

# Politics & Democracy

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## Karnataka Election 2023

The state of Karnataka is set to hold its next assembly election in 2023. The political scenario in the state has been witnessing significant developments in the run-up to the polls, with various parties gearing up to win the mandate of the people.







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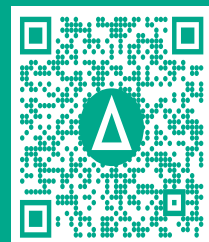


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## Karnataka Election 2023

The state of Karnataka is set to hold its next assembly election in 2023. The political scenario in the state has been witnessing significant developments in the run-up to the polls, with various parties gearing up to win the mandate of the people.



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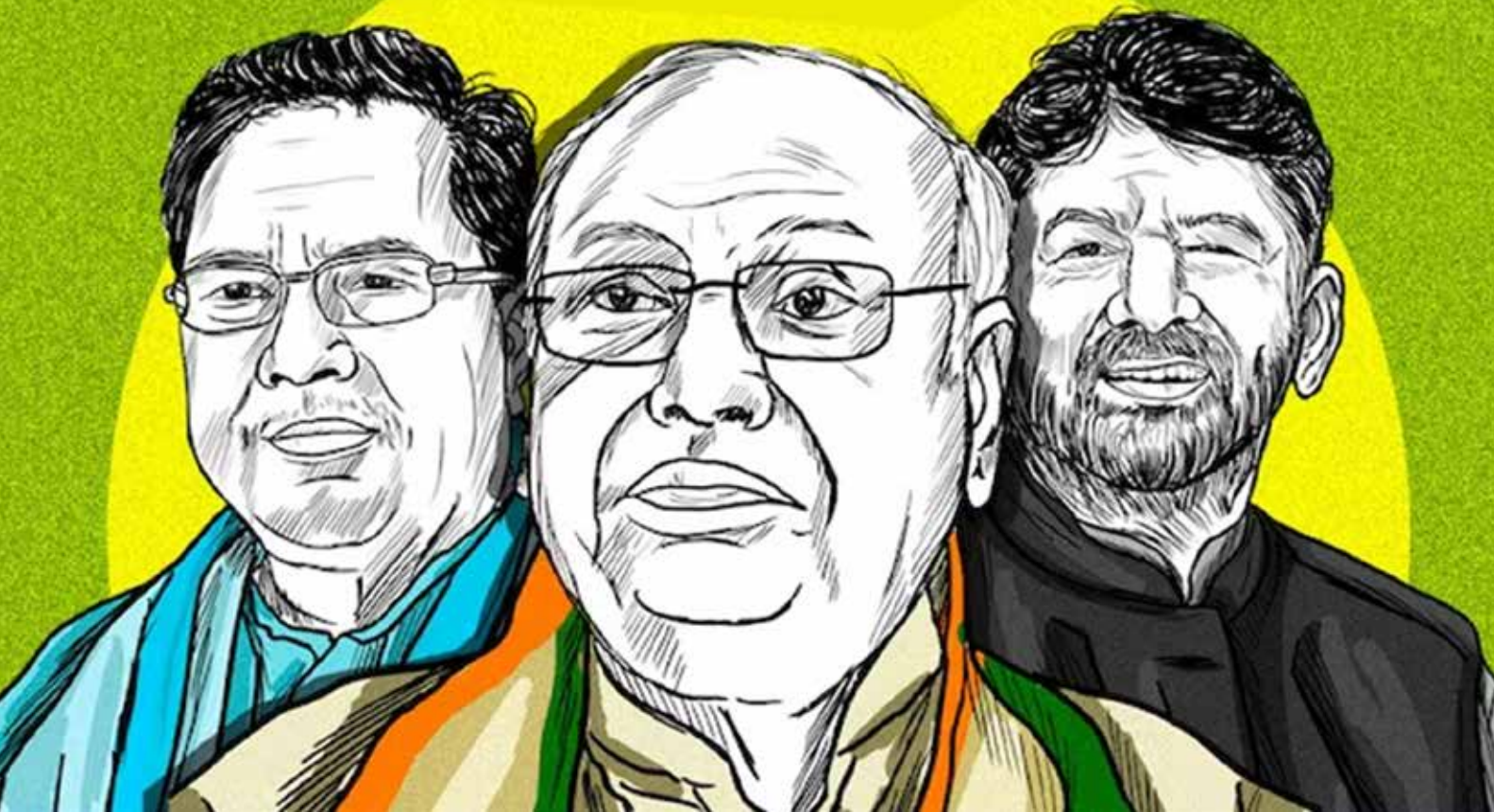


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# Karnataka Election 2023

The state of Karnataka is set to hold its next assembly election in 2023.

The political scenario in the state has been witnessing significant developments in the run-up to the polls, with various parties gearing up to win the mandate of the people.

**T**he incumbent government in Karnataka is led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which came to power in the state in 2019 after a spell of political uncertainty. The BJP, which had emerged as the single largest party in the assembly elections held in 2018, had formed a coalition government with the Janata Dal (Secular) (JD(S)) after no party could secure a clear majority.

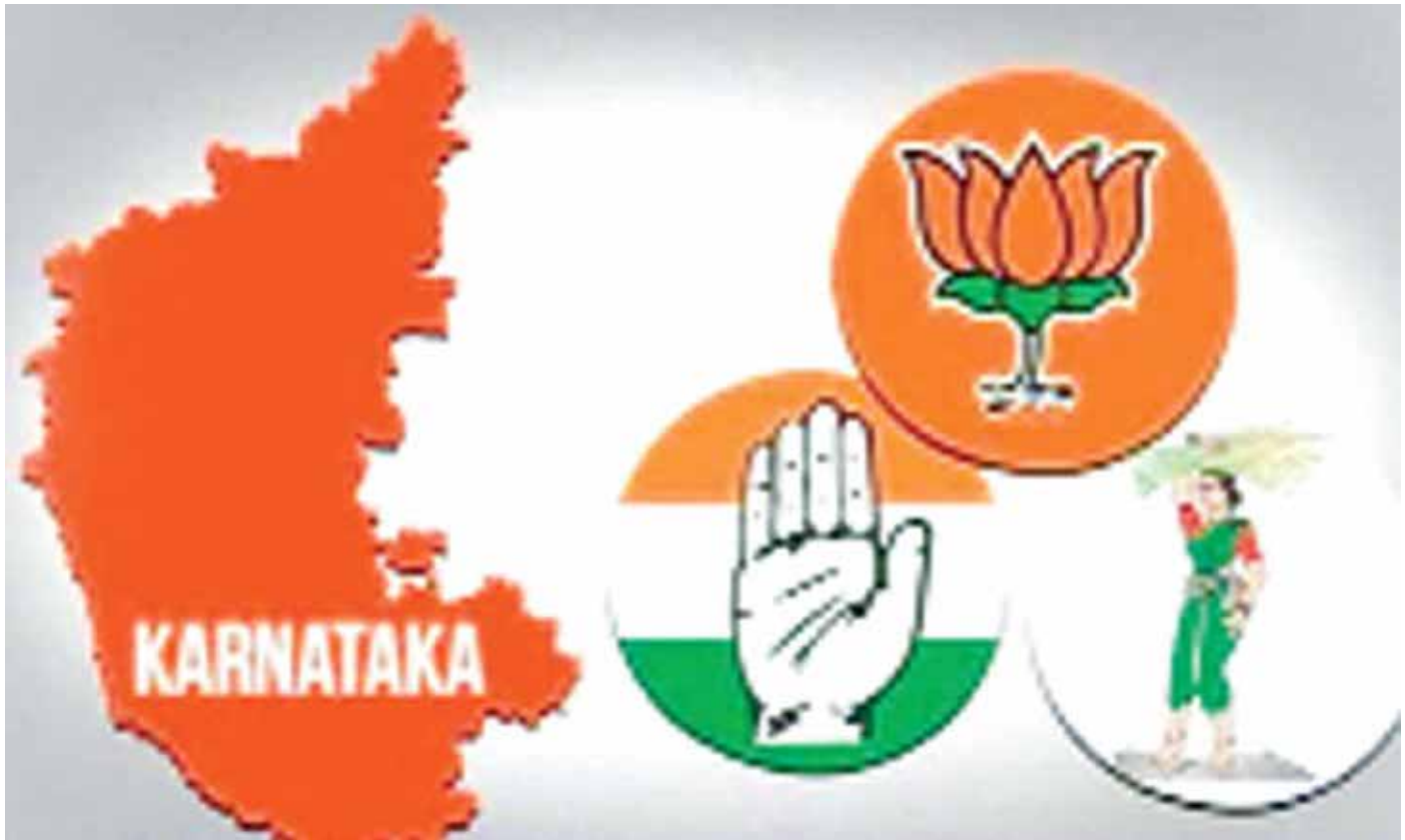
However, the coalition government was short-lived, as it collapsed due to internal differences between the two



parties. Subsequently, the BJP was invited to form the government, and the party's leader B. S. Yediyurappa was

sworn in as the Chief Minister.

Since then, the BJP government in Karnataka has faced several



challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, floods, and the farmers' protest. However, the government has also initiated several development projects and welfare schemes, such as the "Arthika Spandana" loan scheme for farmers, the "Arogya Karnataka" healthcare scheme, and the "Karnataka Land Reforms (Second Amendment) Bill."

As the state gears up for the assembly

elections in 2023, the BJP is facing stiff competition from the opposition parties, including the Indian National Congress (INC) and the JD(S). The Congress, which was the ruling party in the state before the 2018 elections, has been trying to regain power in Karnataka.

The JD(S), on the other hand, has been struggling to maintain its political relevance in the state, after

its disappointing performance in the last assembly elections. The party is now trying to strengthen its base in the rural areas of the state, which have traditionally been its stronghold.

Apart from these parties, several other regional parties and independent candidates are also expected to contest the elections. The outcome of the polls will depend on a host of factors, including the performance of the incumbent government, the effectiveness of the opposition parties, and the political alliances formed before the elections.

One of the major issues that are likely to influence the Karnataka assembly elections is the state's ongoing border dispute with neighboring Maharashtra. The dispute, which concerns the Belgaum district, has been a bone of contention between the two states for decades. The issue has often been used as a political tool by various parties in the state.

Another issue that is likely to figure prominently in the elections is





the farmers' protest against the new farm laws introduced by the central government. Karnataka has a significant farming community, and the protests have gained widespread support from various sections of the society in the state.

The Karnataka assembly elections in 2023 are expected to witness a keenly contested battle between various political parties. The outcome of the polls will have significant implications for the state's political future and its development agenda. The people of Karnataka will be closely watching the political developments in the state, as they prepare to cast their vote in the upcoming elections.

## **Preparation - Karnataka election 2023**

The Karnataka state elections are

just around the corner, and all political parties are gearing up to make their mark in the state. The elections in Karnataka are crucial for all parties as it is one of the few states in the south where the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has a strong presence. In this article, we will take a look at how all parties are preparing for the upcoming Karnataka elections.

### **BJP:**

The BJP is the ruling party in Karnataka and has already started preparing for the upcoming elections. The party has identified key issues that it will focus on during the campaign, including development, infrastructure, and the welfare of farmers. The party has also announced that it will contest the elections under the leadership of Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa.



