour combinations inspired by Indian regional cuisines, every offering reflects a commitment to craftsmanship and creativity. With a varied menu including *Bun Kaladi Chaat*, *Thalipeeth*, *Bhuttey Ki Khees Tikki* and more, Ala-Chaat celebrates India's diverse street food culture while delivering an experience that balances tradition with modern sensibilities. The brand offers catering services, both within the country and also abroad.

What: Ala Chaat Luxury Dining Experience

Where: Cherish Ballrooms, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi

CARE FOR MELANIN-RICH SKIN

Asaya has introduced the Super Fade Regenerative Peel, a next-generation exfoliating treatment formulated specifically for melanin-rich skin. Powered by a 30% Triple-Acid Complex, MelaMe™ Complex, and Barrier-Calm Complex, the peel helps target clogged pores, excess sebum, uneven skin texture, and dark spots while supporting the skin barrier. The formulation combines AHA, BHA and PHA with ingredients including Niacinamide, Panthenol, Allantoin, Bisabolol, and Centella Asiatica, to exfoliate, soothe, and hydrate the skin. The dermatologically tested formula is fragrance-free, silicone-free, and sulphate-free.

What: Asaya Super Fade Regenerative Peel

Where: https://worldofasaya.com



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FRESHNESS, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

Antinorm introduces Shower in Seconds, a waterless body cleanser designed for life on the move. The product instantly removes sweat, odour, and stickiness, offering the feeling of a fresh shower without the need for water. Compact, lightweight, and leak-proof, it can easily be attached to a bag, making it suitable for travel, long flights, road trips, humid weather, and post-workout routines. Designed for convenience and everyday use, the cleanser provides a practical solution for staying fresh and comfortable wherever the day takes you.



What: Shower in Seconds Waterless Body Cleanser
Where: https://antinorm.co



SCULPTED BY NATURE

Meroh unveils Belong, a sculptural fine jewellery collection inspired by the natural geometry of leaves and the idea of connection. Translating organic rhythms into abstract forms, the collection features rings, necklaces, earrings, and bangles designed with movement and three-dimensional depth. Every piece combines architectural precision with lightweight comfort, while diamonds set in mixed pavé and polished gold surfaces highlight the sculptural designs without overpowering the gemstones. Rooted in the concept that everything in nature belongs somewhere, the collection reflects both craftsmanship and emotional storytelling through contemporary fine jewellery.



What: Belong Fine Jewellery Collection
Where: https://meroh.in



JOURNEY THROUGH DECADES OF ART

Chawla Art Gallery presents Continuum: A 30-Year Retrospective, a solo exhibition by **Asit Kumar Patnaik** featuring 45–50 works created between 1995 and the present. The exhibition showcases paintings, works on paper, sketches, drawings, watercolours, landscapes, abstract compositions, and graphic prints, including several works being exhibited for the first time. It traces Patnaik's artistic evolution through his experimentation with wood, fibreglass, paper collage, threads, and canvas, while highlighting the distinctive textural language and semi-realistic figurative style that define his practice.

When: 21–25 August 2026
Where: LTC Gallery, Bikaner House

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A culture of care is not built overnight. It is shaped through everyday actions — through empathy in leadership, respect in relationships, and a shared commitment to making healthcare more accessible and affordable for all. For us, care is not just a value; it is the foundation on which our purpose stands.

In an industry that touches lives so deeply, empathy becomes essential. It guides how we listen to customers, how we support our teams, and how we make decisions that impact communities. When people feel heard, valued, and supported, trust grows. And where trust grows, meaningful progress follows.

At DavaIndia, leadership is not only about driving results; it is about creating an environment where people feel inspired, included, and empowered. A strong culture encourages collaboration, nurtures accountability, and reminds every individual that their contribution matters. It transforms workplaces into communities and transactions into relationships.

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- Dr. Sujit Paul, Group CEO, Zota Healthcare Limited



Meaningful growth is not only about becoming bigger; it is about becoming better — better in service, better in responsibility, and better in the way we care for human lives. This is what gives growth its depth and purpose.

As DavaIndia continues its journey, we remain committed to building a culture where compassion and progress go hand in hand. Because when care becomes the heart of an organization, growth is no longer just a business outcome — it becomes a lasting impact.

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EXPANDING BEYOND BEVERAGES

Mogu Mogu is expanding its portfolio in India with the launch of Sugar-Free Candy and the upcoming introduction of Chewy Iced Tea. Marking the brand's entry into the snacking category, the sugar-free candy is enriched with Vitamin C and infused with sorbitol, offering flavours including Lychee, Peach, Mango and Strawberry. The Iced Tea combines fruit tea with the brand's signature nata de coco, delivering its distinctive "sip and chew" experience in Lemon and Peach variants. The launches build on Mogu Mogu's international success and reinforce India's position as one of its fastest-growing markets.

What: Mogu Mogu Sugar-Free Candy & Chewy Iced Tea

Where: Available nationwide

RAISE A TOAST TO FRIENDSHIP

BeeYoung Brewgarden celebrates Friendship Day with a special experience centred around great food, craft beer and shared moments. Guests can enjoy a 2+1 offer on beer pints while indulging in shareable dishes such as Tom Yum Pizza, Chicken Tikka and other favourites from the menu. The brewgarden also features its signature craft beers, including Amrus, Gulabo and Sukoon, creating the perfect setting for friends to reconnect over food, drinks and conversation in a lively atmosphere.

What: Friendship Day Celebration

Where: BeeYoung Brewgarden, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi





MORE THAN JUST MUSIC

The inaugural **realme Music Fest** brings together music, youth culture, and technology on one platform for an absorbing entertainment spectacle. Headlined by Haryanvi hip-hop sensation Dhanda Nyoliwala, the festival promises energetic live performances alongside interactive experience zones, immersive brand activations, and engaging fan experiences. Early Bird tickets start at ₹999, while regular tickets are available from ₹1,299 onwards.

When: 29 August 2026

Where: Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, Dwarka, New Delhi

JEWELLERY THAT CELEBRATES YOU

DAIMANTÉ introduces The Talisman Collection, inspired by the growing trend of self-gifting to celebrate personal milestones and achievements. The collection features symbolic laboratory-grown diamond pendants designed as meaningful reminders of new beginnings, resilience and everyday victories. Highlights include the Cle Amour pendant, inspired by the timeless key and representing new opportunities and confidence, and the Luna pendant, which draws inspiration from the moon to symbolise transformation, intuition and personal growth. Each design is available in White Gold, Yellow Gold and Rose Gold.

What: The Talisman Collection by DAIMANTÉ

Where: https://www.daimante.com



The UEM Group & IEM: Redefining Engineering and Management Studies in India

The University of Engineering & Management - Kolkata, University of Engineering & Management - Jaipur and the Institute of Engineering & Management - Kolkata together are revolutionising the landscape of India's engineering and management studies. With focus on innovation and research, the institutes offer multi-discipline programmes thereby contributing to building a skill-based workforce for the nation.



University of Engineering & Management (UEM), Jaipur

Established in 2012, the University has rapidly emerged as one of India's leading institutions of higher education. Recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC), approved by AICTE, accredited by NAAC, and certified under ISO standards, the university is also a distinguished member of prestigious national and international organisations, including the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), the Association of Commonwealth Universities (United Kingdom), the International Association of Universities (France), and the International Accreditation Organization (IAO).

Through strategic collaborations with globally renowned organisations and the India Blockchain Alliance, the university equips students with expertise in emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Cybersecurity, Cloud Computing, Blockchain, and the Internet of Things (IoT). These collaborations, together with international academic partnerships, provide students with global learning opportunities and industry-relevant competencies.

UEM Jaipur has established an impressive record of placement excellence, consistently achieving 100% placement while maintaining strong industry engagement through collaborations with more than 550 leading national and multinational organisations. With over 580 patents published, UEM Jaipur actively promotes scientific research, technological innovation, and entrepreneurship.

University of Engineering & Management (UEM), Kolkata



Committed to delivering outcome-based education, the University of Engineering & Management - Kolkata is a UGC-recognised university with approvals from AICTE and BCI. The University offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes across Engineering, Management, Law, Science, Hotel Management, and allied disciplines.

UEM Kolkata has earned widespread recognition through several prestigious honours, including the Most Trusted Leader in Engineering and Management Education Award, Education Excellence Award besides many others reflecting its sustained commitment to institutional excellence.

The University has established strategic academic partnerships with leading international universities and industries through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), promoting collaborative research, academic exchange, international training, expert lectures, and joint conferences.

Institute of Engineering & Management (UEM), Kolkata

With a distinguished legacy of 36 years, the Institute has consistently set benchmarks in quality education, research, innovation, and industry engagement. Accredited with an 'A' Grade by NAAC, with multiple programmes accredited by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), IEM has earned national recognition for maintaining the highest standards of academic quality, institutional excellence, and professional education.

The Institute continues to distinguish itself through significant achievements in research, innovation, and technological excellence. While students secured 1st and 2nd positions at the recent India AI Impact Summit 2026, team Cosmos emerged victorious in the ISRO Robotics Challenge 2025.
A defining strength of IEM is its outstanding placement record, supported by a dedicated Corporate Relations and Placement Cell and strong collaborations with leading multinational corporations, research organisations, and technology enterprises. Graduates have consistently secured placements with globally reputed organisations, including Amazon, Google, Meta, Microsoft and several other Fortune 500 companies, reflecting the confidence of industry in the academic excellence and professional competence of IEM graduates.



SpiceJet Inducts Three Airbus A320 Aircraft on Damp Lease

New aircraft to support network expansion and meet rising passenger demand

SpiceJet has inducted three Airbus A320 aircraft into its fleet under damp lease arrangements, further strengthening its operational capacity. All three aircraft have arrived in India and will commence commercial operations later this week.

The additional aircraft will support the airline's network expansion plans and enable it to enhance connectivity across key domestic routes.

The aircraft have been inducted on a damp lease basis, providing greater operational flexibility while delivering significant cost efficiencies.

