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### **DEAR READERS,**

Welcome aboard SpiceJet!

The aviation sector in India continues to show strong momentum, and at SpiceJet, we are stepping into 2026 with renewed confidence and clarity of purpose. This confidence comes from the steady efforts of our teams – both on the ground and in the air – who work every day to keep you connected safely and reliably.

Over the past two decades, everything SpiceJet has achieved has been made possible by the continued trust and support of our partners, employees and, most importantly, you – our passengers. On behalf of the entire SpiceJet family, I sincerely thank you for standing by us through both calm and challenging times. Your trust motivates us to keep moving forward and to do better every day.

The year gone by was an important one for SpiceJet. It marked a phase of steady progress, focused decision-making and rebuilding strength across all areas of our operations. We took meaningful steps to strengthen our financial position and restore confidence among stakeholders, laying the foundation for a more stable and resilient future. These efforts were reflected in multiple credit rating upgrades by reputed agencies.

2025 also saw new initiatives and partnerships take shape. We entered into an interline agreement with Gulf Air, offering our passengers wider international connectivity and more seamless travel options. We became the only Indian airline to operate non-stop flights to Najaf, the holy city in Iraq. As part of our focus on sustainable operations, we introduced paperless boarding at Shillong airport. Our continued emphasis on safety and operational discipline was reinforced with the renewal of the IATA IOSA certification, and we are proud to have recorded zero Level 1 findings in the DGCA safety audit.

These achievements are a direct result of the dedication and hard work of every SpiceJetter, and I thank them sincerely.

Strengthening our fleet was one of the most challenging and important priorities of the year. I am pleased to share that we have successfully doubled our operational fleet. Each aircraft that returns to service strengthens our network, improves reliability and helps us serve growing passenger demand more effectively.

We also intend to enhance connectivity between India's key cities. We will introduce additional frequencies between all major cities to ensure seamless same-day departures and arrivals, offering passengers more flexibility and a seamless travel experience.

Every decision we take is guided by our commitment to serve you better. I look forward to welcoming you on board again as we continue this journey together.

As we begin the New Year, I wish you and your loved ones good health, happiness and safe, pleasant journeys ahead. Thank you for choosing SpiceJet, and we look forward to flying you in 2026 and beyond.

Warm Regards,

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### **1XL INFRA: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

A Candid Conversation with Founders Dr. Dhiraj Jain & Dr. Mamata Dhiraj Jain

### The UAE real estate market is competitive. What made you venture into it?

Dr. Mamata Jain: The UAE real estate market is competitive, but that's exactly what makes it exciting. A crowded market signifies strong demand, robust fundamentals, and long-term opportunities. At 1XL Infra, we operate on the TGIS framework - Trust, Growth, Integrity, and Sustainability, values that guide our efforts to create lasting impact beyond profits. Real estate is built on relationships. We believe in fostering trust and transparency to bring meaningful change. As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum said, "In the race for excellence, there is no finish line." We aim to build credibility and long-term value.

### How do you make investing in UAE real estate easy for first-time or overseas buyers?

**Dr. Mamata Jain:** We understand that for first-time or overseas investors, UAE real estate can be overwhelming. We break it into manageable steps: setting priorities, researching developers, understanding payment plans, and following a clear roadmap. My book, "The A to Z of Dubai Real Estate", is a guide for new investors. We also provide end-to-end support, from property selection to legal checks and paperwork for our clients. We aim to make the process clear and secure, ensuring confidence not only in the property but in the entire process.

### How does innovation play a role in your projects?

**Dr. Dhiraj Jain:** Innovation is at the heart of everything we do. We have 5 awarded patents and 11 pending, including solutions like automated concrete checks, Al-driven

property valuation, and real-time asset performance tracking, all designed to make real estate smarter and more transparent. We are constantly pushing boundaries, from smart property management to simplifying real estate transactions, creating impactful solutions for our investors. Beyond real estate, we've innovations such as high-performance video streaming systems and many more.