The BJP has been holding meetings with various sections of society, including farmers, traders, and religious leaders, to understand their concerns





## Congress:

The Congress party is hoping to make a comeback in Karnataka, and it has already started preparing for the elections. The party has announced that it will contest the elections under the leadership of former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The Congress has identified key issues that it will focus on, including the deteriorating law and order situation, unemployment, and the agrarian crisis.

The party has been holding meetings with various sections of society, including farmers, youth, and women, to understand their concerns and

## Janata Dal (Secular):

The Janata Dal (Secular) or JD(S) is a regional party in Karnataka, and it has already started preparing for the upcoming elections. The party has announced that it will contest the elections under the leadership of former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. The JD(S) has identified key issues that it will focus on, including farmers' issues, rural development, and unemployment.

The party has been holding meetings with various sections of society, including farmers and rural communities, to understand their concerns and include them in their campaign agenda. The JD(S) has also launched a membership drive to increase its support base in the state.

## Other parties:

Apart from the three major parties, there are several other parties that will be contesting the elections in Karnataka. These include the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) or CPI(M). These parties are likely to focus on issues such as corruption, social justice, and economic inequality.

In conclusion, the upcoming Karnataka elections are expected to be highly competitive, with all parties vying for the support of voters. The BJP, Congress, and JD(S) are likely to be the main contenders, but other parties could also play a significant role. The outcome of the elections will have significant implications for the state's politics and governance.



and include them in their campaign agenda. The party has also launched a membership drive to increase its support base in the state.

include them in their campaign agenda. The party has also launched a social media campaign to connect with voters and increase its support base.

## IT IS DUE TO THE DELHI EDUCATION REVOLUTION, PARENTS NOW ENROL THEIR CHILDREN IN DELHI GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS WITH CONFIDENCE, NOT OUT OF COMPULSION – ATISHI

In an effort to ensure world-class education for all children in Delhi, Education Minister Ms. Atishi inaugurated yet another iconic Dr. B.R Ambedkar School of Specialised Excellence in Rana Pratap Bagh on Tuesday. The new SoSE will provide specialised education in 'Humanities'. It has state-of-the-art spacious classrooms, labs, libraries, toilets, a multipurpose hall, and a lift. A total of 400 students will be enrolled in this magnificent school which will focus on experiential and industry-linked pedagogy to develop skills like research, critical thinking, and communication. With the inauguration of this new ASoSE, the number of ASoSEs has now increased to 37 in Delhi.

Inaugurating the school, Education Minister Ms. Atishi said, "This School of Specialised Excellence of Rana Pratap Bagh will become one of the best schools in Delhi. This state-of-the-art school with advanced facilities will ensure world-class quality education to children from all socio-economic backgrounds." On the occasion of the school's inauguration, along with Education Minister Ms. Atishi, Model Town MLA Shri Akhilesh Pati Tripathi and senior officials of the education department were also present.

At the inauguration ceremony, the Education Minister was welcomed by the NCC band of Delhi Government schools at the inauguration ceremony of the newly constructed ASoSE at Rana Pratap Bagh in Model Town. The Education Minister unveiled the plaque and took stock of the new classrooms, biology lab, and staff rooms built on the first floor and the magnificent library and multi-purpose hall built on the third floor.

Addressing the people gathered for the inauguration, the Education Minister said, "No private school in this area will be as magnificent as this government school." She said that prior to the Kejriwal

government coming to power 8 years ago, people had a different perception of government schools. Previously, quality education was considered a luxury only affordable to the wealthy; with the Kejriwal Government's education revolution, every child in Delhi can now receive world-class education.

The Education Minister added that this perception was changed by the Delhi government under the leadership of CM Shri Arvind Kejriwal and the crusader of the Delhi Education Revolution Shri Manish Sisodia. Now parents in Delhi proudly send their children to Delhi government schools. The Delhi Education Revolution has given new hope to parents and children in Delhi to have a brighter future. She said, "It is due to the Delhi government's excellent schools and quality education that children from poor families today are not just dreaming but also fulfilling their dreams. An example of this is that every year, thousands of children studying in Delhi government schools are passing exams like JEE and NEET and getting admission to the country's most prestigious institutions."

She added that today Delhi government schools are being applauded all over the world. Many people come to Delhi to learn and understand Delhi's Education Model. Parents in Delhi are now enrolling their children in government schools by taking them out of private schools, and this is a matter of pride for the government.

The Education Minister also stated, "Before 2015, parents from poor socio-economic backgrounds were forced to send their children to a government school due to lack of money, but now they send their children to Delhi government schools proudly. There was a time in Delhi when parents used to stand in a queue outside private schools for admission, but due to the futuristic vision of Shri Manish Sisodia, now parents queue up

outside Delhi government schools. It is to be noted that Kejriwal Government's ASoSEs are the most sought-

after Delhi government schools in the national capital. For the academic session 2023-24, for nearly 4,400 seats, the Delhi Government received 92,000 applications."

Adding to her words, Model Town MLA Shri Akhilesh Pati Tripathi said, "This splendid school was once in a very pitiable condition, when the then Education Minister Shri Manish Sisodia came with me to visit this school for the first time. He had said that very soon a day would come when children would be proud to study in this school. Due to the hard work of Shri Manish Sisodia, today that opportunity has finally arrived."

Today this school has become splendid under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Arvind Kejriwal. Children are said to be the future of the country and it is the responsibility of every government that comes to power to ensure quality education for every child. Only education is the way to progress the country. That's why the Kejriwal government has decided to spend a maximum of its budget on the future of India so that the future of the country and the future of our children can be bright. The new Dr. B. R Ambedkar School of Specialized Excellence built in Rana Pratap Bagh will be a specialised school of Humanities domain. The capacity of the school is 400 students. The school has many modern facilities including luxurious classrooms, labs, libraries, and a multipurpose hall.

It is to be noted that in 2023-24, there would be Schools of Specialised Excellence in 37 buildings with nearly 10,000 students.





# Why Indian Youth Want to Go Abroad: Exploring the Reasons

India has one of the largest populations of young people in the world, with over 65% of the population under the age of 35. While many young Indians are content with building their careers and lives within the country, there is a growing trend of Indian youth wanting to go abroad. Here are some of the reasons why Indian young people want to leave the country.

India is a land of diversity and opportunities, with a population of over 1.3 billion people. The country has a rich cultural heritage and has produced some of the world's greatest minds. However, in recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of young Indians who are leaving the country to pursue higher education or career opportunities abroad. According to a report by the Ministry of External Affairs, around 7.5 lakh Indian students were studying abroad in 2019-20. This number has been steadily increasing over the years, and it raises the question, why are Indian youth opting to go abroad?

In this article, we will explore the reasons why Indian youth want to go abroad. We will delve into the factors that are driving this trend and examine the benefits and challenges of going abroad. We will also look at the impact of this trend on the Indian economy and society as a whole.

- **Better Career Opportunities:** One of the primary reasons why Indian young people want to go abroad is to pursue better career opportunities. India's job market is incredibly competitive, and many young people struggle to find jobs that pay well and offer growth prospects. By contrast, countries like the US, UK, Canada, and Australia offer a wide range of career opportunities that are well-paying and offer growth prospects.

- **Quality Education:** Another reason why Indian young people want to go abroad is to pursue higher education. While India has many excellent educational institutions, many young people feel that they do not offer the same quality of education as the top universities in countries like the US and UK. Additionally, many young Indians see studying abroad as a way to gain exposure to new ideas and cultures, which can broaden their perspectives and help them grow as individuals.

- **Better Standard of Living:** Young Indians are increasingly aware of the gap in living standards between India and developed countries. Many young people want to experience a better standard of living, with access to better healthcare, infrastructure, and social services. Countries like Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are particularly attractive to young Indians because of their high standard of living and social welfare systems.

- **Cultural Exposure:** Another reason why young Indians want to go abroad is to experience different cultures. Many young people are curious about the world and want to explore new cultures and ways of life. By living abroad, they can gain exposure to different ways of thinking and living, which can broaden their perspectives and help them become more empathetic and open-minded.



- **Political and Social Instability:** India is a country with a complex political and social environment. Young people often feel frustrated by the corruption, social inequality, and political instability that plague the country. Many young people feel that their prospects for a better life are limited by the social and political conditions in India, and see moving abroad as a way to escape these issues.

Indian young people have many reasons for wanting to go abroad. Whether it is for better career opportunities, quality education, a better standard of living, cultural exposure, or to escape political and social instability, young Indians are increasingly looking beyond their borders for opportunities to build a better life. While there are challenges to living abroad, such as adapting to a new culture and social environment, many young people see the benefits of taking the risk and pursuing their dreams abroad.

# Women Entrepreneurs leading the way towards Sustainable Agriculture

**M**inistry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India and National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad organized a one day 'Awareness on Agripreneurship cum Exhibition for Farm Women' in collaboration with PAMETI, Ludhiana and Department of Agriculture Farmers Welfare, Punjab at PAMETI, Ludhiana, PAU Campus today. The objective of the event was to create awareness among farm women and women entrepreneurs regarding entrepreneurial opportunities in Agriculture & Allied Sectors and use of digital media for upscaling and promoting their enterprise. More than 350 farm women, women agripreneurs from all the 23 districts of Punjab



participated in the event.

An exhibition was also displayed by around 20 women agripreneurs from different districts of Punjab. The event started with the inauguration of the exhibition displayed by the women entrepreneurs. The women exhibited variety of products like pickles, masalas, honey, handmade jewelry, and Kantha dresses, crochet bags, muffins, cakes, printed suits, candies, amla products, painted suits, phulkari dupatta, jam, squash, murabba, chutneys, soap, candle, hair oil, millets cookies and

other millet products, moringa powder, cocopeat, vermicompost, planters and nursery products, jute bags, etc. During the interaction, the exhibitors were informed how they can upscale and promote their enterprise using digital media platform and support of the Govt. at the Centre and State.

Ms. Bharti Madan, Deputy Director, PAMETI, Ludhiana gave an overview of the program. Dr. Veenita Kumari, Deputy Director (Gender Studies), MANAGE, Hyderabad delivered the Welcome Address. Chief Guest of the event, Shri SR Ingle, Joint Director (Extension), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, in his address highlighted the significance of the G20 side and main events and gave an overview of the G20 events organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India. He further mentioned that at present Women constitute only 14 percent of the total entrepreneurship in India. He focused on the need for proper marketing strategy and labeling of the products for upscaling their infrastructure. He also talked about how Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme of the MoA&FW, Govt. of India can benefit these women entrepreneurs to establish and upscale their primary & secondary processing units. He further emphasized the benefits of FPOs formation for enhancing their enterprises.

Shri Davinder Singh, Cluster Head, Ludhiana talked about NABARD Initiatives for promoting women entrepreneurship. Dr. Ramandeep Singh, Prof & Head, School of Business Studies shared knowledge on effective marketing strategies for women entrepreneurs. Dr. Veenita

Kumari, Deputy Director (Gender

Studies), MANAGE, Hyderabad created awareness among the participants on digital marketing for branding and promotion of their enterprise and briefed about the agripreneurship program for women.

Dr. MIS Gill, Director, PAMETI, Ludhiana on the occasion addressed the participants said that women empowerment is crucial for enhancing decision-making capability of the women. He also appreciated the products displayed by the women entrepreneurs in the exhibition and suggested that packaging and labeling of their products should be of the world class for a better price.