SpiceJet is also in advanced discussions with other lessors to induct additional aircraft in the coming months as part of its planned fleet augmentation programme.

Debojo Maharshi, Chief Business Officer, SpiceJet, said, "The induction of these three aircraft is part of our planned capacity expansion. As demand continues to grow, these aircraft will help us add more flights on existing routes, improve connectivity and support the launch of new services. We are steadily building capacity ahead of the busy travel season and remain focused on offering our passengers a wider choice of destinations and a reliable travel experience."



SAPTHAGIRI NPS UNIVERSITY
UNMATCHED EXCELLENCE,UNLIMITED POTENTIAL

Sapthagiri NPS University: Advancing Excellence Through Academic Rigor, Innovation, and Global Partnerships

Legacy of Excellence

Since its inception in 2001, Sapthagiri NPS University has cultivated a rich legacy of academic brilliance and innovation. The institution has grown from a trusted engineering college into a full-fledged university offering diverse disciplines Engineering, Applied Sciences, Management Studies, and Medicine. With a relentless pursuit of excellence, Sapthagiri NPS University imparts a transformative influence on thousands of young minds through innovative learning experiences in sync withindustry demands and employability potential.

Recognised as one of the most trusted educational institutes in India, Sapthagiri NPS University holds the prestigious ISO 9001:2015 certification for Quality Management Systems. SNPSU, Bengaluru has been prominently featured in the National Rankings released by Business World and Outlook-ICARE, and was honoured with the Excellence Award 2026 by the Cisco Networking Academy at the Indian Leadership Summit 2026.

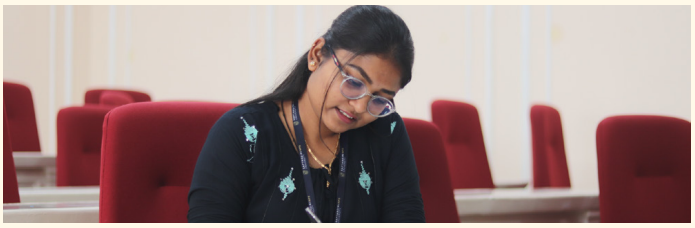


Programs That Shape Careers

The School of Engineering offers B.E. programmes in Computer Science & Engineering, CSE (AI & ML), CSE (AI & Data Science), CSE (Data Science), Electronics & Communication Engineering, and Electrical & Electronics Engineering, alongside M.Tech specialisations. The School of Applied Sciences offers BCA and MCA with emerging tracks in Data Science, AI & ML, Cloud Computing, and Cyber Security. The School of Management Studies provides BBA, B.Com, and MBA programmes with specializations in Marketing Management, Business Analytics, Financial Management, Human Resource Management and more

Industry Collaborations & Global Exposure

Sapthagiri NPS University has forged powerful collaborations with global technology leaders- IBM and Cisco, equipping students with industry-recognised certifications in AI, hands-on training, and exposure to cutting-edge technologies. The university also fosters academic collaborations with Top Leading Foreign Universities, offering students a multicultural learning experience, joint research initiatives, and access to global best practices



Placement Excellence

With a robust placement track record, the university boasts an impressive number of placements with a strong network of recruiting companies. The average package stands at ₹4.5 LPA, while the highest package has touched ₹42 LPA, with the highest internship stipend reaching ₹90K per month. An alumni network of over 1 lakh + graduates stands as a testament to the institution's enduring impact

Beyond the Classroom, Into the Cosmos

True to its commitment to experiential learning, Sapthagiri NPS University recently organised an inspiring two-day industrial visit to the U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC)- one of ISRO's premier satellite technology hubs. Students from the Electrical & Electronics Engineering and Electronics & Communication Engineering departments stepped beyond textbooks and into the heart of India's space programme.

At URSC, students gained firsthand insights into satellite design, development, and testing processes. Experts walked them through communication modules, power systems, and payload integration, while showcasing India's remarkable accomplishments in space missions from indigenous satellite technology to landmark interplanetary explorations. The visit illuminated the journey from concept to launch, and the extraordinary precision required at every step.

Innovation-Driven Campus Life

Life at Sapthagiri NPS University is not just about academics. Students engage in vibrant cultural fests, technical symposiums, sports, clubs, and innovation challenges.The state-of-the-art infrastructure includes advanced research labs, smart classrooms, digital libraries, and technology-supported learning through e-portfolios and podcasts.The faculty- active researchers in AI and emerging fields- serve as mentors, guiding students on their professional journey

Scholarships & Inclusivity

The university offers scholarship benefits for meritorious students and those from diverse backgrounds, making quality education accessible and inclusive

At Sapthagiri NPS University, education is not just about degrees- it is about shaping competent, inspired, and responsible professionals ready to lead the future

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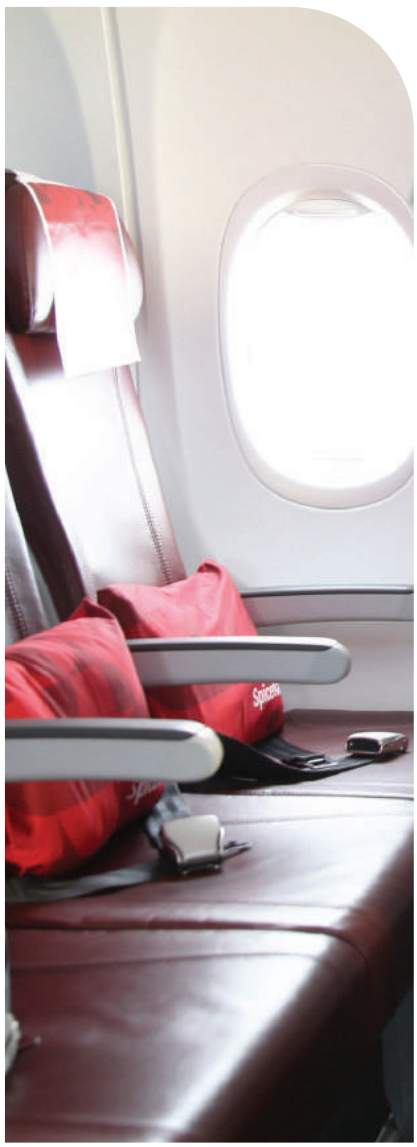
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Vimal Jhajharia and Vikas Jhajharia (MBA from Australia) have delivered many lectures, conducted workshops, seminars and have widely travelled and provided consultancy on major projects already in operation without any changes or modifications. They are currently providing consultancy in the USA, UK, Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, South Africa, UAE, and South America, among others.

Both of them have been felicitated several times for their outstanding knowledge on Vastu & have also won several awards of national and international repute.



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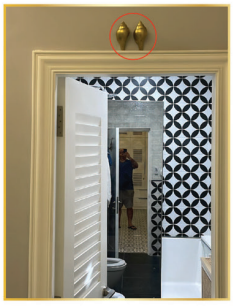
What exactly is your famous Vastu Shankha Yantra and how cost effective is it?

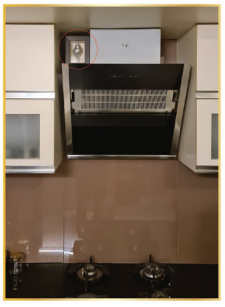
Based on the principles of Vastu, the Vastu Shankha Yantra is an original conch shell used to potentially rectify any kind of land, Vastu or energy defects without making any modifications. It can potentially save a lot of time & money as it is used to create positive energy in places having major Vastu defects without changing the looks and beauty of the place.

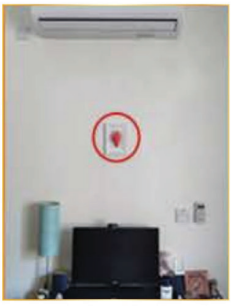


Vimal Jhajharia along with his son Vikas Jhajharia

Vastu is protection against unforeseen circumstances. It is used to increase personal energy in health, wealth and relationships of a person







Does the Vastu Shankha Yantra really work for prosperity in factories and industries?

Yes, we have a big list of successful clients including businessmen, entrepreneurs, doctors, scientists, professionals, architects, interior designers, etc giving testimonials on our website.

Endorsing the Vastu Shanka Yantra is industrialist Sushil from New Delhi. He says, "My son and I are running a factory but were not getting the desired results. We came to know about Vimalji and Vikasji through one of their articles in inflight magazines. Upon showing them the factory, we immediately realised our north was blocked and all the heavy machinery was placed along the north wall. We then got the Vastu Shankha yantras placed at certain places on Jhajharia ji's recommendation. Now, every new factory of ours is made under their able guidance and we also recomend them to all our friends and relatives"

Can Vastu Shankha Yantra also help in selling a property?

Yes, we do a lot of Vastu correction for builders and developers and also individuals whose properties have been stuck for a long time and which are not getting sold because of some or the other Vastu defect. Vouching for success is Satish from Bangalore who was trying to sell his four acres property for two years. When we saw the property, we saw it had multiple corners & it was not a proper rectangle or a square. We then positively charged this property by placing our Vastu Shankha Yantras in various corners to help correct the magnetic field of the property and hence creating positive energy in the atmosphere.

DID YOU KNOW?



- Mr. Vikas Jhajharia, is a 3rd Generation Vastu Expert
- Mr. Vikas Jhajharia is an MBA from Australia
- Vastukalp has been doing Vastu corrections since 40+ years
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GOING IMMERSIVE IN BANGKOK

PAMELA MUKHERJEE

Bangkok reveals itself slowly, and the best way to experience it is by lingering – over breakfast in an old café, a leisurely lunch of bold Thai flavours, sunset high above the skyline, and dinner beside the river.