### When you decided to move to the Burj Khalifa, how did that fit into the bigger picture of 1XL Infra's vision?

Dr. Dhiraj Jain: Moving to the Burj Khalifa was a big step for us. It's about aligning ourselves with a place that represents excellence. The Burj Khalifa is a global symbol of success, reflecting our long-term commitment to growth. It's more than just a prestigious address. Being at the heart of the UAE's business ecosystem provides incredible opportunities and reflects our confidence in 1XL Infra's future. We aim to be part of Dubai's skyline for decades.

### You've received numerous accolades. How has that affected the company's journey?

**Dr. Mamata Jain:** Receiving these awards is validating, but it's the trust we've built with our investors and partners that truly matters. The recognition boosts our morale and reminds us to give our best. For us, it's all about credibility. These awards show our investors that we're not just another real estate company; they're partnering with a brand that is focused on sustainable growth. It's about ensuring long-term, real value for everyone involved.

What would you say is the most important quality a leader must possess?

**Dr. Dhiraj Jain:** Leadership is about responsibility. Integrity, Innovation, and Inspiration are the top qualities. Integrity builds trust, innovation drives progress, and inspiration motivates people to perform at their best. A true leader empowers others, creates a compelling vision, and leads by example. At 1XL Infra, we focus on purposedriven leadership to ensure every project contributes positively to society.

### Can you tell us more about your social initiatives and their impact?

Dr. Dhiraj Jain: As our children, Jainam & Jivika, say, "Social work is the rent you pay to live in this world." Through the Jainam Jivika Foundation, we lead initiatives like Life Saver Army (over 100,000 donors mobilised), Pledge My Organs, and Sevak Army, with over 500,000 volunteering hours. We also run Tree Plantation Drives (over 100,000 trees planted) and a free Bhojanshala in Vadner, providing daily meals. Jainam and Jivika have inspired over 100,000 people globally through 200+ events. These initiatives are not side projects; they're part of our identity. As Mahatma Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others".

### What advice would you give to investors looking at UAE real estate?

**Dr. Mamata Jain:** Investing in UAE real estate is not just about owning property; it's about securing your family's future. 1XL Infra offers more than property; it provides Trust, Growth, Integrity, and Sustainability for every investor. The UAE market is one of the safest for long-term investment. Don't wait to buy real estate, buy real estate and wait. Its value will only increase over time, especially in a growing market like Dubai.

### **INSPIRATION IN A FLASH**

- 01. Dr. Dhiraj Jain's best introduction? Always available to guide.
- 02. Dr. Dhiraj Jain's leisure time? Travelling and reading books.
- 03. Dr. Mamata Jain's leisure time? Meditation and reading books.
- 04. Favourite quote?

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### V Legal & the Man Behind the Mission

### A Candid Conversation with Founder Vishal Tinani

At what moment did you realise you were building something far larger than a law practice?

I believe the realisation wasn't a single moment; it developed over the years. Growing up in Vadodara grounded me, but moving into the UAE expanded my perspective. Early in my career, I saw how the right legal strategy could alter the course of businesses, families, and even entire communities. That's when it became clear that I wasn't just practising law; I was creating a platform for impact. The journey was built "case by case, client by client," growing quietly but with purpose.

Your recent interview with Anjana Om Kashyap garnered significant attention. What did that moment represent for you?

Speaking with Anjana was more than a media appearance; it was a chance

to talk openly about the evolving legal landscape in the UAE, migrant worker challenges, and how young professionals can bridge understanding between India and the UAE. Her ability to draw out personal reflections made the interview feel like a milestone, not just a feature. It reflected how far the journey has travelled beyond courtrooms.

You were recently honoured on stage by Raghav Chadha. How did that recognition influence your perspective?

Being presented with an award by Raghav Chadha, a public figure many young professionals admire, was humbling. For me, the moment symbolised responsibility more than achievement. Recognition is encouraging, but it's also a reminder to continue contributing meaningfully to the Indo-UAE corridor and to the people who place trust in my work.

Many people don't know about your humanitarian work. You've helped more than 100 detainees return home. How did that become part of your mission?