Dr. R K Dhaliwal, Dean, College of Agriculture, in her address mentioned that farm women and women agripreneurs should enhance their

decision-making ability through self-empowerment with money, education

and skill. She further said that they must use their experiences and upscale their entrepreneurial skills.

Distinguished subject experts delivered talk on the occasion to create awareness among farm women & women entrepreneurs. Dr. Poonam Sachdev, Head, Deptt. of Food Science & Technology, PAU discussed how women can promote their enterprises in

Food Sector.

Few progressive women entrepreneurs – Mrs Gurdev Kaur Deol from Global SHG, Mrs. Pooja Rikhi from Kneatknit and Ms. Sukhwinder Kaur from Jeet SHG shared that their experience on an entrepreneurial journey



# As a component of Appscale Academy's Class of 2023, MeitY Startup Hub and Google will provide assistance to 100 Indian startups

**L**ocal developers and startups continue to power India's rise as an innovation hub for the world with creative solutions for many daily needs and complex challenges. Aiming to support the growth of this ecosystem, MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Google today announced training and development support to 100 Indian early to mid-stage startups as part of Appscale Academy's Class of 2023.

A growth and development program by MeitY Startup Hub and Google, the goal of the Appscale Academy is to help early to mid-stage Indian startups build high-quality apps and games, and help them grow into successful global businesses. The 100 startups were chosen from over 950 applications following an in-depth selection process that took into account their creative ideas and innovation, product quality, product scalability, and talent diversity.

The cohort's main sectors span Education, Health, Social, Agriculture, and Gaming. Representing the talent diversity emerging among India's startup and developer ecosystem, ~50% of the cohort comes from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, including Varanasi, Ernakulam, Surat, Dehradun, Allahabad, and many others. 37% of the cohort have a woman founder at the helm.

The cohort includes a diverse range of creative startups solving for India's critical needs, including Enguru (live learning platform), BabyG (parenting and baby development app), Louie

Voice Control (helping people operate other apps using their voice), Dhenoo (knowledge platform for dairy farmers), GeeCom India (ecommerce opportunities for farmers), EyeCan (helping the visually impaired with virtual assistance), Neend (mindfulness app that's helping people sleep better), Glii (Queer dating app), ProjectHero (networking platform for construction workers), Kurukshetra (strategy game inspired by Indian mythology), ZenOnco Cancer Care (app for cancer patients and caregivers), and many more.

At the launch, Mr. Akash Tripathi, IAS, CEO, MyGov; Joint Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, said, "The ongoing local tech revolution is fueling the country's economic growth and driving socio economic transformation on a global scale. India is the world's largest startup hub in the world, with small and emerging towns and cities accounting for nearly 50% of recognized startups. It's great to see Google and MeitY's partnership through MeitY Startup Hub add value and support this startup ecosystem through programs such as Appscale Academy."

Jeet Vijay, Chief Executive Officer, MeitY Startup Hub, added, "India stands tall worldwide when it comes to innovation and startups. We are a thriving economy with immense growth opportunities across sectors, including agritech, fintech, healthtech, and more. It's great to see our local innovators capitalize on this opportunity and make a meaningful impact with their

- ~50% of the cohort come from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities in India.
- 1 in 3 apps from the cohort have a woman founder at the helm.
- Cohort's main sectors span Education, Health, Social, Agriculture, and Gaming.



businesses. Google did an incredible job of supporting the startups in the first cohort and we look forward to working with them once again."

Aditya Swamy, Director, Play Partnerships, Google Play, said, "The growth of our startups are inextricably linked with India's emergence as a global innovation hub and it's critical that these innovators are supported with training and development that can help them power their success. Last year, we were thrilled to see our first cohort adapt learnings from the program to improve their product experience and grow their user base. We look forward to supporting a fresh cohort of 100 startups in scaling their app businesses. I would like to thank MeitY Startup Hub for partnering us on this vision."

As part of the 6-month program, 100 startups will be trained through a customized curriculum designed to help them drive high-quality apps for a global market, including sessions on UX design, business model and monetization strategies, international expansion best practices, and data safety and security practices. The startups will receive access to virtual instructor-led webinars, self-learning material, and mentorship sessions with leading local and global industry professionals. Select startups will also get an opportunity to pitch to leading venture capitalists.

Check out Appscale Academy's Class of 2023 and the program details [here](#).

## The joint military drill between India and Africa, known as 'AFINDEX-23', has come to a close at the foreign training center located in Aundh, Pune.

The 2nd edition of joint military exercise “The Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX-2023)” culminated today at Foreign Training Node, Aundh, Pune. AFINDEX-2023 was held from 16 to 29 Mar 2023. A total of 25 nations of the African continent with 124 participants and Indian troops from the SIKH, MARATHA and MAHAR Regiments participated in the multinational exercise. The validation phase of the exercise was witnessed by General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff along all the African Chiefs and representatives who attended the Chiefs’ Conclave.

Aim of the exercise was to build positive military relations, imbibe each other’s best practices and promote

the ability to operate together while undertaking execution of Humanitarian Mine Action and Peace Keeping Operations under the UN mandate. This joint exercise will enable the armies to learn and adopt methodologies and tactics while conducting such operations. Further, the exercise will assist the forces in correct interpretation of Rules of Engagements while undertaking Peace Keeping Operations.

The bonhomie, esprit-de-corps and goodwill generated during the exercise will go a long way in further strengthening the bonds between the armies by enabling understanding of each other’s organisation and methodology of conducting various operations. This exercise is a



harbinger for greater cooperation between Indian & African armies in the future.

On the sidelines of the exercise an ‘Equipment Display’ was organized in which 75 indigenous products from 32 industries manufactured under ‘Make in India’ were showcased. African Army Chiefs, representatives of Chiefs and participants of the African nations also witnessed the event.

## Odisha has achieved 100% electrification of its railway network, as confirmed by Indian Railways.

The existing Broad Gauge network of Odisha (2,822 Route kms) is now 100% electrified  
Electrification will reduce line haul cost by 2.5 times

On the lines of setting the target of achieving Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030, the Indian Railways has 100% electrified existing Broad Gauge network of Odisha. The existing Broad Gauge network of Odisha is 2,822 Route kilometre, which is 100% electrified, resulting in saving on account of reduced line haul cost (about 2.5 times lower), heavier haulage capacity, increased sectional capacity, reduced operating & maintenance cost of electric loco, energy efficient and eco-friendly mode of transportation with reduced dependence on imported crude oil, saving of foreign exchange. Further, new Broad Gauge network shall be sanctioned along with electrification, in sync with Railways’ policy of 100% electrified network.

Odisha state’s territory falls in the jurisdiction of East Coast, South Eastern & South East Central Railways. Some of the major railway stations in Odisha are: Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri, Sambalpur, Bhadrak, Rourkela, and Jharsuguda. The railway network plays an important role in the transportation of minerals, agricultural products, and other goods from Odisha to other parts of the country.

First railway line in Odisha was constructed between Cuttack - Khurda Road - Puri in 1897.

Some of the prestigious trains of Odisha state are: Howrah-Puri Express, Konark Express, Coromandel Express, Hirakud Express, Visakha Express, and Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express. These trains provide convenient connectivity to various parts of the state and other major cities in India.





# National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) pays dividend of Rupees Thirty-Three Crore Ninety-Nine Lakh to Government for the year 2021-22

National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) a Private Sector Undertaking under Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has paid a dividend of Rs 33,99,00,000 (Rupees Thirty-Three Crore Ninety-Nine Lakh Only) to the Government of India for the year 2021-22.

Mr. Chanchal Kumar, MD, NHIDCL presented the dividend receipt to the Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari at New

Delhi on March 28, 2023. NHIDCL has declared 33% dividend (3.33/- per share) for the year 2021-22.

This is the 6th consecutive year that NHIDCL is paying Dividend. The company paid dividend of Rs. 26 Crore in the previous year.

NHIDCL has 245 ongoing projects involving 5076 KM of road construction in 12 states/UT of India. Under the guidance of Shri Gadkari NHIDCL has progressively increased its capacity and has so far (in Financial Year 2022-23)



completed more than 1250 KM of road and made a qualitative expenditure of more than Rs. 17,000 crore.

## During a meeting with the Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, NXP CEO Kurt Sievers pledged to aid in the development of a robust semiconductor ecosystem in India.

Today Kurt Sievers, President and CEO of NXP Semiconductors, met Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to discuss India's dynamic semiconductor ecosystem and NXP's commitment to being an important player in it. Topics included in the discussion spanned policy framework, emerging technologies, deepening India's value creation, and India's manufacturing capabilities and ambitions. Mr. Sievers briefed the Honourable Prime Minister on NXP's growth story in India, which includes centres of excellence innovating semiconductor solutions for the auto, industrial, IoT, and edge markets. Mr. Sievers also pledged NXP's support to help develop India's diverse domestic STEM workforce and support the

country's flourishing startup ecosystem.

**Commenting on his meeting with Prime Minister Modi, Mr. Sievers said:**

*"It was a privilege to meet with Prime Minister Modi to discuss India's rapidly growing semiconductor development and manufacturing ecosystem. We both agreed that India's electronics manufacturing and design industry has the potential to become a much larger player in the global electronics value chain. NXP has enjoyed a 50-plus year history of operations in India, and our centres of excellence here are designing semiconductor solutions in-demand across the global auto, industrial, IoT, and secure edge markets. Our talented Indian team has generated hundreds of patents and is a powerhouse of NXP's global network of innovation teams. We are committed to further*



*drive India's value creation for the global electronics industry."*

**Regarding India's electronic manufacturing ecosystem, Mr. Sievers added:** "We are well aware of India's ambition to be a major player in the global electronics supply chain, with a plan of growing the domestic electronics manufacturing to US\$ 300 billion by 2026. Prime Minister Modi and the Indian government's commitment to being one of the world's largest electronics manufacturing hubs underscores India's recognition of the strategic importance and growth potential of the electronics industry."

NXP is a world leader in automotive, security, connectivity solutions with its state-of-the-art technologies like radar, ultra-wide Band (UWB), 5G, NFC, and DRM, is playing an important role in strengthening the local manufacturing ecosystem. Multiple key applications in India like 5G/6G, secure authentication of goods, e-metering for electricity

boards, e-passports, transport ticketing cards, and more, are actively using NXP technologies.

NXP is committed to the progress and success of the Indian semiconductor and electronics industry. The company has collaborated with MeitY, Invest India, Startup India, India Electronics, the

Indian Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) and state governments on a variety of initiatives and projects. As part of its mission toward enabling a better, safer, secure, and more sustainable world, NXP proactively engages with startups to develop innovative and long-lasting solutions.

# 910 carpenters working on the New Parliament Project have been certified by Skill India

**A**s an example of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', India takes pride in the fact that the New Parliament, the existing temple of democracy which soon completes its 100 years; is now being built by our own people, our very own "Karigars" (workers). And recognising the efforts of these workers, the Furniture and Fitting Skill Council (FFSC) working under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in collaboration with the

NDMC jurisdiction and NARSI Group has trained and certified 910 carpenters under the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme. The project is aimed to augment the skill training of carpenters and to enable them in becoming an asset in creating a world class infrastructure for the New Parliament Building, representing India's progress and democratic values.

The event was organised at the parliament and attended by senior

Aggarwal, Director, National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), and Vivek Sharma, Manager – Strategy, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a component of Skill India's flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and is an assessment process used to evaluate a person's existing skill sets, knowledge and experience gained either by formal, non-formal or



officials and industry stakeholders including Dr. K.K Dwivedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE); Shri Deepak Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA); Shri Ashwini Mittal, NPB, Central Public Works Department (CPWD); Shri Sushil

informal learning.