1 QUIET START AT WAT ARUN

Before Bangkok slips into full speed, head to Wat Arun. Known as the Temple of Dawn, its towering peaks glow beautifully in the soft morning light, their delicate porcelain details catching every golden ray. Saffron-robed monks move quietly through the temple grounds while across the Chao Phraya, boats begin ferrying commuters. Walk towards the riverside nearby and stop at one of the local cafés for a traditional Thai breakfast. Order Jok, a comforting rice porridge served with minced meat and a perfectly soft-boiled egg, or keep it simple with buttery toast and strong Thai coffee at the iconic On Lok Yun, one of Bangkok's oldest breakfast institutions. Don't leave without trying the freshly grilled Moo Ping (marinated pork skewers), paired with Thai iced coffee

Next stop: 10 minutes by ferry

2 EVERYDAY BANGKOK

A short ferry ride leads to Pak Khlong Talat, Bangkok's famous flower market. Even if flowers aren't your thing, it's impossible not to pause here. Buckets overflowing with orchids, jasmine garlands being





threaded by hand, and vendors expertly arranging lotus blooms for nearby temples. This isn't staged for visitors – it's simply another ordinary morning in Bangkok. From here, wander through the surrounding lanes where tiny shrines, hidden coffee shops and old shophouses quietly tell stories of the city's past.

Next stop: 10 minutes by tuk-tuk

3 INSIDE THAILAND'S ROYAL HEART

No visit to Bangkok feels complete without stepping inside the Grand Palace. Its intricate architecture demands attention: golden rooftops shimmer under the sun, mirrored mosaics sparkle with every movement, and beautifully painted corridors narrate stories from Thai mythology. Within the palace complex lies the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, Thailand's most sacred Buddhist shrine. Visitors naturally lower their tone of voice here, and somehow even the busiest tour groups seem to move a little slower.

Next stop: A leisurely walk

4 WAT PHO: A MOMENT OF STILLNESS

Just around the corner, Wat Pho presents a completely different mood. Home to the magnificent Reclining Buddha (stretching over 46 metres), the temple encourages you to stroll rather than hurry. Listen to the gentle clink of coins dropped into bronze bowls, admire the colourful stupas, and spend a little time beneath the shade of ancient Bodhi trees.




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traffic below becomes little more than streams of tiny lamps. And as sunset fades into dusk, thousands of lights slowly illuminate the skyline.

5 LAID-BACK LUNCH

Make yourself comfortable at Err Urban Rustic Thai. Order a few dishes, for Thai meals are meant to be shared. Start with Som Tam (green papaya salad), followed by fragrant Pad Krapow and creamy Green Curry – or Thailand's iconic Pad Thai. Finish with sweet Mango Sticky Rice (if it's in season).

Next stop: Around 20 minutes by MRT or taxi

6 SHOPPING & STREET VIBES

As the afternoon unfolds, Bangkok turns up the energy. If it's a weekend, spend a few hours wandering through Chatuchak Market, where every turn reveals something unexpected – handmade ceramics, vintage treasures, quirky home décor, handcrafted soaps, silk scarves, and endless street-food stalls. On weekdays, Talad Noi offers a completely different experience: narrow lanes decorated with street art lead to hidden cafés, restored warehouses, and family-run workshops that have existed for generations.

Next stop: 25 minutes by Skytrain

7 SUNDOWN FROM UP HIGH

As daylight softens, make your way to King Power Mahanakhon SkyWalk. Here, you'll find that watching Bangkok from above changes your perspective entirely. The river winds through the city like a ribbon, temples gleam between skyscrapers, and the



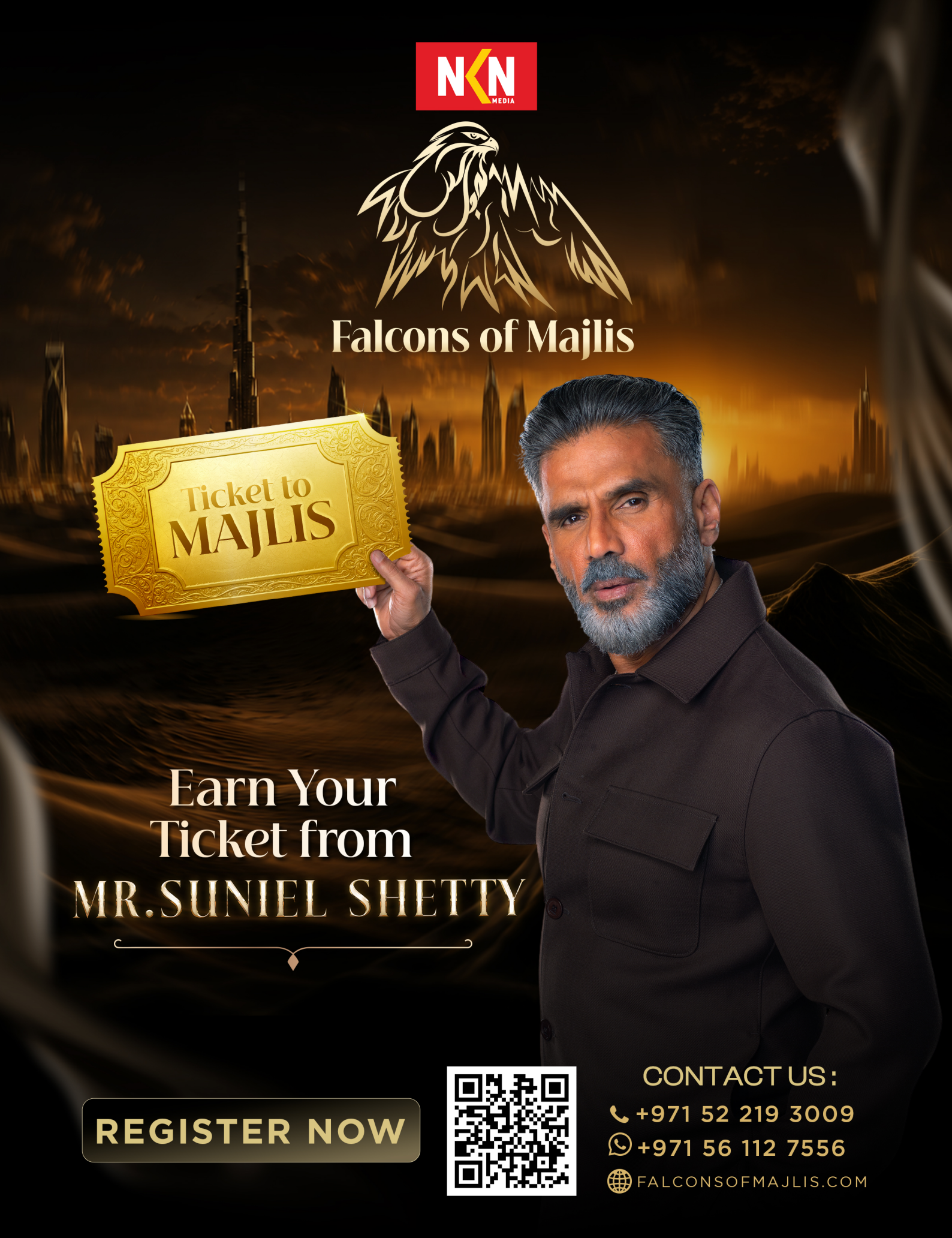
8 DINNER ON THE RIVERFRONT

End the day where Bangkok is at its magical best – the Chao Phraya river. Boats drift past, live musicians perform softly in the background, and the city's bustle settles into something wonderfully unhurried. Any one of the elegant restaurants overlooking the water provide a beautiful setting for dinner. Don't miss Tom Yum Goong, rich Massaman Curry, grilled river prawns, or freshly steamed sea bass with lime and chilli. Pair it with a chilled Thai beer or a refreshing lemongrass drink. Still have room? Look for a street vendor selling warm Banana Roti drizzled generously with condensed milk – arguably one of Bangkok's simplest and most satisfying desserts ●



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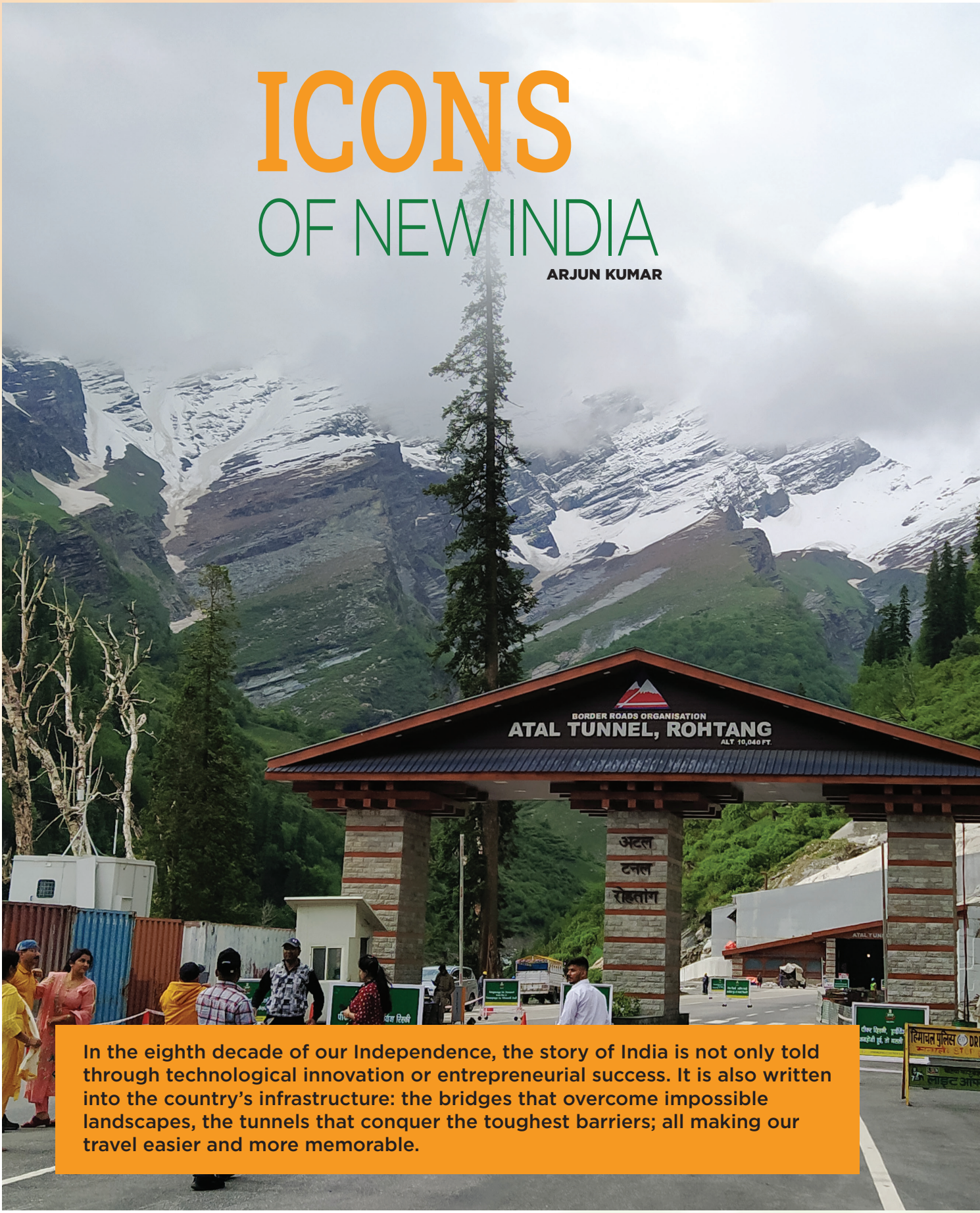
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ICONS OF NEW INDIA