This is the part of my career that remains closest to my heart Over the last few years, I have encountered dozens of detainees caught in situations ranging from labour disputes to documentation errors, including credit card defaults. Many had no representation or understanding of the legal process. Helping over 100 of them secure release and reunite with their families wasn't philanthropy; it was duty. Those cases reminded me that the law exists for people first, not paperwork.

Let's talk about V Legal. What was your vision when you founded the firm?

V Legal was born from a very simple yet powerful realisation that clients don't just want legal answers; they want strategic partners.

Today, we advise on corporate law, M&A, white-collar crimes, dispute resolution, insurance, cyber law, AI, and blockchain. But at our core, we're a people-first consultancy that blends traditional legal depth with the future of business.

Your work spans boardrooms, high-stakes disputes, and humanitarian efforts. What drives this balance?

Law isn't linear. One day, you're drafting a multimillion-dirham agreement, and the next, you're negotiating a detainee's release. The balance comes from understanding that legal impact wears different faces. Corporate clients shape industries. Detainees shape families. Both deserve commitment.

The UAE is known for its regulatory depth, diversity, and pace of change. What are some of the biggest challenges and opportunities you've seen while working here?

The UAE's legal landscape is layered, combining federal law, emirate-specific regulations, and free-zone frameworks, a complexity I've highlighted often. But that complexity is also what makes the UAE thrive. Its cultural respect, speed of legal reform, and global ambition make it a unique place to practice law. The key is agility: businesses and lawyers must evolve as fast as the country does.

You have a reputation for being approachable yet extremely detail-oriented. What guiding principles have shaped your growth?

My guiding principles remain consistent:

- Integrity isn't negotiable.
- Bridge the gap between law and technology.
- People over profits.
- And never stop learning.

These aren't just mantras, they're habits that shape every case and client relationship.



### SpiceJet Strengthens Fleet with Addition of Two Boeing 737 Aircraft

SpiceJet has inducted two Boeing 737 aircraft into its fleet, further strengthening its operational capability and capacity across key domestic and international routes.

Both aircraft have completed all regulatory formalities and have already entered commercial service. They commenced operations on November 26 and 29, respectively, and are currently deployed on key routes including Delhi-Bangkok, Ahmedabad-Dubai and Ahmedabad-Kolkata.

The addition comes at an important time for the airline as it continues to focus on improving connectivity, enhancing schedule reliability, and meeting rising passenger demand. With these inductions, SpiceJet aims to offer greater choice and flexibility to travellers during the peak travel season.

**Debojo Maharshi, Chief Business Officer, SpiceJet,** said, "The induction of two Boeing 737 aircraft into our fleet is another step in our ongoing efforts to expand capacity in a calibrated and responsible manner. Both aircraft have already entered commercial service, and we are confident they will further strengthen our operations. We remain committed to providing reliable, efficient, and affordable air travel to our passengers while continuing to build a strenger and more resilient potyect."



# Shaping the Future of Real Estate Worldwide





### JSK GLOBAL: Turning Adversity Into Opportunity

JSK Global, founded by entrepreneur Sachin Joshi, has evolved from humble beginnings into a respected real estate advisory firm grounded in trust. transparency and deep market insight. What began with Wisdom Book Trading gradually expanded into a global property consultancy known for its client-first philosophy and long-term investment strategy. Unlike traditional brokers, JSK prioritises education and guidance, helping investors understand market cycles, risk, rental yields and global diversification. Today, the company operates across the GCC, India, the UK, Europe and Southeast Asia, becoming a dependable partner for both new and seasoned investors. Together, Arada and JSK Global continue taking real estate worldwide, combining visionary development with strategic investment intelligence.

JSK's leadership reflects a culture built on collaboration and integrity. Mansi Joshi, the Chief Operating Officer, brings disciplined focus to operations, ensuring smooth and reliable service for every client. Sonia Gupta, the CEO, blends strong business acumen with emotional intelligence, shaping a work environment where accountability and authenticity thrive. In public relations. Parul Via communicates the company's values with clarity and depth, while Milli Jobanputra drives performance and inspires continuous growth through her unwavering dedication. Shilpy Agarwal infuses creativity into JSK's digital and social presence, and Khyati Mistry leads overseas expansion with forward-thinking ideas that keep the company aligned with global opportunities. Together, this cohesive leadership team ensures JSK remains proactive, ethical and deeply client-focused in Dubai's ever-evolving real estate market.