Within the programme, pre-screening guidance, counselling, and support will be provided to ensure the overall growth of the candidates. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has various programmes which they give to different government agencies to





fulfil the skill development initiatives. The ministry along with NARSI group has earlier trained more than 6,000 carpenters under the various RPL schemes. The process helps in aligning the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the standardized National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) to enhance employability opportunities and reduce the skill gap.

Dr. Krishna Kumar Dwivedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) said that the parliament building is the epitome of India's rich democratic heritage, and it is the symbol of India's valour and pride. Today's ceremony marks a significant milestone in empowering our carpenters by providing them with the best hands-on training, formal certification which will further enable the recognition of skill sets and assist in establishing a top-of-the-line infrastructure in the

New Parliament Building. Through this training, the prospects for the candidates will increase in domestic and in international markets as well. With this training, our carpenters will have the capacity to create world-class infrastructure and undertake renowned projects that meet the demands of the industry. This initiative underscores the Government's initiative to build a skilled workforce that can drive our nation's growth and development, he added.

Shri Narsi D Kularia, Chairman, Furniture & Fitting's Skill Council and Managing Director, Narsi Group said that it is a moment of great pride for our community of carpenters to be associated with this visionary project. In our capacity, we are taking all the necessary measures to fully educate our workers and provide them with complete safety to ensure that the New Parliament Building has the state-of-the-art infrastructure. Being

a carpenter myself, I comprehend the value of skilling and certification in building capabilities. To boost the formal skill training of the candidates, we have undertaken several programmes such as Meri Skill Meri Pehchan, National Apprenticeship Promotional Scheme (NAPS) and created a Centre of Excellence to make them an active participant in the economic growth. With this, we look forward for certifying & recognizing Skills of 25,000 carpenters in the coming months, Pan India, he added.

The project aims at certifying candidates to increase their relevance in the volatile job market and encourage them in contributing towards nation-building. Going forward, the workers will be upskilled in multiple trades across construction, electrical, plumbing, pottery and more. It will not only expose them to digital literacy and entrepreneurial opportunities, but also upgrade them in technical skills.

# The Yoga Mahotsav in Dibrugarh witnessed participation from thousands of people

A 100-bed Yoga & Naturopathy Hospital in Dibrugarh has been announced by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.

The 'Yoga Mahotsav, celebrated to commemorate 75 days to the International Day of Yoga, was a huge success as thousands joined at the gala event as they practiced Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) at the Dibrugarh University ground here today.

The event was graced by the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal; Chief Minister of Tripura, Dr Manik Saha; Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Main; Union Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas & MP of Dibrugarh; Rameshwar Teli; Union Minister of State for External Affairs, Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh; Health & Family Welfare Minister of Assam, Keshab Mahanta; former minister & Chairman, HOUSEFED, Bhabesh Kalita; Health & Family Welfare Minister of Manipur, Sapam Ranjan Singh; Minister of Power of Meghalaya, A T Mondal; Vice Chancellor of Dibrugarh University, Prof Jiten Hazarika; and Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal said, "It is a matter of immense pleasure & pride that Dibrugarh is hosting this wonderful 'Yoga Mahotsav' in this pristine environment. As thousands of you joined us, we are emboldening the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji to make Yoga a global movement towards healthier and better tomorrow.

Adding further, the Ayush Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal said, "On this holy occasion of Yoga Mahotsav, which is being celebrated on this auspicious

World Health Day, I have the pleasure to announce that the Ministry of Ayush is going to set up a 100 bedded Yoga & Naturopathy hospital at Dibrugarh. This



is going to further bolster Dibrugarh as the centre of healthcare in the region. I am thankful to the Chief Minister of Assam, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma ji, for extending full support to this only of its kind centre in the North-East. This centre will cater to needs of the region by providing Yoga and naturopathy outpatient and inpatient treatments to the people of Assam.

An MoU was also signed between the Moraji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) and Dibrugarh University to develop an ecosystem of Yoga practitioners which will further reinforce our commitment to make Yoga a part of everyone's healthy lifestyle.

The Chief Minister of Tripura, Dr Manik Saha, addressed the gathering and said, "It is a great moment when all of us has joined today in this beautiful

morning to perform Yoga - one of the greatest boons of Indian heritage. As we practise Yoga today, it not only boosts the Yoga practice among people, but also promises a better, healthier tomorrow.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein said, "Yoga is a wonder gift of India's rich heritage that has benefitted the world to become a healthier place. I am happy that I am participating in this event today and we work towards a healthier tomorrow."

Minister of Industry & Commerce, Assam, Bimal Borah; the Health & family Welfare Minister, Arunachal Pradesh, Alo

Libang; the Health & family Welfare Minister, Meghalaya, Dr Mazel Ampareen Lyngdoh; Minister of Urban Development, Sikkim, L B Das; the Minister of Labour Welfare Department, Assam, Sanjay Kishan; the MLA of Dibrugarh & Chairman, AIDC, Prashanta Phukan; MP Horen Singh Bey; MLA Teros Gowala, Binod Hazarika, Chakra Gogoi among many other prominent personalities attended the Yoga Mahotsav.

Apart from thousands of Indian students, International students from Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Togo, Nepal, Nigeria, Lesotho, Botswana, Egypt, Namibia & Korea, yoga enthusiasts participated at the Yoga Mahotsav making it a grand success. At the event, the audience was guided to perform CYP by Dr Ishwar V. Basavaraddi, Director, MDNIY.





## APEDA is taking part in the International Food & Drink Exhibition in London

Millets (Shree Anna) based products at APEDA pavilion attracts visitors APEDA set to surpass its previous export target to the UK in the current fiscal year

**A**gricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India participated in the International Food & Drink Exhibition (IFE) held in London. The three day Exhibition that concluded on March 22, 2023 was aimed at promoting the export of agricultural products in the international market of London.

APEDA has facilitated the participation of Indian exporters, who showcased their varied range of food products in all categories at the IFE event. Large number of visitors showed keen interest in around 50 millet (Shree Anna) based products displayed at APEDA pavilion. At the IFE 2023 event, APEDA has displayed and distributed the finest quality of GI- tagged Alphonso mango, wine from the lush grape vineyards and the millet-based value added products.

With India celebrating the International Year of Millets 2023, APEDA is actively focusing on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of promoting Millets (Shree Anna) in international markets by organizing promotional events in foreign destinations and participating in global food exhibitions.

Commenting on India's participation at the IFE, APEDA Chairman Dr. M. Angamuthu said, "This huge market can be made more pragmatic by way of quarantine relaxations, importation benefits and further opening the market." He also said, "The base work is

going on where we are expecting India-UK FTA negotiations that will not only pave the way for Indian products in large quantities, but also bring the cost of Indian products down relatively in days to come," adding that the Indian High Commission at London has been very supportive and is working towards the betterment of the trade ties between the two countries.

The International Food & Drink Exhibition (IFE) is one of the most prestigious food promotion events of the United Kingdom. At the event, over 25,000 participants from across the world have come together face-to-face to sample new products and explore new export opportunities through International Buyer Seller meets as well as B2B meetings. The IFE is one of the well-established platforms to create brand awareness and generate new business opportunities in the United Kingdom, which is a big market for ethnic Indian food products, including fresh fruits and vegetables, processed food and Indian rice, etc.

APEDA is exporting quality food products to around 250 countries across the globe, including the United Kingdom. In the fiscal year 2021-22, India has achieved a huge export target of USD 25 billion of APEDA products, which has surpassed all previous records. The APEDA is vying to meet the export target of USD 30 Billion for the year 2022-23. The United Kingdom is a favoured destination for the export of Indian agricultural products as APEDA has exported various agricultural

products worth USD 421 Million in the year 2021-22 to the United Kingdom. APEDA is all set to surpass its previous export target to the UK in the current fiscal year as APEDA has recorded the export to the tune of USD 302 Million (April-December 2022).

The main agricultural food products exported to different countries, including the United Kingdom, are basmati rice, buffalo meat, non-basmati rice, coarse grains, maize, groundnut, wheat, cereal preparation, processed vegetables, fresh fruits & vegetables, alcoholic beverages, coarse grains, etc. India has exported around 13000 MT of Indian grapes, 4000 MT of mangoes, 5000 MT of onion, 2500 MT of millets, etc to 1310 Million MT of basmati rice, etc. to the United Kingdom.

APEDA recently organized the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference at New Delhi to stimulate the exports of millets from India and provide market linkage to the producers, Around 100 Indian millet exhibitors from different parts of the country and around 100 international buyers from various countries like the USA, UAE, Kuwait, Germany, Vietnam, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Bhutan, Italy and Malaysia participated in the conference.

To boost consumption of value-added products based on millets, APEDA, in collaboration with Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad and respective state Agricultural universities, has incubated more than 200 start-ups to develop a range of millet based value-added products.

## Canada bans Russian aluminum and steel imports

**T**he Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, announced that Canada is banning the import of Russian aluminum and steel products.

Through regulatory amendments under the Special Economic Measures (Russia) Regulations, the importation of all Russian aluminum products, such as unwrought aluminum, aluminum sheets, and finished products including containers and other household items made from aluminum, is now prohibited. Also banned are all primary Russian steel products, including iron and non-alloy steel, semi-finished, and finished products such as tubes and pipes.

This ban will further deny Russia the ability to generate the revenues it needs to pay for its war against Ukraine. Canada continues to work alongside its partners and allies to hold Russia accountable.

“Ukraine can and must win this war. We continue to do everything we can to cut off or limit the revenue used to fund Putin’s illegal and barbaric invasion of Ukraine. Canada, and our partners, have already sanctioned the Russian Central Bank and capped the price of Russian oil and gas. And now, we are ensuring Putin cannot pay for his war by selling aluminum and steel in Canada, in coordination with action taken by the United States today.”

**- The Honourable Chrystia Freeland,  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of  
Finance**

## Marsh & Partners has introduced a fresh consulting service for entrepreneurs in the real estate development industry.

**M**att Marsh, founding partner of Marsh & Partners, today announced a new real estate consulting service aimed at helping business owners deliver new facilities more efficiently.

With the announcement, Marsh said, “Business owners are experts in their craft and problem solvers by nature. But many don’t have the bandwidth or the expertise to develop a new facility. And real estate development is getting more and more complex - municipalities continue to add friction to the process, and the bloat of bureaucracy isn’t slowing down.”

Traditionally, the development industry is extremely disjointed - disparate project consultants work in silos of limited expertise and deliver services according to their priorities. Business owners are then left trying to develop the new facility themselves while also running their businesses. Marsh & Partners is disrupting the status quo by helping business owners

manage development projects from start to finish.

There’s so much involved in a real estate development project - site selection & land acquisition, real estate due diligence, land entitlement & permitting, and ultimately construction and project closeout. And often, when owners try to manage their own projects, the original vision becomes lost in the minutiae of the development details - the alignment between business and real estate strategy, facility optimization, and tax and wealth-building implications fails to translate in practice. That ad hoc approach doesn’t optimize a business owner’s real estate for their larger business growth goals and objectives.

Further, Marsh & Partners has codified this real estate development consulting service in an easy-to-digest 4-page guide that walks owners through the process. Businesses that are contemplating an owner-occupied development project should check out



the small business development resource page for more information.