ARJUN KUMAR



In the eighth decade of our Independence, the story of India is not only told through technological innovation or entrepreneurial success. It is also written into the country's infrastructure: the bridges that overcome impossible landscapes, the tunnels that conquer the toughest barriers; all making our travel easier and more memorable.



The new university campus in Nalanda is not a monument to a glorious past, but one to a great future. The Rani Ratnavati School in Jaisalmer's Salkha is not merely a striking design that withstands 50c temperature in the Thar; it is also an empowerment opportunity for girl students. The Bhupen Hazarika Setu over the mighty Brahmaputra, forming a critical link between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, reflects the dreams of a nation determined to build boldly, think long-term, and ensure that progress goes beyond statistics and impacts the everyday lives of its people.

Here are a few outstanding examples of India's new landmarks, and the imagination that went into the conception of each.

ATAL TUNNEL

Impossible Made Possible

There is something exhilarating about driving through the Atal Tunnel. The road disappears into the mountains near Manali and minutes later, emerges into the dramatic topography of Lahaul – a journey that is as much about engineering as it is about the sheer pleasure of discovery.

Stretching 9.02 kilometres beneath the Pir Panjal range, this passageway is the world's single longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet. Its construction presented formidable challenges: extreme weather,

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heavy snowfall, difficult geology, and the constant threat of avalanches. The result, after years of perseverance and engineering ingenuity, is a feat that has transformed connectivity across the once-isolated region, while helping strengthen livelihoods and boost tourism.

The tunnel has reduced the distance between Manali and Keylong by around 46 kilometres, and cut travel time by several hours. More importantly, it has delivered significantly improved all-weather access to Lahaul and Spiti. Yet numbers tell only part of the story.

For the traveller, the Atal Tunnel has opened up an extraordinary driving experience – the transition from the green slopes of Manali to the stark but magnificent landscapes beyond the Pir Panjal is unforgettable. And besides promising a road trip through some of India's most spectacular terrain, it also acts as a tribute to India's ability to conquer seemingly insurmountable challenges.







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CHENAB RAIL BRIDGE

Railroad in the Sky

No journey demonstrates the ambition of modern India as much as the sight of a train crossing the Chenab Rail Bridge. Rising 359 metres above the riverbed, this steel marvel stands taller than the Eiffel Tower and is recognised as the world's highest railway arch bridge.

Building a bridge in the rugged Himalayas was quite an exceptional feat of engineering. It had to withstand

Top & Above
The bridge offers the most spectacular mountain views

The Chenab Rail Bridge: The highest railway bridge in the world stands tall at 359 meters.



extreme climatic conditions, strong winds, and seismic activity, while construction teams stuck it out in one of the country's most challenging terrains. The result is a remarkable work of infrastructure spanning the Chenab gorge – an achievement that combines technological prowess, precision engineering, and years of grit and determination.

For passengers, it presents an unforgettable journey, suspended high above a dramatic river valley, surrounded by the scenic mountain geography of Jammu and Kashmir. Beyond the experience, and the impressive engineering benchmarks, the bridge forms part of a project connecting the valley with the national rail network, making it of immense economic and strategic significance.

Above all, the Chenab Rail Bridge is a powerful symbol of connection, and a means to expand trade, tourism and mobility, while enhancing access to the sensitive region. By overcoming one of India's greatest land barriers, it brings Kashmir closer to the rest of the country – not merely through steel and rail, but through opportunity, accessibility, and shared hopes.

RANI KAMLAPATI RAILWAY STATION

Gateway to Modern India

With millions of Indians travelling by train daily, railway stations are by far the land's most visible transport touchpoints. And in the heart of the country, Bhopal's Rani Kamlapati Railway Station offers a glimpse of what these spaces can become in a rapidly transforming India.

Redeveloped as a top-class transportation hub, the station represents a new vision for Indian Railways, one that combines efficiency, comfort, technology, and contemporary design. Inspired by the lofty standards of modern airports, it boasts spacious concourses, upgraded passenger amenities, better crowd management, and streamlined movement through the premises.

To meet the aspirations of a rising India that demands more and better, the makeover of Kamlapati demanded a fundamental reimagining of the concept of the railway station, creating facalities capable of serving large passenger volumes alongside providing a modern experience.

Named after the Gond queen remembered for her courage and legacy, the station also links forward-looking infrastructure with the history and identity of Madhya Pradesh. Its importance lies in what it represents. As India modernises one of the world's largest railway networks, Rani Kamlapati Railway Station demonstrates that world-class public facilities need not be confined to airports or global capitals. It can become part of everyday Indian life – accessible, efficient, and built for a nation moving confidently towards the future ●

Right & Below
India's first state-of-art railway station with airport-like facilities

The swanky facade of Rani Kamlapati Railway Station



Saubik Acharyya



Saubik Acharyya







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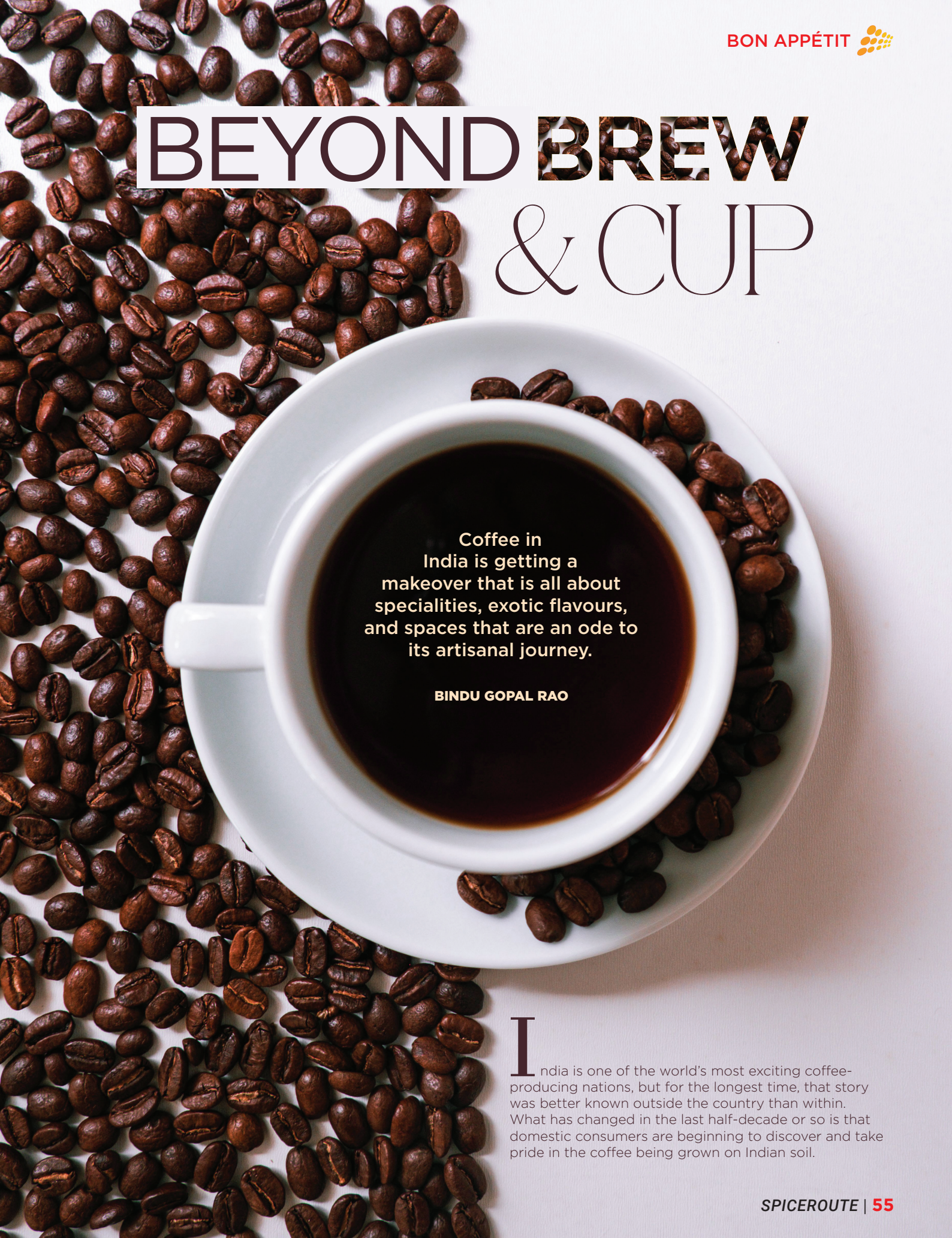








BEYOND BREW & CUP



Coffee in India is getting a makeover that is all about specialities, exotic flavours, and spaces that are an ode to its artisanal journey.