JSK Global Contact Details: md@jskglobal360.com , Ph: +971 507149140.

### **Arada: A Vision for Modern Living**

Founded in 2017, Arada has become one of the UAE's most dynamic property developers — a brand redefining what modern communities should ideally be like. With prime developments such as Masaar and Aljada, Arada blends architecture, wellness and nature into smart, future-ready living environments. From lush green landscapes to pedestrian-friendly neighbourhoods, every Arada community is designed to elevate the quality of life. The company's philosophy is rooted in creating sustainable and socially connected spaces where families can thrive. It also assures that investors gain long-term value, and residents enjoy a lifestyle that extends far beyond their homes. Arada's fast global expansion and visionary approach make it a natural partner in inspiring worldwide real estate growth.



### Sachin Joshi: A Life of Purpose, Progress & People

Sachin Joshi's journey is defined by grit, humility and heart. Raised in Mumbai and Gujarat without a formal academic path, he began working early, selling books to support his family. These modest beginnings shaped him into a self-taught leader known for resilience, empathy and an instinct for uplifting those around him

Today in Dubai, Sachin is recognised not only as a successful entrepreneur but also as a dedicated humanitarian. He actively supports blue-collar communities, contributes to children's education, helps families in need and is acknowledged by the Dubai Health Authority for his consistent blood donations. At the core of his success is the strength of his family — his wife Mansi and their children, Punit and Meet — whose support anchors his ambitions. With them beside him, Sachin continues to build businesses that balance commercial success with meaningful social impact. His journey now moves forward through JSK Global and its collaborations with visionary developers like Arada, as he works to shape a more inclusive and forward-thinking real estate landscape worldwide.



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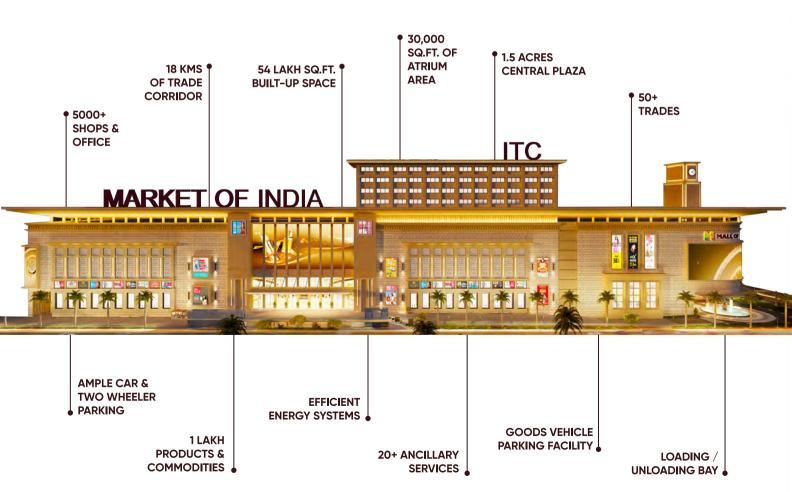




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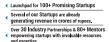
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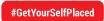














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When "natural" became a label rather than a promise, Vanaura Organics was created to question every ingredient and the intention behind it.

Founded in 2019, Vanaura Organics emerged from a deeper concern, many skin and hair care products marketed as natural still contain ingredients that cause several side effects and health issues which are restricted or banned in international markets. Rather than following industry shortcuts, we set out to redefine ayurvedic skincare through research-driven formulation, ethical sourcing, and clinical integrity.

Vanaura Organics is built on the foundation of blending Ayurveda with advanced organic technology. Over three years of dedicated research and collaboration with international laboratories enabled us to completely replace synthetic bases with certified organic, plant-derived alternatives. Every formulation is built on a certified natural base, enriched with potent phytoactives, and designed to be safe, effective, and globally compliant, without compromising the therapeutic depth of Ayurveda.