Marsh continues, “Business owners take on a lot of risk when managing a project themselves. If they don’t sequence their real estate due diligence tasks properly, or fail to manage land entitlement risks, they could spend money out of turn and end up with a project that doesn’t meet their needs. And that’s a risk that banks price into financing products - owners that bring on a real estate development consultant are looked upon favorably by lending institutions.”





For investors seeking to obtain real estate and citizenship in Turkey, Marker Investment provides expert consultancy services in the field of real estate

## Marker Investment offers opportunities for real estate investment in Turkey that can also lead to acquiring citizenship

With the strengthening Turkish economy, the interest of foreign nationals in real estate investments in Turkey has started to increase compared to previous years. In line with the increasing demands, Marker Investment offers professional real estate consultancy services to investors who want to buy real estate and citizenship in Turkey.

The high quality and variety of real estate in Turkey continues to attract the attention of many foreign investors. With its wide portfolio, Marker Investment offers investment diversity in housing and land sales.

Marker Investment, which has many outstanding projects in its portfolio such as Istanbul, also supports those who will apply for a Turkish passport regarding the legal process. One of the many opportunities provided by the Republic of Turkey to those who want to buy and own real estate in Turkey is Turkish citizenship. At the same time, there are advantages such as tax reductions and exemption from value added tax provided by the state for those who want to buy real estate. According to the research carried out in the past months, first the Russians, then the Iranians and Qataris are among the nations with

the most property and citizenship in Turkey. According to the results of the research, Turkish citizens living in countries such as Germany, France, England and America are also evaluating investment opportunities to buy real estate in Turkey.

Marker Investment continues to produce privileged and sales-oriented solutions with its expert and experienced staff in the sector. One of the biggest goals of making home ownership in Turkey fast and enjoyable,

Marker Investment facilitates the real estate purchase processes for investors.

# Air India Express Launches Direct Flights from Goa to Dubai

Air India Express, India's first international budget airline, announces the commencement of operations from Goa International Airport (Dabolim Airport) with the introduction of four weekly direct flights on the Goa-Dubai sector.



**T**he first flight, IX 840, took off at 1:00 AM on Monday with 148 passengers on board.

To mark the occasion, Alok Singh, Managing Director, Air India

Express and AirAsia India, said: "We are thrilled to start our maiden international services from Goa under the Air India Express banner, which is amongst India's most popular

tourist destinations. We take pride in being the only airline that offers direct connectivity to Dubai from Goa. AirAsia India, which is set to merge with Air India Express, already operates 13 daily direct flights to/from Goa, connecting five domestic cities. We hope to be a part of the tourism success story of the state and remain committed to offering the best of services to our customers."

Earlier in the evening, the Goa travel trade joined the celebrations marking the entry of Air India Express to Goa at a function held at a city hotel with the senior leadership teams of Air India Express and AirAsia India.

## Vistara Announces Direct Flights between Mumbai and London

Vistara, India's finest full-service carrier and a joint venture of Tata group and Singapore Airlines announced the addition of a new long-haul route to its growing international network.

**T**he airline will be ramping up its presence at LHR (London Heathrow) with direct, 5x weekly flights between Mumbai and London starting 01 June 2023. Vistara will operate its brand-new Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, featuring a three-class configuration, on the route as it enhances connectivity between India and the UK. Bookings for the flights are being progressively opened on all channels, including Vistara's website,



mobile app, and through travel agents.

Vinod Kannan, Chief Executive Officer, Vistara, said, "We are delighted to announce Mumbai-London as our fourth route to Europe after connecting Frankfurt, Paris and London with

Delhi. The launch of this new route is also a reflection of our customers' growing preference for Vistara, for travel between India and the UK. This additional gateway also offers our customers more options and flexibility with their travel itineraries while choosing to fly the country's most loved airline. We look forward to further expanding our presence in Europe, especially with more wide-body aircraft joining our fleet in the coming months."



# IndiGo Commences Operations From Dharamshala

IndiGo, India's leading carrier commenced direct flights from Dharamshala, its 78th domestic and 104th overall destination, operating the flight between Delhi-Dharamshala.



**T**he destination marks airline's entry in Himachal Pradesh and will strengthen domestic connectivity, provide accessibility, while making travel more affordable and hassle-free for customers during the summer season.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vinay Malhotra, Head of Global Sales, IndiGo said, "We are extremely pleased to announce the launch of our operations from Dharamshala, the 78th domestic destination in the 6E network, making our way into the serene valleys of Himachal Pradesh. Direct connectivity to Dharamshala will provide a gateway for the tourists to explore the local markets, temples and monasteries, museums, churches and unwind in the picturesque waterfalls and mountains of Himachal Pradesh. This move aims to bolster passenger traffic even further as we have witnessed a strong demand for connectivity to Himachal Pradesh. The direct flights from Delhi, will also connect Himachal Pradesh to the rest of the country and international destinations in Asia, Middle East, and Europe. Our commitment to provide courteous, on-time, hassle free, and cost-effective travel experiences remains unwavering as we continue to expand our regional connectivity."

Located in the western Himachal region, Dharamshala is the perfect place to unwind and experience the scenic beauty of the valley and local markets. It is the winter capital of Himachal Pradesh and the residence of the spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. A well-known location for studying Buddhism and experiencing the culture's origins is Dharamshala. The hill station is divided into two distinct parts - Lower Dharamshala which is the commercial market district, and Upper Dharamshala with places like McLeod Ganj and Forsyth Ganj, which serve as historical markers for this region. The area makes a great starting point for hikes and treks into the Dhauladhar mountain range.

# Emirates and United Activate Codeshare Partnership

Emirates and United have activated their codeshare partnership, allowing Emirates customers to enjoy easier access to an expanded choice of U.S. destinations.

**E**mirates customers now fly to three of the nation's biggest business hubs - Chicago, Houston or San Francisco - and connect easily to an expansive network of domestic U.S. points on flights operated by United.

Tickets are available to purchase on emirates.com as well as through trade channels including travel agencies.

With the launch of the partnership, Emirates customers heading to the U.S., can now look forward to access to more than 150 U.S. cities in the United network, via the three gateways.

Similarly, Emirates customers in the U.S. planning trips to Dubai and beyond have a myriad of choices and can utilise United's services to easily connect to Emirates operated flights bound for Dubai, via Chicago, Houston or San Francisco. The world just got bigger for U.S. travelers journeying to Emirates' extensive network beyond Dubai, including many unique destinations across the Middle East, Africa, Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent.

On the flights, passengers can enjoy Emirates' award-winning services and a host of convenient travel benefits afforded by the agreement.

Travellers with itineraries on Emirates' codeshare flights can plan their entire trip on a single-ticket and take advantage of the airline's baggage allowance, in addition to convenient bag check-through to the final destination.

# Etihad Airways New General Manager for Indian Subcontinent

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has appointed Salil Nath as General Manager of the Indian Subcontinent.

Based in New Delhi, Salil will be responsible for all commercial activities across a key cluster for the Etihad network within the central region - India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives & Seychelles.

Since joining Etihad in 2012, Nath has served as the Regional Sales Manager of key sectors starting with Bangalore-Hyderabad, followed by the North and East India. During the COVID-19 restructuring, he took on the additional responsibility of managing Central India as well as Bangladesh & Seychelles.

Prior to joining Etihad, Nath has worked with Kingfisher Airlines, part of the United Breweries Group, and a brief stint at renowned multinational travel management company Amex GBT, overlooking corporate sales and client servicing respectively.

Nath holds a degree in Hotel Management from Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration in Manipal, specializing in Sales and Marketing. Nath will be succeeding Neerja Bhatia, who is retiring after 18 years of service at Etihad Airways.

## **SALIL NATH, General Manager of the Indian Subcontinent, Etihad Airways**



With a strong and growing network, Etihad is one of the world's most recognised and trusted airlines, operating for almost 20 years. As I step into this new role, I look forward to working together, enabling growth, and delivering value as we take our positioning to new and greater heights.

## **AMER KHAN, Vice President Middle East, Africa, & The Sub-Continent, Etihad Airways**

India plays a crucial role in Etihad Airways' growth strategy, contributing significantly to the airline's global operations, and we are honoured to support demand in one of the fastest-growing aviation markets in the world. As we look to expand our operations, we are delighted to have Salil take up the new role, leading Etihad's commercial activities in the region. Neerja's astute leadership over the years has been a defining factor for the growth of the airline in the Indian subcontinent. On behalf of Etihad Airways, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for Neerja's unwavering support and dedication.



# Flydubai Touches Down in Milan-Bergamo

Flights to Milan Bergamo Airport (BGY) started on 10 March with a five-times weekly service. The carrier will increase the frequency to a daily service from 18 April 2023. Emirates will codeshare on these routes and the flights will operate from Terminal 3 at Dubai International (DXB), offering travellers more seamless connections through Dubai's international aviation hub. Bergamo, a historic city in northern



Italy, has been designated alongside Brescia as the Italian Capital of Culture for 2023. This prestigious title recognises the city's vibrant cultural scene, with a year-long programme of exhibitions, concerts, performances, and other

events highlighting its artistic heritage and contemporary creativity. Milan Bergamo Airport offers passengers convenient access to the city with various transportation options including buses and private transfers.



# IndiGo Expanding the 6E Network to 103 Destinations!

IndiGo, India's leading carrier, commenced direct flights from Nashik, the 77th domestic and 103rd overall destination in the 6E network.

The airline operated the first direct flights between Nashik-Goa, Nashik-Ahmedabad, and Nashik-Nagpur. Nashik is the 7th destination on the 6E network in Maharashtra and will increase intra-state and inter-state accessibility, while promoting trade, tourism, and mobility through these new connections.

Nashik, an ancient holy city in Maharashtra, is well-known for its connection to the Ramayana. Situated on the banks of Godavari River, Nashik is best known for being one of the Hindu pilgrimage sites,

that of Kumbh Mela which is held every 12 years and attracts many pilgrims. Panchavati, Saptashrungi, Trimbakeshwar, Sita Gufa and Pandavleni Caves are also some of the popular sightseeing tourist destinations

in the city. The city is called the "Wine Capital of India" as more than half of India's vineyards and wineries are located here.

Around 90% of all Indian wine comes from the Nashik Valley. Nashik is home to several wine festivals, such as SulaFest in the harvest season. It is one of the fastest-growing cities in India and has been a major industrial center in automobile hub.



## VINAY MALHOTRA, Head of Global Sales, IndiGo

We are delighted to announce the launch of our operations from Nashik, marking our 77th domestic destination.



This move connects India's golden triangle to a plethora of domestic and international locations through our 6E network. By enhancing accessibility to Nashik, famous for its rich history, we aim to promote commerce and tourism and boost economic growth in the region. Inclusion of these direct flights in our summer schedule will offer more choices to tourists visiting Nashik, India's wine capital, and professionals travelling to the major industrial hub for automobile companies. Our commitment to providing courteous, on-time, hassle-free, and cost-effective travel experiences remains unwavering as we continue to expand our regional connectivity.

# LOT Polish Airlines Healthy Growth in 2022

In 2022, LOT Polish Airlines operated more than 85,000 flights and carried around 8 million passengers. Thereby, the airline achieved a turnover of presumably over 8 billion Polish zlotys (PLN; approx. 149 billion INR) and generated a net profit of more than 100 million PLN (approx. 1.864 billion INR).