BINDU GOPAL RAO

India is one of the world's most exciting coffee-producing nations, but for the longest time, that story was better known outside the country than within. What has changed in the last half-decade or so is that domestic consumers are beginning to discover and take pride in the coffee being grown on Indian soil.

FROM ESTATE TO ESPRESSO

Until a few years ago, many thought of premium coffee as originating primarily outside of India. Now, there is growing curiosity about coffees from Kodagu, Chikmagalur, Baba Budangiri, Wayanad, and the Nilgiris, among other coffee-growing regions. Ryana Kuruvilla, Head of People and Culture, Kelachandra Coffee, Chikmagalur, explains: "Consumers around the world are beginning to understand that Indian coffee is not a mere commodity but, rather, a craft that is influenced by the terroir, shade conditions, soil, rainfall, permaculture practices, and distinctive and innovative processing techniques.

"Much of Indian coffee, especially in the Western Ghats, is cultivated under the natural shade of native trees that have been around for years. These trees and other crops also create ecological value and strengthen the flavour possibilities in every cup."



"As a result, speciality coffee has moved well beyond a niche audience. In Coorg, this shift is especially meaningful because coffee is woven into the region's identity."



Of late, customers are showing increasing interest in knowing where their coffee is grown, who cultivated it, how the cherries were harvested, and what happened between the farm and the final cup. "We have had Indian consumers specifically enquiring for Yelnoorkhan and Kuttinkhan varieties. It is this commitment to storytelling and transparency that has helped us achieve that connection," Kuruvilla adds.

THE PERFECT POUR

Speciality coffee is having its moment, with espresso bars and manual brews making their way into Indian cafés. But what is emerging alongside is something distinctly Indian. "Filter Kaapi, which has been part of South Indian culture for generations, is being reimagined and celebrated in new ways. At our café in Bengaluru, the first-of-its-kind Filter Kaapi bar is a homage to that tradition," reveals Yahvi Mariwala, co-founder, Nandan Coffee.

"Our classic Nandan Filter Kaapi is a bestseller, but we have added a contemporary layer to the offering, with creations including Peanut Chikki Filter Kaapi, a Spiced Orange Vanilla Filter Kaapi, and a Honey Cardamom Filter Kaapi. These are not novelty drinks; they are a celebration of a brewing tradition we have deep respect

for. These expressions are inspired by the flavours of the region where their coffee is grown."

Today, the overall experience has become as important as the beverage itself. Says Ashish D'abreo, Q Grader and co-founder of Maverick & Farmer Coffee, Bengaluru, "There is a lot of focus on the design of the presentation itself, and how each thing can be visually so distinct and strong. So, there's a higher recall, of course, but the first consumption of a beverage is with one's eyes."

While technically, speciality coffee is coffee that has been scored 80-plus by a Q Grader, most quality coffees in India are called 'speciality coffees' irrespective of whether they've been scored or not. "Coffee is where some art or mind or science has been applied to it, to make it taste much better than ordinary coffee, much better than commodity coffee," adds D'abreo.

COFFEE, EXPERIENCED

Luxury today, then, is increasingly defined by authenticity, and speciality coffee reflects that evolution. In the last five years, consumers have become far more informed, seeking details on origin, traceability, craftsmanship, and the distinct character that geography and climate impart to every bean. "As a result, speciality coffee has moved well beyond a niche audience. In Coorg, this shift is especially meaningful because coffee is woven into the region's identity," informs Rajesh Namby, General Manager, The Leela Coorg Forest Sanctuary. "Our role is to help guests experience not just an exceptional cup but also a genuine connection with the land, its people, and a tradition that continues to thrive."









Accessibility will certainly increase, making speciality coffee easier to embrace without making it feel exclusive. Home brewing will continue to grow as more consumers seek a deeper understanding of coffee beyond what they order at a café. "Producers will keep experimenting with processing techniques, creating exciting new flavour profiles while showcasing the incredible diversity of Indian coffee. Perhaps the biggest shift, however, will be in how cafés position themselves," believes Abhinav Mathur, MD, Something's Brewing & Kaapi Machines.

Increasingly, they're becoming spaces for learning, community, and hospitality rather than simply places to grab a beverage. Coffee is becoming the starting point for conversations, creativity and experiences, and that's where the future of speciality coffee truly lies ●

A LIFE SHAPED BY ART

From art collector and patron to becoming one of India's most recognised cultural personalities, Shalini Passi has worn many hats while successfully balancing entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and motherhood. Passi, whose recent appearance at the Cannes Film Festival attracted global attention, opens up on a life enriched by art.

PALLAVI SINGH



What first sparked your love for art, design, and aesthetics?

Art came into my life before collecting did. It began with curiosity – noticing colour, form, architecture, textiles, and the beauty hidden in everyday life. Eventually I started painting myself, and that changed everything. Once you experience the vulnerability of creating something, you never look at art the same way again. Collecting, for me, became less about acquiring objects and more about preserving something intangible – a feeling, a memory, a moment in time. I've always believed aesthetics aren't confined to galleries; they're a way of living.

Growing up, who or what shaped your creative sensibilities? Was there a defining moment that made you realise art would become such an integral part of your life?

I draw inspiration from everywhere – travel, nature, literature, and the people I meet along the way. My family encouraged curiosity rather than conformity, and that gave me the freedom to develop my own point of view. The defining moment came when I realised art wasn't just something I admired; it was something that changed how I saw the world. From then on, it became essential to who I am.

What inspired you to establish MASH, and how has its vision evolved over the years?

MASH India was born from a simple belief: that creativity deserves visibility. India has extraordinary talent, but artists and designers often lack platforms that help them reach a wider audience. Over the years, MASH has grown into something larger – a cultural ecosystem spanning art, design, fashion, and craftsmanship, anchored by conversation. The mission hasn't changed: to open doors, spark dialogue, and connect creators with the people who need to see their work.

How do you see the role of patrons today in shaping India's creative ecosystem?

A patron's responsibility extends far beyond purchasing art. It means commissioning new work, supporting institutions, mentoring young talent, and encouraging artists to take risks. Patronage is about investing in culture, not just collecting objects. When artists feel supported, entire creative ecosystems flourish.

What did the experience at Cannes mean to you personally, and how important is it to showcase Indian craftsmanship on international platforms?

Cannes wasn't just a fashion moment for me – it was a chance to celebrate Indian craftsmanship on a global stage. Every embroidery technique, every textile, every artisan's hand carries generations of knowledge. I wanted the conversation to move beyond what I was wearing towards the creativity India has to offer the world. We have one of the richest artistic traditions on earth, and it deserves to be seen.

'Fabulous Lives vs. Bollywood Wives' introduced millions to a different side of your personality. Was it difficult allowing cameras into your personal world, and what surprised you most about the audience's response?

Allowing cameras into your life takes vulnerability, but authenticity has always mattered more to me than perfection. What surprised me most was how deeply people connected with my individuality, that I wasn't trying to fit into a mould. It was a good reminder that people respond to the real thing, not the performance of it.

What principles have helped you stay authentic while navigating such diverse roles?

I try to stay disciplined, curious, and true to my own values – I don't chase trends or approval. What matters to me is meaningful work and treating people with kindness. Real authenticity comes from consistency: being the same person no matter the platform or the audience.

Allowing cameras into your life takes vulnerability, but authenticity has always mattered more to me than perfection





What excites you most about the future of Indian art, and what advice would you give to young creatives hoping to make a lasting impact?

I'm excited by the confidence of this new generation, rooted in Indian heritage yet fully at ease in global conversations. My advice is simple: create with honesty, stay curious, and don't be afraid to find your own voice. Trends fade; originality endures.

Is there a destination that has had a lasting influence on your appreciation of art, design, or fashion?

Japan has had a lasting influence on me. There's a real respect for craftsmanship there, an attention to detail, and a philosophy of simplicity that runs through everything – architecture, fashion, gardens, and ceramics. It's a quiet kind of elegance, the sort that stays with you long after you've come home.

Do you enjoy meticulously planning every detail of a trip, or do you leave room for spontaneous discoveries?

I do like to plan, especially when it comes to museums, galleries, and cultural experiences – it helps me make the most of every destination. But I always leave room for the unexpected. Some of my most memorable moments have come from wandering into a small gallery, meeting a local artisan, or simply getting lost in a beautiful neighbourhood.

If you could recommend one destination every art and design enthusiast should experience at least once, which would it be and why?

Japan, without question. It offers a rare balance of tradition and innovation, from centuries-old craft practices to contemporary architecture and design. Every detail reflects real thoughtfulness. It's a place that teaches you to notice excellence in the smallest things ●



Rapid Fire

One artist whose work you could admire forever?

Mrinalini Mukherjee

One handbag in your collection you'll never part with?

Petit Point bag from Austria

A city that never fails to inspire your creativity?

Tokyo

If your life were an artwork, what would its title be?

The Art of Being Fabulous

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Art gallery, fashion runway, or flea market – where can we find you?

An art gallery – because that's where curiosity always leads me



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Screens, regardless of size, are among the most common features of almost all modern gadgets. However, more screens translate to increased distraction. Be it your smartwatch, power banks, smart glasses, or others, no-screen tech is slowly making its way back to help reduce the distraction and let you enjoy the view. Here's the best screenless gear worth packing on your next trip.



1. CHAMELO MUSIC SHIELD GEN 2

PRICE: $299

The Chamelo Music Shield Gen 2 is a pair of performance sunglasses that not only lets you enjoy your favourite music on the go but also features a unique tint-control mechanism. Its Eclipse™ tint control helps you adapt to changing light — from bright tarmac to dim airport corridors — without taking your eyes off the road or your surroundings.

A quick slide on the temple of the Music Shield Gen 2 is enough to move through four tint levels, reducing visible light transmission from roughly 63% to 17%; the higher the number, the lighter the lens. All the while, you can continue to enjoy music or podcasts, or take calls wirelessly, thanks to open-ear speakers that project sound towards your ears.

2. GOOGLE FITBIT AIR

PRICE: $99.99

Google's latest fitness wearable, the Fitbit Air, is an unobtrusive fitness tracker that silently logs your steps as you move through the boarding gate, baggage claim, and beyond. Unlike regular fitness trackers, the Fitbit Air doesn't send you alerts, nor does it have a screen to distract you.