Vanaura Organics follows its proprietary TICK 5 Journey, a transparent and unique framework that ensures conscious care at every stage of formulation. The process begins with ethical sourcing from a 100-acre organic farm in the Western Ghats. Ingredients are processed using Pañcavidha Kalpana, a classical Ayurvedic method, and enhanced with biotech-derived plant actives for efficacy. Each product is crafted with safe, certified ingredients, packaged sustainably, and designed to deliver deep, transformative results.

Vanaura Organics is the brain child of Dr. Nayana Sivaraj, Managing Director and an Ayurvedic physician (BAMS MD Ayurveda) whose clinical experience shaped a vision of conscious care, led to the understanding that skin health changes with age, environment, and lifestyle and that a one-formula-fits-all approach often fails. Under her leadership, Vanaura Organics approaches skin and hair care not as quick fixes, but as a commitment to long-term health and natural radiance.



Dr. Nayana Sivaraj Founder, Vanaura Organics



A unique concept found nowhere else in the skincare industry, the **Rejuvinita 4-in-1 Organic Gel** is exclusive to Vanaura Organics. This COSMOS certified organic gel is created on a completely natural base and is free from chemicals, preservatives, added colour, and fragrance. Designed as a **cell rejuvenation therapy**, it works as a massage gel, mask, cleanser, and soapfree wash, a facial like experience in one formulation, delivering effective, multifunctional skincare delivering wonder effects of ayurveda.

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For ages 76-90 above

Equally pioneering is the **Rejuvinita Gold Series**, the world's first age-specific night care range. Recognising that skin evolves with every stage of life, each formulation is scientifically crafted to support the skin's natural overnight repair cycle, addressing the distinct needs of every age category from 14 to 90+.

Designed as a night cream focused on rejuvenation and preventive wellness, the series strengthens skin health before visible concerns deepen, while consistently nourishing and restoring balance over time.

Enriched with Ayurvedic ingredients, plant-based actives, and 24 k Gold colloidal, Rejuvinita Gold series goes beyond conventional anti-aging. It delivers **age-specific care**, **nourishment**, **repair**, **and resilience**, supporting healthier, more radiant skin at every age.



Vanaura Organics is setting a new standard in premium skincare by bridging the gap between time-honored tradition and cutting-edge science. This evolution in beauty has earned significant acclaim from global institutions. The brand's inclusion in the Forbes India – D Globalist (DGEMS Select 200) confirms its

position as an innovator on the world stage. This excellence is echoed by **Prime Insights**, which named Vanaura Organics **"India's Most Iconic Organic Skincare Brand"** for its dedication to purity and performance. These honors stem from the leadership of Dr. Nayana Sivaraj, who was recognized in **Femina's "FAB 40"** list for 2025. Today, the company continues to lead the movement toward a more responsible and effective skincare future built on consumer trust.

### Raising the Benchmark in the Beauty Industry Ayurveda-Inspired Organic Technology

With a returning customer rate exceeding 50% and a community of over one million customers, Vanaura Organics' growth is driven by trust rather than aggressive marketing. Women and men across all strata choose Vanaura Organics for its credibility and consistent results. Long-term loyalty and repeat purchases reflect the brand's commitment to understanding customer needs and delivering performance with integrity. This sustained confidence is a clear indicator of Vanaura Organics' impact in redefining beauty through purpose, science, and trust.

Vanaura Organics has earned the trust of several respected film icons and public figures who continue to choose the brand for its results and integrity. Esteemed personalities such as Padma Bhushan Shobana, Remya Krishnan, Farah Khan, and Khushbu Sundar have repeatedly trusted Vanaura Organics,reflecting confidence built on performance.

Today, Vanaura Organics stands as a conscious skincare brand rooted in science, tradition, and responsibility - setting new standards for what organic skincare can truly be.