LOT Polish Airlines further expanded its network in 2022. In addition to the India's business capital Mumbai, the airline also added Cairo (Egypt) and Baku (Azerbaijan) to its schedule. Flights to Beijing made a comeback and North America, traditionally an



important market for the airline, was served up to 50 times per week during the summer schedule season. In total, the route network comprised 167 destinations (as of the end of 2022).

"The forecast results for LOT Polish Airlines clearly demonstrate that

the airline is on the right track," said Katarzyna Lewandowska, CEO & President of the Management Board. "This is particularly pleasing in light of Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine, especially as we also have to recover from the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic."

grove for the airport. NIA plans to preserve native species and be nature positive throughout the development of the airport. In line with its aspirations to be a green airport, NIA is committed to providing infrastructure and facilities for 100% electrically powered vehicles at the airport in a phased manner. NIA will produce or procure power from sustainable sources such as solar, wind and hydroelectric.

### Quick Facts:

- The NIA site spans 1334 hectares
- One floor plate of the passenger terminal is almost 34,000 sqm, which is equivalent to 4 football fields
- Over 2600 workers are currently deployed at the NIA site; peak strength is expected to touch 6000
- To date, our partners have completed over 4.2 million man-hours of work without injury
- Over 400 heavy and small machinery deployed at the site
- 32,000 cubic meters of concrete have been poured to date
- 14,000 tons of steel have been used in construction so far

The airport will enhance connectivity for western UP and add capacity for air travel to/from Delhi NCR, while acting as a catalyst for infrastructure development, economic growth, and job creation in the region.

India now features as the third largest aviation industry in the world, on the back of strong recovery and growth. According to a report by the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation India (CAPA India), Indian carriers are expected to place orders for additional 1,000-1,200 aircraft, which underlines the future potential of the sector. NIA is committed to delivering a seamless and convenient experience to its passengers, as more Indians look towards air travel in the coming years.



# Singapore Changi Airport named World's Best Airport

Singapore Changi Airport has been voted the World's Best Airport at the Skytrax World Airport Awards.

This is the 12th time Changi Airport has been awarded this prestigious accolade, a record number since the award was first given out in 1999. In addition to the World's Best Airport award, Singapore Changi Airport also garnered awards for the World's Best Airport Dining, Best Airport for Leisure Amenities, and Best Airport in Asia.

At present Changi Airport is linked to 16 Indian cities, including major hubs such as Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad, with 7 airlines (Air India, Air India Express, DrukAir, IndiGo, Scoot, Singapore Airlines, and Vistara) providing approximately 241 weekly services. Apart from those visiting Singapore, Changi serves as a major transit airport for Indians travelling to Australia, the USA, Indonesia, and beyond. With India being a key market for Changi Airport, CAG has consistently focused on 360-degree marketing efforts to promote Changi through campaigns such as 'First in Jewel' in 2019, and 'Chalo Changi' in 2022.

As travel resumed, passenger traffic from India has witnessed a steady recovery with January 2023 seeing the number reaching 85% of pre-covid levels.

The Skytrax World Airport Awards reflect the views of airport customers. Each year, respondents of more than 60 nationalities take part in a global customer satisfaction survey to assess facilities and customer service across more than 550 airports. The World

Airport Awards are independent of airport input and fully funded by Skytrax.

## Post-pandemic rebound travel from India and beyond

With the roll-back of Covid-19 measures and the return of global travel, passenger traffic at Singapore Changi Airport has recovered to about 80% of pre-Covid levels and is expected to reach 100% by 2024. Changi Airport's top five passenger markets for 2022 were: Australia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Changi Airport re-opened Terminals 2 and 4 in 2022 due to strong travel demand. Terminal 4 (T4) resumed operations in September after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. As part of continuous efforts to enhance the passenger experience, Singapore Changi Airport embarked on expansion and renovation works at Terminal 2 (T2) in 2020. T2's phased re-opening began in May 2022.

## Enhanced infrastructure and passenger touchpoints for travellers

Upon completion in 2024, T2's expansion will increase Changi Airport's total capacity by five million passengers per annum (mppa) to 90 mppa. The project adds 15,500 square metres of space, allowing for larger Departure and Arrival Halls, and consequently, more room for operations including check-in and immigration clearance.

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GERMAN	RUSSIA	GERMANY	USA	GREECE	PLAY HD HD
HOLLAND	UKRAINE	ROMAN A	ASERBAIJAN	IPROX CLUB	NEWS
PERSEAN	AFGHAN	SERBIA	BELOUSE	MY HD	KIDS

To list more or Channels of ... (app.)



## Product View



# UHD-777

DIGITAL I.T. BOX



# Noida International Airport Development Making Significant Headway

Noida International Airport (NIA) is on track to meet completion timelines for phase I, with one runway and one terminal in operation by the end of 2024.

Since Tata Projects Ltd. was awarded two contracts for engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) last year, the earthwork, leveling, and excavation work has been completed across the project site. Vertical construction is ongoing, and substructures are taking shape. Multiple buildings will come up in the next few months, including the passenger terminal building, office blocks, sewage and water treatment plants, and electrical substations at the site.

NIA has floated tenders for various aeronautical and non-aeronautical concessions for the airport. Air India SATS (AISATS) was recently selected to develop a multi-modal cargo hub (MMCH) at the airport, while Roseate Hotels and Resorts have been awarded the concession to develop an airport hotel at the Noida International Airport.

## Multi-Modal Cargo Hub

Noida International Airport selected AISATS to develop a multi-modal cargo hub (MMCH) at the airport. Spanning across 80 acres of land, the upcoming cargo hub will provide quick, convenient, and intermodal connectivity to and from manufacturing hubs in the country. The cargo and logistics infrastructure and ecosystem will cater to a differentiated catchment and several upcoming industrial clusters in NCR and Uttar Pradesh, creating a cargo gateway for Northern India. The MMCH will include a cargo terminal as well as an integrated warehousing and logistics zone. This unique logistics zone will offer a transshipment center, as well as a warehouse zone for freight forwarders and integrators. The MMCH will also



provide for transportation facilities to support road-to-road, road-to-air, and air-to-road movements. The cargo infrastructure at Noida International Airport's MMCH is designed for efficient, scalable, and seamless process flows as well as common digital infrastructure and systems.

Terminal design inspired by India  
The passenger terminal's design is inspired by India and will include various elements synonymous with the region's architecture. The terminal forecourt will feature flights of steps like the famous ghats of Varanasi and Haridwar, welcoming and bringing together people. Delivering the look and feel of a haveli, a courtyard will allow fresh air and sunlight into the terminal building. Inspired by the important rivers of the region, a white, translucent, wavy roof will give the effect of a flowing river. The passenger terminal will feature

intricate ornamental lattice screens, inspired by Indian architecture. Noida International Airport will showcase a grand entry to the state of Uttar Pradesh.

## Runway and ATC Tower

The airport will feature a 4,000m long and 45m wide runway. The ATC tower will stand tall at a height of 40m. It will give a 360-degree view of the airport to air traffic controllers, who will be able to see the airport's runway, aprons, and taxiways.

## Sustainable Planning

NIA has earmarked 8 Ha of land to develop a forest park using trees from the project site. It will serve as a space for passengers and visitors to spend their leisure time and become an attractive destination for health/fitness activities as well as for nature-focussed recreational activities. This will be a sustainable

# Vistara Commences Direct Flights to Mauritius

Vistara, India's finest full-service carrier and a joint venture of Tata group and Singapore Airlines, started direct, 5x weekly flights between Mumbai and Mauritius.

## VINOD KANNAN, Chief Executive Officer, Vistara

We are delighted to take India's finest airline to Africa, as we launch operations to Mauritius. The long-standing relations and strong trade ties between the two countries, in addition to the growing tourism potential of the destination, make it a perfect fit in our network. We are confident that customers will appreciate having the option of experiencing Vistara's award-winning product and services on this sector.



Mauritius is the 15th international destination, and the first in Africa, that Vistara has added to its growing network. The airline has deployed its recently inducted A321XLR aircraft with a three-class configuration, as it becomes the only carrier to offer customers the choice of Premium Economy cabin in addition to Business and Economy Class, on this route.

Vistara will accept all eligible customers meeting visa/entry

requirements in both countries, as specified by the respective government bodies. Vistara strongly encourages its customers to fully understand these guidelines before making their bookings.

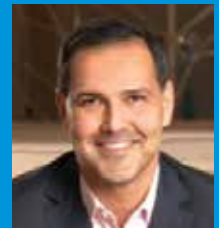
Vistara is India's highest-rated airline on Skytrax and TripAdvisor, and it has been the winner of several 'Best Airline' awards, besides being lauded for world-class cabin cleanliness and upholding high safety standards. The airline has recently been featured amongst World's

Top 20 Airlines while being recognised as the 'Best Airline in India and Southern Asia' for the second time in a row, 'Best Airline Staff Service in India and Southern Asia' for the fourth consecutive year, 'Best Cabin Crew in India and Southern Asia' for the second time in a row and 'Best Business Class in India and Southern Asia', at the coveted Skytrax World Airline Awards 2022. Vistara also recently received the ch-aviation Asia's Third Youngest Airline Fleet award for the second consecutive year.

# Qatar Airways Launches Daily Flights to RAK

Starting from 1 November 2023, Qatar Airways will operate daily flights to Ras Al Khaimah International Airport, signifying a major boost to Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority's (RAKTDA) strategy to enhance global connectivity to the Emirate.

Announced at the Arab Aviation Summit (AAS), which took place at Al Hamra International Exhibition & Conference Centre, the move will strengthen direct international travel to Ras Al Khaimah. The daily flights will offer greater choice, flexibility and opportunities for travellers looking to explore the nature Emirate, leveraging Qatar Airways' expansive global network of over 150 destinations spanning Europe, the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, Asia Pacific, North America, and South America.



**RAKI PHILLIPS, Chief Executive Officer of Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority**

Our partnership with Qatar Airways and Ras Al Khaimah International Airport is an important step in driving Ras Al Khaimah's continued growth as a destination of the future. Unlocking joint capabilities with one of the world's leading airlines will raise the overall competitiveness of our tourism ecosystem and meet the growing demand for travel to the Emirate. We look forward to working together to drive sustainable growth, in line with our ambition to attract 3 million visitors annually by 2030 and increase tourism's contribution to Ras Al Khaimah's GDP.



**HIS EXCELLENCY ENGR. SHEIKH SALEM BIN SULTAN AL QASIMI, Chairman of The Department of Civil Aviation, Ras Al Khaimah & Ras Al Khaimah International Airport**

Ras Al Khaimah is continuing to establish itself as a major aviation hub, driven by the success of an inspiring tourism strategy that is growing from strength to strength. Our latest partnership with Qatar Airways is primed to deliver significant progress against this roadmap, while strengthening our operational footprint. We are excited to explore a long and fruitful relationship together.



AM

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# Chilling Summer Thrillers' Hotspots



Summer vacation is the perfect time for families to create unforgettable memories and spend quality time together. With many families looking for the best places to stay during their summer vacation, it can be quite overwhelming to choose from the plethora of hotels available. In this article we will highlight some of the best hotels for kids and family summer vacation.

**T**here are many hotels to choose from when planning a summer vacation with kids. The hotels listed here offer a variety of activities and amenities to keep kids of all ages entertained, making for a memorable and enjoyable family vacation.