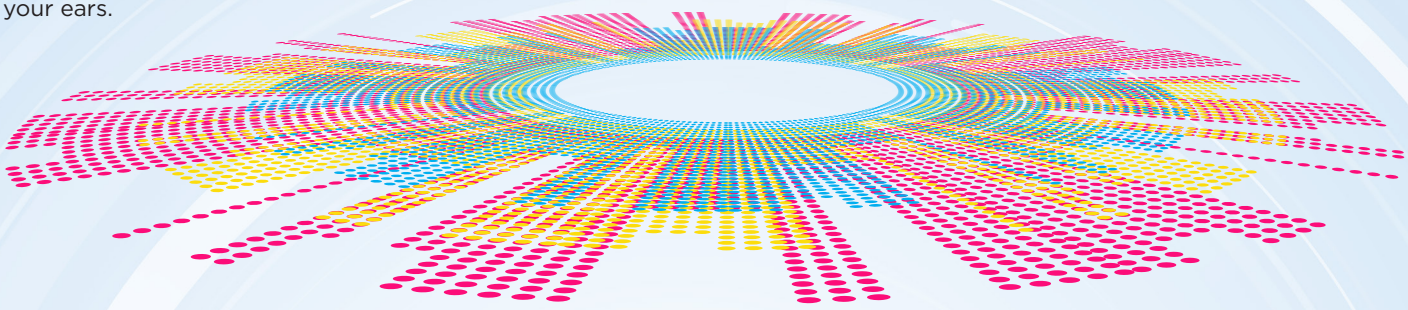
It can monitor continuous heart rate, resting heart rate, heart rate variability, SpO2, sleep duration and stages, and heart rhythm. Moreover, it has a 7-day battery life - enough to last for a short trip.

3. SANDISK EXTREME FIT OTG DRIVE

PRICE: STARTS AT: $15

The SanDisk Extreme Fit drive is an answer to all your storage woes. This tiny drive offers SSD storage in an extremely compact, travel-friendly design that lets you connect it directly to your USB-C-equipped phones, tablets, or laptops.

While its minuscule size makes it very easy to misplace if unplugged, it is available in several storage options, ranging from 64GB to 1TB. Ideal for offloading media, storing work files, or expanding limited storage on your device, the SanDisk Extreme Fit offers immediate storage expansion in case your device runs out of space.



4. ANKER MAGGO WIRELESS CHARGING STATION

PRICE: $109.99

The Anker MagGo is a compact, foldable 3-in-1 portable charging station for your Apple devices. It can charge your iPhone, AirPods, and the Apple Watch simultaneously, replacing three different charging bricks.

Its adjustable design folds down to a pocket-sized unit and can shift between roughly 90 and 180 degrees, doubling as a small stand for your phone in hotel rooms or airport lounges. There's no screen, no app, just a simple indicator and magnetic alignment. For travelers, this is a power hub that disappears into your routine. Plug it in, drop your devices, and walk away.

5. AMBRANE AEROSYNC 65

PRICE: $53

Ambrane's Aerosync 65 is a frequent traveller's best friend. It's a compact, high-output charger aimed at travelers who carry multiple devices but don't want to haul a bulky brick.

With a 65W power rating, it can typically fast-charge laptops, tablets, and phones, with additional ports for simultaneous charging. A GaN-based design keeps the size down while improving efficiency and thermal performance compared to traditional chargers.

This one-plug solution boasts a 15,000 mAh power bank with multiple output ports, a wireless charger, a built-in Type-C cable, and a 65-W wall socket to power your main devices, freeing your bag from a tangle of adapters.

6. SATECHI VEGAN-LEATHER FINDALL LUGGAGE TAG

PRICE: $44.99

The Satechi FindAll Vegan-Leather Luggage Tag puts smart tracking into a familiar form factor. Designed to work with finding networks (like Apple's Find My) via an embedded tracking card, it combines a sleek vegan-leather exterior with practical location awareness. Slip it onto your suitcase or carry-on luggage, and you can see where your bag is from your phone, preventing "lost luggage" anxiety.

The tag's design emphasizes durability and aesthetics: a secure enclosure for the tracker, reinforced stitching, and a premium finish that doesn't scream "tech gadget." Since the intelligence lives in the tag and your phone, the product itself never seeks your attention. It's just there, working, until you need to locate your belongings

SITTONG

OF CINCHONA & *citrus blooms*

KONKANA RAY



From the life-saving cinchona plantations of the British era to the vibrant orange orchards of today, Sittong's charm lies in the remarkable flora that has shaped its past and present.



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO BAGDOGRA FROM MUMBAI AND NEW DELHI

Amidst the misty folds of the Eastern Himalayas, and the snow-capped Kanchenjunga as its eternal backdrop, Sittong remains one of North Bengal's best-kept secrets. In this quiet hamlet, accessed via serpentine, undulating roads that cut through dense pine forests, the mountain breeze holds the scent of evergreen tea gardens, wet earth, and seasonal blooms.

While the familiar slopes of neighbouring Darjeeling have increasingly surrendered to the rapid pace of commercial tourism, Sittong fiercely guards its unassuming, secluded spirit. There are no crowded mall roads or traffic-choked intersections. Instead, life unfolds in step with the gentle rhythm of a village where days are measured not by itineraries but by birdsong, cups of locally grown tea in cosy homestays, and mornings when the first rays of sunlight gently illuminate the snowy peaks beyond the orchards.

THE PLANTATION THAT HEALED

Sittong is defined by what grows from its soil, but its botanical heritage extends far beyond its present idyll. A short ride across the scenic Jogighat Bridge – spanning the gushing Riyang River – leads to the historic enclave of Mungpoo. It is here that the area's fascinating British-Indian industrial past comes alive through the vast cinchona plantations. Introduced in the 19th century, cinchona was cultivated for quinine, then the world's most effective treatment against malaria. These plantations are a living testament to an era when this corner of the Eastern Himalayas was a medical lifeline, helping save countless lives.

Mungpoo also offers a fascinating literary detour – to Rabindra Bhawan, a quaint wooden house that served as the summer retreat for Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Preserved meticulously as a museum, the space still holds his personal manuscripts, paintings, rare photographs, original mahogany bed, and writing chair, allowing visitors to tread the same quiet wooden floors that once inspired one of India's greatest minds.

ORANGE HILLS & TERRACED SLOPES

If there is a colour that defines – and transforms – Sittong, it is a brilliant, sun-drenched orange. Every winter, between November and January, its famous orange orchards burst with fruit. Unlike commercial farms, these are owned and managed privately by local families and are intimately woven into the very fabric of the hamlet. The orchards cascade down terraced slopes, filling the crisp winter air with a sharp citrus fragrance and earning Sittong the affectionate title of Orange Valley.



Clockwise from Left
The nearby Jogighat Bridge stretching across the Riyang River, offers breathtaking views of the hill villages

A face of tradition at the Tar Longho Lepcha monastery

Sittong is known for its lush orange orchards

Inset: *The neighbourhood kiosks offer delicious momos on the go*



Nature enthusiasts often continue towards Latpanchar, renowned for its remarkable birdlife, where colourful Himalayan species dart between moss-covered branches. Or, they wander along Sittong's narrow mountain lanes, soaking in its unhurried pace of life and Lepcha culture.

The drive through Sittong is punctuated by one rewarding stop after another. On a clear day, Ahaldara Viewpoint offers sweeping panoramic vistas of Kanchenjunga – visit at sunrise, when the first light turns the snow-capped peaks a luminous shade of gold. Below, the river Teesta meanders into the distance while rolling tea gardens ripple across the landscape like green waves.

MYTHS AMONG THE PINES

But to understand the soul of the region, one must venture into its hushed, old-growth forests. Here, shrouded by thickets of tall pine trees, lies Namthing Pokhri, a seasonal alpine lake that's perennially wrapped in low-hanging clouds and mist, lending it a distinctly mystical air, heightened by the presence of an old, solitary Shiva temple nestled among the pines. More remarkably, this pristine water body is one of the last remaining natural habitats of the rare Himalayan Salamander, a prehistoric amphibian that adds a layer of ecological wonder to the misty woods.

Nearby, spiritual history is preserved at the Tar Longho Lepcha Buddhist Monastery. Said to be nearly 350 years old, and constructed using only mud, stone, and wood, the monastery features age-old hand-painted portraits on its inner walls. According to local lore, this modest, resilient structure once served as the palace of a Lepcha queen. Today it stands as a quiet guardian of indigenous heritage.



THE WARMTH OF THE HEARTH

The true charm of Sittong, however, is found at the end of the day, within the walls of its snug homestays. Here, the hospitality of the Lepcha and Nepalese communities turns a simple trip into a homecoming. Evenings are spent around the fireside, sipping freshly brewed local tea and sharing plates of home-cooked food – steaming bowls of thukpa, hearty momos, and crispy fritters that warm the body against the mountain chill. Sittong, you'll find, does not demand attention; it simply waits, offering a quiet, fragrant sanctuary to those who know how to seek it ●





Photo by **Nitesh Dattatray Banote**
(Delhi - Mumbai)

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Share your best travel moments and shine in SpiceRoute magazine and on our social media pages. Tag us and email your photos with flight details to marketing.ho@spicejet.com!