### vanauraorganics.com

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# WHAT'S TRENDING

### **CITY CARNIVAL**

**BLR Hubba** returns for its third edition as a ten-day celebration of Bengaluru's cultural energy. Anchored by UnboxingBLR with the Government of Karnataka as partner, the festival brings together music, theatre, food, art, dance, storytelling, and immersive experiences across the city. With over 250 events spanning multiple 'Hubbas' such as Kantha, Nataka, Kala, Thindi, and Makkala Hubba, the festival offers something for every age group and interest. Spread across iconic venues, BLR Hubba transforms everyday city spaces into vibrant cultural stages, inviting citizens to experience Bengaluru in new and meaningful ways.

What: BLR Hubba

Where: Multiple venues across Bengaluru

When: 16-25 January 2026









### WINTER SPECIAL

Seasonal warmth takes centrestage as restaurants roll out winter menus designed

around comfort, heritage, and seasonal produce. **Daryaganj** leads the way with a menu inspired by traditional North Indian winter cooking, drawing from recipes rooted in 1947. From Bhutta Shorba and *methi*-infused *tikkas* to Sarson ka Saag with Makki ki Roti, the menu celebrates slow-cooked flavours and nostalgic favourites. Hearty mains and classic desserts round off an experience that brings winter comfort to the table across all outlets.

Where: Daryaganj outlets (pan-India) When: on till 28 February 2026



Culture Circle unveils its holiday gifting guide, a refined edit

of international and homegrown luxury essentials curated for

New Year shopping. The selection spans fashion, accessories,

timepieces, fragrances, and sneakers, bringing together iconic

names like Gucci, Coach, TAG Heuer, Chanel, and Jordan. Each piece reflects craftsmanship, design, and understated indulgence,

leather accessories and precision watches to statement sneakers and classic fragrances, the edit is designed for those seeking

making gifting both thoughtful and timeless. From sculpted

LUXURY GIFTING



# Amul Cheese



### India's favourite cheese











From the melt of processed to the maturity of natural -Amul Cheese brings both worlds to your table. Whichever you choose, it's crafted for taste that feels real.



### Amul Cheese Cubes Every time, every dish

Amul Cheese Cubes are so Grate them, melt them, dice them, they're going to make



festivities









### Taste meets convenience

Amul Diced Blend Cheese is that Italian flavour you need to add to your dishes to get that authentic taste. The perfect blend of mozzarella and cheddar cheese. It's all diced so it's ready for you to use, simply thaw and add it to on top and you're ready to bite into the best mood uplifting meal of the day.



### **Amul Cheese Slice**

### Your slice of heaven

Sandwiches, check. Salads, check. Snacks, check. Amul Cheese Slices are the one-size-fits-for all of your cheesy meals. Enjoy the good slice of life.



### Amul **Gouda Cheese** The good-a snack

Cheese-making perfection from the Dutch, Amul Gouda Cheese blends foreign artistry with Indian delicacy. Simply cut it into small pieces, and serve it with your snacks to make the yummiest cheese board.



### Cheese Spread Spread the snacks



Available in eight distinct and delightful flavours, this spread is a sight to behold. It's the dip that will make your party the talk of the town.

### HOT & HAPPENING



### LITERARY LANDMARK

Kerala Literature Festival returns to Kozhikode, transforming the coastal city into a global meeting point for ideas, literature, and dialogue. Hosted in India's first UNESCO City of Literature, KLF 2026 will feature over 400 speakers and 250 sessions spread across seven parallel tracks, with 10 sessions per track each day and 15 participating countries. With hundreds of sessions and participants spanning literature, politics, economics, environment, and culture, the festival continues to be one of the world's most attended literary gatherings. Set against Kozhikode's historic and cultural backdrop, KLF remains a defining fixture in the global literary calendar.