# Hilton Maldives Amingiri is the perfect summer getaway

Are you tired of all the hassle that comes with planning a dream holiday in the Maldives? Well, we've got some good news for you! The Hilton Maldives Amingiri is the ultimate solution for your holiday woes. Whether you're looking for a romantic adults-only getaway or a fun-filled summer family vacation, it's got everything covered. Here are five reasons why the Hilton Maldives Amingiri is the perfect summer getaway:

**M**outh-watering food – Food plays an extremely important role in any holiday. With six restaurants and bars to choose from, you're going to be spoilt for choice when it comes to world-class dining at the Hilton Maldives. Habitat, the high ceilings and open kitchen layout of this vibrant restaurant make for a delightful breakfast venue by the sea. Beach Shack, an unpretentious, feet in the sand dining venue that does not take itself too seriously. The shack is all about barefoot luxury, presenting wonderful flame-grilled dishes and craft beers amid sea, sun, and sand. The SIP Tea Lounge, a modern[1]day tea house for refreshment and relaxation. From a delicious matcha latte, robust black teas of South Asia or modern take of iced and bubble tea, SIP provides a tea experience for the global traveler of all ages. Enjoying fresh and

flavorful seafood at Origin, a first of its kind in the Maldives. Origin takes a mindful approach to dining, presenting seafood at its best through sustainable sourcing, aging, and reduced waste. Get creative at Aura Pool Bar & Cocktail Lab, a sophisticated yet welcoming pool bar, that brings a first to the Maldives with its Cocktail Lab – a room dedicated to the art of mixology, where mixologists brew bitters and kombuchas and blend creatively sustainable cocktails

Kids entertainment – Looking for the ideal resort for your family vacation can be exhausting. In Hilton Maldives, our little VIP guests are in for a fun time at Krakengiri Kids' Club, one of the largest children's club in the Maldives. It is a purpose-built space equipped with modern multicultural toys, games and a crafts area with an interactive doodle wall. The club also has a spacious

outdoor area that comprises a small sports ground, a swimming pool, a baby pool and a splash park that is great for children to enjoy some fun in the sun. Not only this, Hilton also has something for teens, a teens-only rooftop bar Re:Fuel a space exclusively dedicated to teenagers. The young ones are in for a real treat here with a milkshake barista on hand to serve up non-alcoholic drinks or help them make their own milkshakes. A cute seating area overlooks the sea where teens can lounge with their drinks and have a little me[1]time away from their parents (or vice versa).

Soothing spas – A visit to a spa forms an integral part of the Maldivian experience simply because of the scenic natural backdrop the country provides, adding to the rejuvenating and calming experience brought about by therapeutic



treatment. Book a couple spa at Skye Deck and take in infinite panoramas of the Indian Ocean. One can also stop by the bar for protein shakes, kombucha, and mocktails. Pair your massage with a couple's yoga session too, it's all about connection and letting go of the worries of life in the Maldives.

**Adrenalin rush** – Your island adventure awaits. Discover the extensive activities at Hilton's dive center. From snorkelling, glass kayaking, paddle boarding to scuba diving- the private lagoon offers one of the best diving experiences in the world. So put on your snorkel gear and explore the breath-taking world beneath or grab a jet ski and trim the waves. You could also watch the sunset while glass kayaking and soak in the stunning views in the middle of

the ocean, along with your loved one. There are many activities for kids too from swimming in the sea, kayaking, paddleboarding, snorkelling or just parasailing and jet skiing.

**Blissful bubble** – The resort occupies the entire Amingiri Island and features 109 expansive beaches and overwater villas, each offering private pools and gorgeous views of the surrounding teal-turquoise lagoon. The villas lean heavily into the natural beauty of its location, with each villa featuring a unity of both Maldivian and contemporary touches, inviting an abundance of natural light through its floor-to-ceiling windows.

All of this is enhanced by accents of the bright and dark blue Hilton colour palette that fittingly mirrors the azure sea and sky. So, if quality time, and

staying-in is what you're keen on, the villas provide the perfect cocoon.

In a nutshell, imbued with the quintessential Hilton promise of splendid luxury and stunning opulence, this island getaway resort has it all. What makes Hilton Amingiri Resort and Spa a great option is the thoughtful attention to detail that the staff put into making your stay a memorable one. From personalized guest experience manager's recommendations on excursions and dining options, to the endless possibilities of grabbing some much-needed rest and relaxation, be it at the spa or simply lounging about your private villa's deck. Or perhaps, having a picnic on the resort's white sanded beach, the sky's the limit here! ■



## Escape to the Serene Hills

**E**n route to the famous and larger hill towns of Shimla and Chail in the north of India, is the small town of Kandaghat. Surrounded by snow-capped mountain peaks, it promises long rejuvenating walks through hilly green pastures. Club Mahindra Kandaghat resort is located in this picturesque hill station of Himachal Pradesh, offering a perfect blend of natural beauty and comfort.

With breath-taking views of the surrounding hills and verdant forests,

the resort offers a serene retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The resort is equipped with luxurious amenities and services that ensure a premium and comfortable stay for guests. From elegant rooms to a relaxing spa, fitness centre, and restaurants, everything is designed to make your vacation memorable.

Wake up to the call of a bird and feel the fresh mountain air as you enjoy your morning tea. Start your day with yoga, go for a refreshing nature walk,

observe the wide variety of flora and fauna that surrounds the resort, enjoy birdwatching, trekking, and so much more. Guests also have the option of staying indoors and enjoying fun games and entertainment activities at the resort's Happy Hub. Kids absolutely love the experience as they get to learn new skill sets and indulge in their hobbies. The resort's delicious food is another key highlight of your stay. Relish local delicacies such as Siddu, Meetha Chawal, Sepu Vadi and treat your taste buds to a whole new palette of flavours.

So, if you are looking for a truly memorable vacation, look no further. Book your stay at the Club Mahindra Kandaghat resort and immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Himachal Pradesh. ■

# A Spice-scented Tropical Haven

Is there anything that can accentuate an African vacation? Yes, a villa-only resort nestled amid sprawling tropical gardens flanked by a mile-long powdery white sand beach can. Nothing better describes The Residence Zanzibar.

## A perfect setting in the Indian Ocean

Listed as a Travellers' Choice on Tripadvisor in 2022, the 66-key resort located just off the coast of Tanzania showcases Zanzibar's African, Omani, and European heritage through the elegant design of its luxurious villas. Offering a perfect combination of space and privacy framed by enchanting Zanzibar sunset, the villas have private swimming pools and gardens, beach, or ocean views. A glass-walled pool overlooking the ocean is like icing on the cake. Whether one chooses to take a stroll on the beach or cycle their way through gardens, the resort makes a perfect spot to unwind and reconnect with the inner self.

## An exciting gastronomic journey

True to the archipelago's cultural heritage, the menu takes a cue from Indian, Arabic, and Mediterranean flavours with a hint of local spices. This means guests can find paratha, biryani, and korma with a Zanzibar twist served at its restaurants or in the intimacy of a villa. The Dining Room with spectacular views of the beach and ocean serves international cuisine as well as regional cuisine peppered with spices that Zanzibar is so famous for. Situated within lush grounds, which is a short stroll from the main hotel, The Pavilion has a menu best described as Middle Eastern meets Mediterranean. Its contemporary décor with touches of Middle Eastern culture and traditional music in the background offers a unique dining experience to guests. One can also relax by the poolside to relish snacks and drinks. The resort also takes great care of someone celebrating a milestone by arranging an intimate dinner. Guests can pick a venue of their choice... privacy of their villa, the terrace, or an evening barbecue on the jetty by the ocean.

## Rejuvenating spa sessions in tropical gardens

Woven seamlessly into the natural landscape, the spa has six treatment pavilions and a relaxation area with a whirlpool.

The signature healing massage works on chakra points, while the beauty treatments use local plants and spices to nurture the body.

## The African vacation with a historical twist

Whether someone lounges on the beach, wanders through bustling bazaars, goes on a dolphin safari, or encounters indigenous wildlife, Zanzibar has all the tropes of a wholesome vacation, be it families, a group of friends, or solo travellers.

The Zanzibar archipelago – once a gateway for international traders voyaging between Arabia, India, and Africa – has been influenced by diverse cultures that make it a unique multicultural experience. As one walks through the bustling Zanzibar City's old quarter Stone Town, a World Heritage Site, they come across story-like buildings including coral and stone houses with wooden doors carved with Qu'ranic scripts, Indian houses with courtyards and balconies, and white-washed Arabian mansions of former sultans and Persian merchants.

A visit to a local spice plantation wraps travellers in the aromas of clove, nutmeg, cardamom, turmeric, cinnamon, chili, and black pepper. Nature lovers are in for a treat as they can explore the Jozani Forest Reserve, home to indigenous species of flora and fauna including the red colobus monkey. The village of Kizimkazi, famous for its dolphin safaris, is just 20 minutes away from the resort.

## Travel Tips

Connected by many airlines, The Residence Zanzibar is located just 55 minutes from Zanzibar International Airport. Zanzibar is blessed with warm weather all year round, with an average temperature of 27°C in the summer months from October to May, and a comfortable 25°C between June and September. Highly valued for its privacy, the resort is located close to Menai Bay, Zanzibar's largest marine protected area inhabited by indigenous fish and marine mammals.

For those planning an Easter or Eid break, The Residence Zanzibar is offering packages for a stay at a luxury villa with a private pool that includes Easter lunch, a free meal plan, one 35-minute spa treatment, discounts on food & beverages and spa treatments, discounts on child's stay. ■

# Unwind at Monteria Village's 'Kabila': A Unique Traditionally Themed Experience



Situated in Khalapur, Raigad District, Maharashtra, Monteria Village makes a perfect spot for people who love to spend time under the starry sky, mingle with people, wander in the natural settings, and spend some quality time with oneself. The place is designed to bring people together, engage socially, and keep away from the digital and fast urban life.

Inspired by the banjara community, the 'Kabila' today offers 46 comfortable themed rooms spread across 4 categories - Village Huts, Wooden Chalets, Kutchi Bhungas, and Premium Cottages - that dawn beautiful traditional architecture with modern amenities.

"The Kabila is designed to offer our guests a comfortable and rich village experience. We aim to provide our guests with an elevated experience of a quintessential village with a traditional appeal and modern necessities. At Monteria Village, there are a bounty of unique experiences for the guests," said Rahi Vaghani, Managing Director, Monteria Resort Pvt. Ltd.

"At Monteria Village, our aim is to recreate experiences for our guests who are looking to explore, and slowdown from the hustle bustle of urban living,"

adds Mr Vaghani.

Spread across 36 acres, Monteria Village offers a variety of activities and attractions for the guests. The property provides the guests a sneak peek into the village life through art, culture, and traditional activities. From nukkad snack shops to Sabras Restaurant that serves buffet, and an extensive a-la-carte menu at the Cafe De Monteria and the Theka that serves a wide range of mocktails and cocktails, Monteria Village has something for every taste bud, blending well village authentic cuisines with the modern life callings.

Some of the key activities at Monteria Village

A leisurely walk through the village – Once settled at the Kabila, a stroll to the village is a must to do activity to experience the rural setup of the property. Walk through the green farms, colourful Kutch houses, and Sarpanch house. Visit the Gaushala (cow shed), Bor lake, explore the cave tunnel, a bamboo groove, and the Om temple. Take a walk through the rail tracks at the abandoned makeshift railway station or take a dip at the swimming pool attached to the waterfall or a hike trail on a nearby hill.