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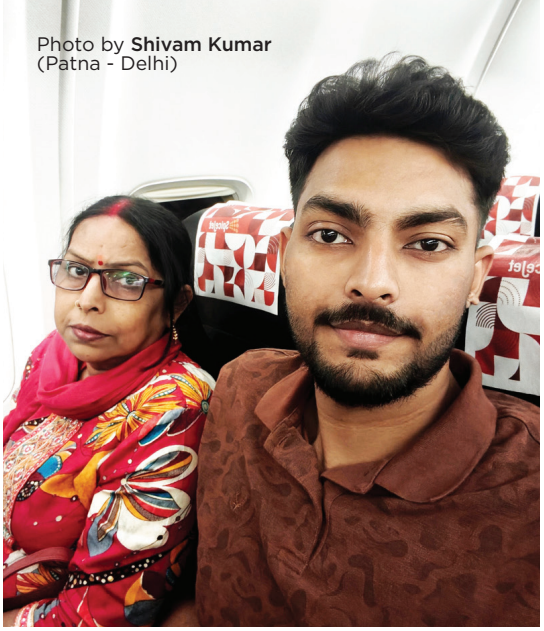


Photo by **Shivam Kumar**
(Patna - Delhi)



Photo by **Huzaifa Sadriwala**
(Mumbai - Dubai)



Photo by **Mir Sajid Hussain**
(Jammu - Delhi)



Photo by **Sonal and Vishal**
(Dharamshala - Delhi)

INDEPENDENCE DAY



India celebrates Independence Day on 15 August every year, commemorating the nation's freedom, in 1947, from nearly 200 years of British colonial rule. Here are some fascinating historical facts and milestones.

FREEDOM AT MIDNIGHT

India officially gained independence at 12:00 a.m. on 15 August, 1947, moments after the iconic 'Tryst with Destiny' speech delivered by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first Prime Minister.



Population At Independence India had an estimated population of around 340 million in 1947. Today, it exceeds 1.4 billion, making it the world's most populous nation.

WORLD'S LARGEST DEMOCRACY India is home to over 980 million registered voters, making it the largest democracy in the world.



Dimensions Of National Flag

India's National Flag has an official length-to-width ratio of 3:2, with the navy-blue Ashoka Chakra featuring exactly 24 spokes.



National Flag Adopted Before 15 Aug

The Constituent Assembly adopted the Tricolour as India's National Flag on 22 July 1947, weeks before independence.

15 August INDIA

INDEPENDENCE DAY

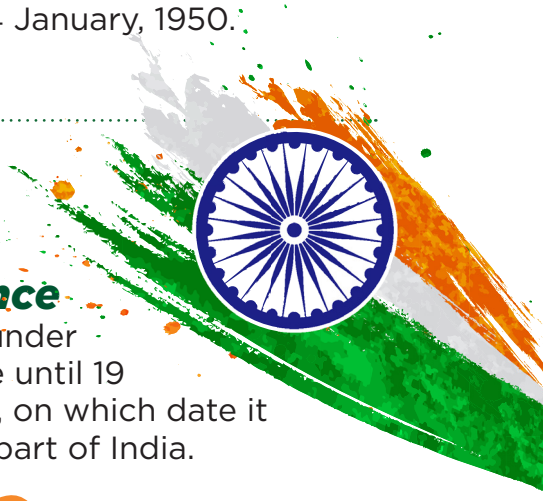
Why 15 August?

The date was chosen by the last British Viceroy, Lord Louis Mountbatten, because it marked the second anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II, a date he considered personally significant.



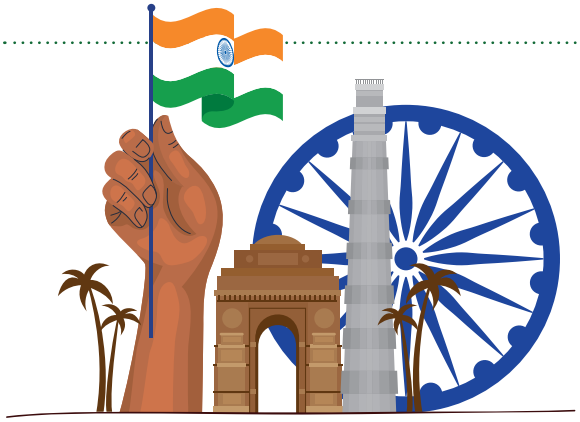
Official Adoption Of National Anthem

Although Jana Gana Mana was widely known, it wasn't officially adopted as India's National Anthem until 24 January, 1950.



Goa's Long Wait For Independence

Goa remained under Portuguese rule until 19 December, 1961, on which date it finally became part of India.



Not All Princely States Joined At First

At Independence, there were 565 princely states. Between 1947 and 1950, and through the efforts of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the vast majority acceded to the Indian Union.





Postcards from Ladakh

From ancient monasteries and vibrant festivals to breathtaking landscapes and resilient communities, Ladakh offers an extraordinary blend of nature, culture, and spirituality.

Clockwise from top

Traversing through high-altitude mountain passes and witnessing the dramatic transition from barren brown valleys to snow-capped peaks is magical.

The iconic Thiksey Monastery stands tall amidst the surrounding landscape.

Traditional homes with timeless architectural heritage blend seamlessly with the dramatic mountain landscape.







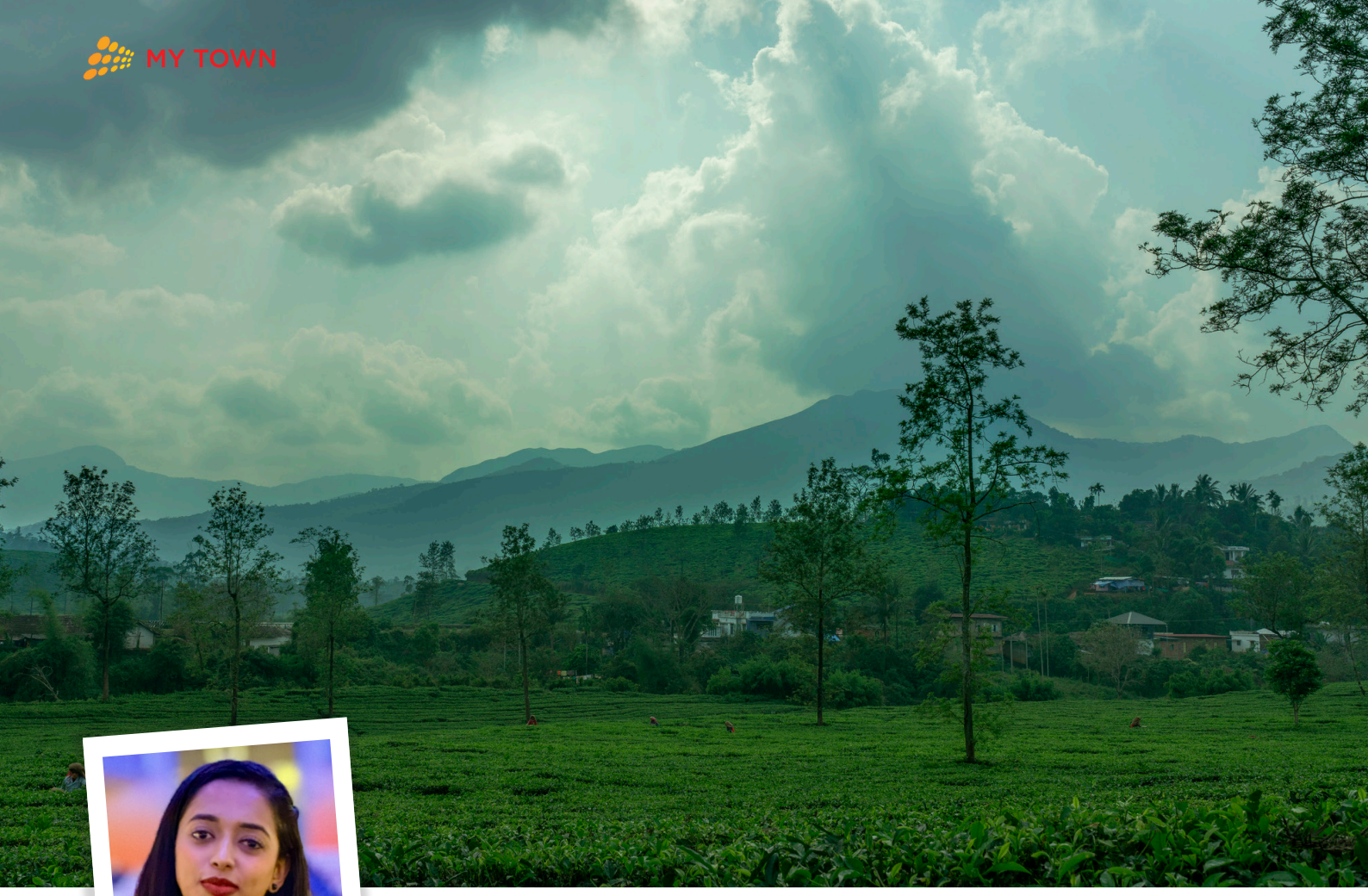
Clockwise from Left
Yaks in high-altitude regions of Ladakh.

The traditional attire of Ladakh - a distinctive cultural identity.

The colourful Tibetan Buddhist prayer flags, known locally as "tarchok or lung ta" carry a message of peace and good fortune.



Sketches by Viswaprasad Raju. He is an award-winning advertising professional and a published artist.

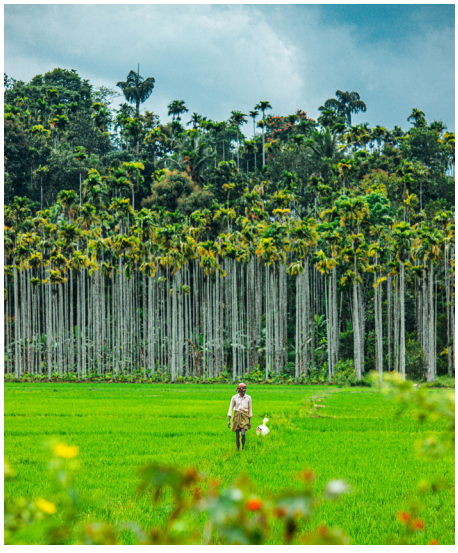




MS. ASIYA FARSHANA
CABIN CREW

My Town

In our series, we travel to various Indian destinations with a SpiceJet family member. This time, Asiya takes us around her home, Wayanad.



Where is your home, and what makes it so special?

My home is Wayanad, a picturesque hill district nestled in the northern part of Kerala, in the heart of the Western Ghats. Blessed with lush-green forests, mist-covered mountains, sparkling waterfalls, serene lakes, sprawling tea and coffee plantations, and aromatic spice gardens, it is truly a paradise for nature lovers. What makes Wayanad especially unique is its blend of breathtaking natural beauty, diverse fauna, rich cultural heritage – it is home to ancient tribal communities – and a quiet way of life. Each corner of Wayanad reflects the wonder of nature and the warmth of its people, leaving a lasting impression on every visitor.

The one thing that keeps on bringing you back again and again...

No matter where life takes me, Wayanad always feels like a happy space. The crisp mountain air, the soothing sounds of birds, the verdant shimmer after every rainfall, and the calm-inducing environs instantly put me at ease. Coming home is like pressing a reset button, and allows me to slow down and reconnect with nature and the simple joys of life.

Which is the perfect hangout spot in Wayanad?

One of my favourite places to unwind is the lovely Banasura Sagar Dam, the largest earth dam in India and one of Wayanad's most iconic attractions. Set amidst rolling hills and abundant



greenery, the reservoir presents awe-inspiring panoramas which change beautifully with the seasons. Whether you want to enjoy a relaxing evening walk, take a speedboat ride, or simply sit by the water and watch the sunset, Banasura Sagar has you covered.

Name one restaurant you would recommend to a visitor, and a can't-miss delicacy on the menu...

Ruchippura in Sulthan Bathery is well known for serving authentic Kerala-style cuisine, bursting with local flavours. Make sure to order their legendary Special Masala Fish Fry: freshly marinated with traditional spices, and perfectly fried, it's a favourite among locals as well as tourists. To complete the experience, pair the fish-fry with a traditional Kerala meal featuring rice, curries, and side dishes.

What is the best season to visit Wayanad and why?

Between the months of October and February, when Mother Nature puts on a grand show, and the weather is cool, pleasant, and refreshing – just right for sightseeing and outdoor activities. Visitors can comfortably explore waterfalls, trekking trails, wildlife sanctuaries, and historic caves – and will find they're spoilt for choice when it comes to scenic vistas.

Suggest a few places for a day-trip nearby

Kozhikode, approximately two hours from Wayanad, is famed for its gorgeous beaches, historical landmarks, bustling markets, and delicious Malabar cuisine – don't miss watching the sunset at Kozhikode Beach while indulging in local delicacies. Mysuru in neighbouring Karnataka is a cultural and architectural delight, known for its magnificent palace, colourful Devaraja market, pretty gardens, and rich royal heritage. And for those who love nature, Bandipur National Park, located on the way to Mysuru, is another wonderful diversion where visitors can enjoy a wildlife safari and immerse themselves in the quietude and beauty of the reserve's forests. Each of these places offers a welcome change of scenery while being conveniently accessible from Wayanad ●

Must-visit places

Wayanad This breathtaking hotspot is filled with attractions that cater to every type of traveller, and each destination here has its own charm.

Edakkal Caves History enthusiasts should visit the fascinating Edakkal Caves, celebrated for their prehistoric rock carvings.

Wildlife hotspots Wildlife enthusiasts should explore Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary and Tholpetty Wildlife Sanctuary, where elephants, deer, bison, and many species of birds can often be spotted in their natural habitat.

Kuruvadweep A charming river island surrounded by the Kabini River - Kuruvadweep offers an unmatched experience with its untouched forests and peaceful atmosphere.

OUR RED HOT ROUTES

AMRITSAR (ATQ)

AHMEDABAD (AMD)

BANGKOK (BKK)

BENGALURU (BLR)

CHENNAI (MAA)

DARBHANGA (DBR)

DELHI (DEL)

DHARAMSHALA (DHM)

DUBAI (DXB)

FUJAIRAH (FJR)

GUWAHATI (GAU)

GOA (GOX)

GORAKHPUR (GOP)

JAIPUR (JAI)

JAMMU (IXJ)

KOZHIKODE (CCJ)



KOLKATA (CCU)

KOCHI (COK)

KANDLA (IXY)

LEH (IXL)

MUMBAI (BOM)

MADURAI (IXM)

PHUKET (HKT)

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SpiceJet was a pioneer in India's UDAN scheme, launching regional flights in July 2017 and connecting remote regions like Porbandar, Kandla, Pakyong, Kishangarh, Lilabari, Jharsuguda, Jaisalmer, and Adampur. It also led India's first seaplane trials, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reaffirming its commitment to serving unserved and underserved regions.

Domestic —

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Flight schedules are subject to regulatory approvals and changes.
Map not to scale, graphic representation only. Content as on 31st July, 2026.

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nodalofficer@spicejet.com

APPELLATE AUTHORITY:

Mr Kamal Hingorani

appellateauthority@spicejet.com.

THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION, Government of India, has upgraded its Air Sewa portal, which is accessible through both interactive web portal and mobile app. The new version includes the following features:

a) Secure sign-up and log-in with social media

b) Chatbot for travellers' support

c) Improved grievance management, including social media grievance

d) Real-time flight status and detailed flight schedule

Air Sewa is available at www.airsewa.gov.in

You may also visit www.dgca.nic.in or write to sugam@dgca.nic.in

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PREDICTIONS
August 2026

Dr. Prem Kumar Sharma

(Astrologer, Palmist, Numerologist, Vaastu Consultant & 3-Time Limca Book of Records Holder)

email: psharma@premastrologer.com | **web:** www.premastrologer.com



ARIES

Professional expectations may rise, requiring patience before recognition arrives. Keeping a close watch on expenses will help prevent unnecessary financial strain. Property matters deserve careful evaluation before reaching a final decision. Energy levels remain encouraging throughout the month. Students will need consistency to achieve results.

Lucky Number: 17

Lucky Colour: Grey



TAURUS

Workplace responsibilities continue at a comfortable pace without creating unnecessary pressure. Family relationships may call for greater understanding before old differences begin to fade. Looking after your daily routine will help you maintain overall well-being and good health. Social commitments are best limited to those that genuinely matter to you.

Lucky Number: 22

Lucky Colour: Pink



GEMINI

Career progress looks especially promising, giving your talent the opportunity to receive well-earned appreciation. Support from loved ones makes important decisions easier to handle with confidence. Financial stability improves through practical choices instead of unnecessary risks. Health allows you to maintain an active routine with ease.

Lucky Number: 2

Lucky Colour: Silver



CANCER

Emotional bonds will feel stronger than they have in recent weeks. Financial decisions made with patience could gradually improve your position. Professional responsibilities progress at a comfortable pace without demanding unnecessary compromises. Property-related issues deserve extra caution before committing.

Lucky Number: 6

Lucky Colour: Cream



LEO

Feeling your best becomes a valuable advantage, helping you approach every challenge with confidence and enthusiasm. Career progress may seem gradual at the moment, but consistent effort will keep you moving in the right direction. Romance calls for greater understanding between partners before expectations are fully met.

Lucky Number: 18

Lucky Colour: Purple



VIRGO

Romantic relationships strengthen through honest conversations and thoughtful gestures. Professional commitments remain manageable when approached with proper planning. Money matters deserve closer attention to avoid unnecessary pressure later. Travel this month is most likely to remain pleasant.

Lucky Number: 11

Lucky Colour: Yellow



LIBRA

Meaningful relationships are likely to flourish, bringing a deeper sense of emotional fulfilment. Looking after your well-being helps you stay energetic enough to handle a busy schedule with ease. Career moves in a favourable direction, allowing your efforts to earn the appreciation they deserve. Social interactions may introduce valuable connections.

Lucky Number: 4

Lucky Colour: Blue



SCORPIO

A memorable journey could become one of August's biggest highlights, offering excitement and a fresh perspective. Your relationship benefits from greater trust, making emotional connections feel stronger than before. Career progress depends on staying patient with ongoing responsibilities. Money matters require careful handling and unnecessary expenses are to be controlled.

Lucky Number: 5

Lucky Colour: Magenta



SAGITTARIUS

New destinations or meaningful journeys are likely to fill August with memorable experiences and renewed enthusiasm. Caring for your health helps you enjoy opportunities that come your way. Professional goals continue moving forward with steady effort. Matters of the heart could require extra understanding before emotional balance returns.

Lucky Number: 8

Lucky Colour: Whit



CAPRICORN

Professional achievements are likely to highlight your month with well-deserved recognition. Family support offers reassurance whenever responsibilities begin to grow. Romance progresses steadily when expectations remain realistic and communication stays open. Keep travel plans flexible. Social interactions may introduce worthwhile opportunities.

Lucky Number: 7

Lucky Colour: Red



AQUARIUS

Financial growth has the potential to become your strongest advantage, making careful planning especially rewarding. Family life remains encouraging and offers steady emotional support through changing situations. Professional responsibilities continue without major obstacles, allowing you to focus on long-term goals.

Lucky Number: 9

Lucky Colour: Saffron



PISCES

Relationships are likely to bring comfort and reassurance, making emotional connections one of the month's greatest strengths. Family members may appreciate your willingness to stand beside them during important moments. Career progress depends on maintaining consistency despite occasional distractions.

Lucky Number: 3

Lucky Colour: Peac

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Won't Come From One Company
IT WILL COME FROM PLATFORMS
THAT PARTICIPATE ACROSS MANY.



MAMATA DHIRAJ JAIN
FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR

DHIRAJ JAIN
FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN

1XL Holdings is building a diversified platform of high-growth businesses through a structured model of:

- Ownership
- Strategic Partnerships
- Capital Participation

THE 1XL STRUCTURE

PCM Partnerships
Strategic equity partnerships

Ecosystem Companies
100% owned businesses

Capital Investments
Selected investment opportunities

WHY INVESTORS ARE LOOKING AT PLATFORM MODELS

Diversified Exposure
Across multiple sectors

Structured Growth
Built for long-term value

Scalable Architecture
Designed to expand

One Platform Advantage
Unified access to opportunity

100+ COMPANIES

ONE STRATEGIC PLATFORM

Because long-term growth is rarely built by relying on a single outcome.

1XL HOLDINGS

DUBAI | INDIA | GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES
A diversified platform built through strategic investments, ownership, and partnerships.

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*This is not an investment advice