Street food – Try the street food at rural nukkad stalls such as pani puri, golas, channa jor garam, and juices. Eat at Sabras restaurant, and sip kadak chai at local vendors. Women from the village also sell homemade pickles and papads.

Visit the mela – The evening village mela is a sight to witness with folk dances, music, and nautaki (entertaining art performances). The Lok Kala, performance stage, is where the performers showcase an array of folk music, dance, and theatre acts.

Shop handicrafts – Buy handicraft items from bamboo and furniture weavers. The village also has carpenter, black smith, barber, tailor and pottery and cycle repair workshops. One even has the option to get their own metal and get them remodelled with the artists at the village.

Play traditional games – Engage in traditional games such as marble, chakdo ride, obstacle course and swing circle around the tree cover, etc.

Open farming to Hydroponic farming: From traditional to modern, you can explore every technique and process there is to know about farming.







# Where Adventures Never End



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# India Fashion Tex 23

To transform India's woolen textile industry and help India become a global hub for "Make in India" woolen textiles & apparels, Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council (WWEPC) in association with Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL) under the aegis of the Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, jointly organized the 3rd edition of India Fashion Tex 2023-Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM) at Hotel Ashoka, New Delhi from 20th-22nd March.

The three day exhibition will be attended by over 200 international buyers from various countries like United States, EU, Scandinavia, UK, Australia, Japan, Middle East, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and many more along with them there will be more than 100 Indian exhibitors attended the exhibition. Some of the international brands including Impulse, Li & Fung, Triburg, Puma, Adidas, Ikea, New times Group, Falabella and many

other established buying houses have showcased a wide range in textiles & apparels, while, there were a special Pavilion from J&K to exhibit variety and innovation.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Smt. Shubhra, Trade Advisor and Development Commissioner (Handicrafts & Handlooms) Ministry of Textiles, Gov of India. While speaking during the inaugural address, Smt. Shubhra said "I would like to congratulate

the Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council (WWEPC) and Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL) for jointly organizing the RBSM-India Fashion Tex 2023. The Indian Textile industry is the second largest employment generating sector and the strength of India's textile industry is the manufacturing value chain base present in the country. The share of textile exports in India's total merchandise exports has been around 11% and there is





lot of scope to grow further. The Export Promotion Councils can play a very important role in this context. India Fashion Tex is an excellent platform where all participants catering to different textile clusters can meet the foreign textile buyers and this will encourage the exhibitors from MSME Sector and will further uplift the Indian export at the global markets”.

Shri Romesh Khajuria, Chairman, Wool and Woolens Export Promotion Council, during his inaugural address said “The Indian woolen textile industry have come a long way, from small beginnings as a cottage industry and is now able to meet the international standards through constant innovations in techniques, styles, textures and colors. Today, there has been a 29% of growth in exports of wool & woolen products during the period April 2022 to January 2023 as compared to same period previous year. Under the supreme guidance of Hon’ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal, the Indian textile industry showcased its strength at the international arena. I would also take this opportunity, to thank our Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji

for approving seven PMMITRA Parks, this significant step will be a big boost for the Indian textile industry”. He further said that “India Fashion Tex will be a great platform for all Indian textile MSMEs coming from different textile clusters under one roof to meet foreign textile buyers from across the world.”

Shri Vishwanath R. Agarwal, Chairman, Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council said, “It is my great pleasure to welcome you to “India Fashion Tex” a Grand Reverse Buyer Seller Meet, the Indian textile industry continues to show a strong growth despite challenges in the domestic and international markets. India is one of the fastest growing economies, holding about 4% share of the global trade in textiles and apparel. PDEXCIL has a long history of organizing RBSMs and supporting the MSME textile and apparel entrepreneurs of India. “India Fashion Tex” is representing textile manufacturers and traders from all over India such as Delhi, Mumbai, Ichalkaranji, Solapur, Erode, Tirupur, Erode, Karur, Ahmedabad, Varanasi, etc. with each place having its own unique product. I am sure that the

global textile buyers visiting the RBSM will get a good opportunity to source their requirements of various textile products under one umbrella of ‘India Fashion Tex’. While speaking about the Powerloom sector he said “The Powerloom sector is producing all kinds of woven fabric and made-ups had an export of US\$ 8.3 billion approx”.

The three-day exhibition will have an extensive range of woolen merchandises including Yarn & fabrics apparels, clothing knitwear, hosiery goods, pashmina shawls / stoles, Scarves, mufflers, blankets, blazers and home textiles crafted by Indian weavers and artisans.

India Fashion Tex also organized a dazzling fashion show which displayed the latest collections of participating companies on the ramp. The products on display are being designed keeping in mind the latest trends in the international market, colour themes and ongoing fashion practices. Various Indian and International models walked the ramp in traditional Indian and western garments which showcased different varieties of various Indian woolen wear. ■





### **Dietitian Garima Goyal**

Everyone looks at the physique of bollywood actors and begin to drool to achieve that dream body. So here are a few diet tips that you can follow and discard in context of achieving your dream body.

**Deepika Padukone** - She has mentioned in various interviews that she is a teetotaler and this helps her to maintain her figure. She swears on not following any strict diet or having fancy foods, rather consuming small quantities of her favourite foods in frequent intervals.

**Anushka Sharma** - To remain slim and for a beautiful skin, she is very conscious and avoids junk food as far as possible. She prefers to have homemade food and carries

# Decoding Celebrity Diet: Tips and Tricks

Though various food fads and dangerous trends are being floated in the market through celebrities, which people begin to follow blindly, but there are a few celebs too who practice healthy habits of eating and exercise too.





her tiffin box to shoots as well. The best thing in her diet regime is her breakfast which includes eggs, a great source of protein and energy.

**Sara Ali Khan** - She is a motivator for most as she had a jaw dropping transformation from 95 kg to 56 kg. She is very disciplined for her diet and workouts. She never misses her gym and always have homemade food, ditching all the processed food, pizzas and burgers.

**Soha Ali Khan** - She made her mark during her pregnancy journey by being a fitness freak, daily practicing yoga and following a healthy diet. She considers yoga to be the best way to lose weight and stay fit.

This is just a small list but if you go through the celebrity interviews, you will find these things in common.

**They give time to their body** - They keep their body moving all the time. Some go for gym workouts, some are seeing doing pilates while some master the yogic postures. Everyone knows that losing weight involves 80 percent diet and 20 percent exercise, but that 20 percent is also important. Shilpa Shetty posted her yogic postures while she was in Manali for a film shoot and didn't let her busy schedule come in her way of exercise.

They practice interval training - Celebrities don't get even an hour for their work out on most days, so they use interval training and move their body in short bursts. For boosting metabolism and toning muscles, high intensity interval training (HIIT) is really helpful.

**They achieve masters in both aerobic fitness and resistance**

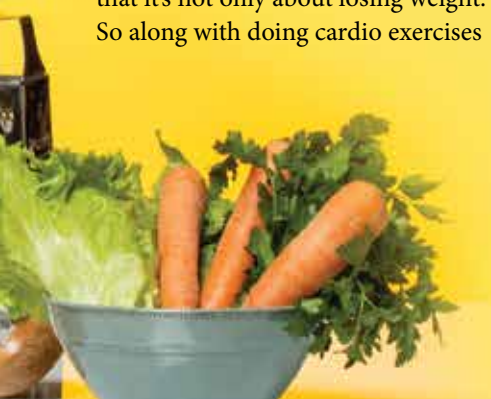
**training** - Celebrities very well know that it's not only about losing weight. So along with doing cardio exercises

for aerobic fitness, they also perform strength training that includes body weight exercise, battling ropes, kick boxing, chin ups etc. and move all their muscles.

**For most, their health mantra is yoga** - Shilpa Shetty, the Goddess of yoga made everyone believe that a well toned body is achieved by yoga. The benefit of yoga is that you can perform it anywhere and helps to achieve both physical and mental health. We are also seeing Alia Bhatt coming back to her shape after postpartum and recently she added a post that states that she completed 108 Suryanamaskars.

**They perform mindful eating** - Since they are travelling most of the times, celebrities always carry their healthy foods along or try to eat healthy foods. They try to add nutrient dense foods to the diet and give little space to their cravings.

So now you know what celebrities do to remain fit. So follow these tips and try gaining your figure.





**Dr. Sonia Tekchandani,**  
Celebrity Dermatologist,  
Founder of Tender Skin  
International share tips on  
summer skincare.

# Summer Blossom

## ● Summer Skincare 2023: The Latest Trends and Innovations in Sun Protection

Sun protection is an integral part of skincare and people have realized the importance of using sunscreen. With the onset of summer, it is necessary to use the right sunscreen to protect the skin from scorching sun rays. Sunscreen sprays are going to be quite a big hit this year. It is extremely convenient to use and very lightweight which helps with all types of skin types. Roll-on sunscreens or sunscreen sticks are gaining popularity as well as it makes the reapplication of sunscreen easier. Glowly sunscreens are also becoming more visible in the market as they are a great hybrid of makeup and skincare.

## ● The Best Skincare Tips for Combating Sweat and Humidity

Summers come along with humidity and sweat which can be a hindrance to your skincare. Excessive sweating leads to clogged pores which eventually result in acne. Use products that are gel or water-based as opposed to heavy creams or moisturizers which tend to make you sweat more. Always carry a compact powder with you. Moreover, keep a set of

blotting paper to dab off any sweat patch from the face. Using a face mist also aids in cooling down the face and combats effectively against sweat and humidity.

## ● How to Build a Summer Skincare Routine That Protects Against Pollution and Environmental Stressors

With so much pollution, it has become necessary to protect our skin from environmental hazards. Start with the basic skincare routine that includes cleansing, toning, and moisturizing. Use cleansers twice a day. Sunscreen is extremely important that will ensure that your skin is protected from UVA and UVB rays and free radicals. Exfoliation is key as it will aid in getting rid of dead skin cells and will keep the pores unclogged. However, make sure that you moisturize your skin as sweat and humidity can lead to dryness which can further be damaged by pollution, dirt, and dust. Opt for the double cleansing method to get rid of all makeup residues at the end of the day.

## ● The Importance of Hydration in Summer Skincare: Tips for Keeping Skin Moisturized and Refreshed

People tend to skip moisturizers during Summer. However, during summers due to sweat and humidity, the skin becomes drier. So, hydration is key if you want to keep your skin fresh and healthy. Use water-based moisturizers which are lightweight yet will keep your skin hydrated for a long. Carry face mists with you to give a quick boost of freshness to your skin while adding hydration. Sleeping masks are also great during the night as they will create a strong hydration barrier for your skin without making the skin heavy. Choose hyaluronic acid serum which as it helps to retain moisture on the skin.

## ● Natural Summer Skincare Remedies: DIY Recipes for Gorgeous Glowing Skin

Mash a papaya and mix in one tablespoon of yogurt with it. Apply this paste to your skin and keep it for 15 minutes. Papaya is enriched with enzymes that are responsible for brightening the skin and yogurt helps in dealing with sunburns. Another great natural skincare remedy is to apply milk and sandalwood powder. It helps reduce blemishes and gives a natural glow to the face.





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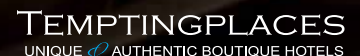
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