**What:** Kerala Literature Festival **Where:** Kozhikode, Kerala **When:** 22-25 January 2026







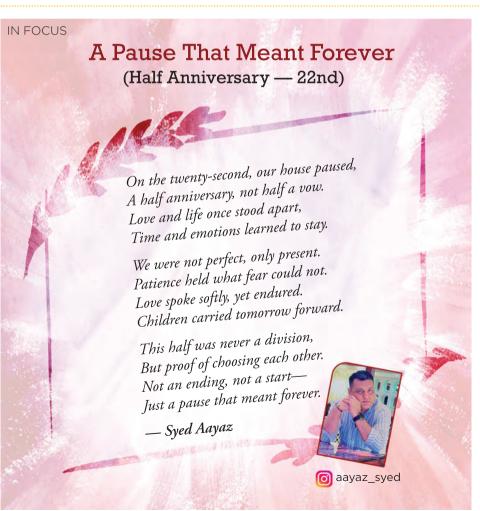
### NATURE RETREAT

Set on the edge of the Sariska Tiger Reserve, **Sariska Lodge**, a design-led retreat offers a quiet, immersive escape rooted in nature and sustainability. Spread

> across 15 acres with just 11 suites, the property blends contemporary design with traditional Rajasthani elements, creating a sense of privacy and calm. Winter brings crisp mornings, fireside evenings, and experiences ranging from wildlife

safaris and forest walks to wellness therapies and slow alfresco dining. Designed for year-end unwinding, the retreat offers a thoughtful balance of luxury, landscape, and mindful living.

**Where:** Sariska Lodge, Rajasthan **When:** Ideal for winter and year-end travel













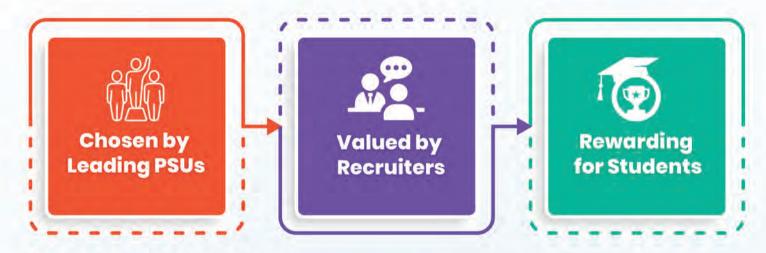






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Shaped by intentional design and wellness-focused amenities, Ramada Residences By Wyndham offers a cocoon for those who choose to live with purpose.

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## SpiceJet **EXPERIENCES**









We had a wonderful flying experience with @flyspicejet from Ahmedabad to Kolkata! 🛪 It was our daughter's first flight and the crew made it truly special.

A special thanks to Mr. Dilip for his helpfulness and kindness. Truly appreciated!





Aaashutosh

@raiashu92

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thnx for making it a memorable First flight for

my kid, blue skies to u @flyspicejet, Happy





Thank u a uves, safeeka, ammar @flyspicejet members for all assistance at mopa airport...





@flyspicejet

Greetings team SpiceJet,

I Aakash Raichandani, recently flew on flight SG878 on 12/11/2024 AMD GOX, would like to appreciate the excellent service provided by CC Barbora, Priyanka, Nivedita, Debapriya,

Wishing all the crew members a successful career.

13D





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#### @flyspicejet..

I was in flight SG52 from Dubai to Pune today. The flight was delayed but onboard service and hospitality was great. We can understand what the crew must have gone through. Still the crew was smiling serving caring. Great admiration for Poonam who is so polite and caring.

Dear SpiceJet Cargo Team. New Delhi Office,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation for the exceptional service and support provided by your team. From timely communication to the efficient handling of all cargo-related processes, every interaction has demonstrated your professionalism, dedication, and commitment to delivering excellent customer service. I would especially like to acknowledge the outstanding assistance provided by Ms. Sarita Silswal, Mr. Manish Buragobain, Mr. Ram Kishan Moriya, and their manager, Mr Karan Anand. Their proactive approach, thorough attention to detail, and readiness to help at every stage made the entire experience seamless and stress-free. Their efforts truly exemplify the high standards that SpiceJet Cargo is known for.

Thank you once again for your remarkable support. Please extend my gratitude to the entire New Delhi office team, I look forward to continuing our association in the future.

Warm regards, Adfer Aziz Bisati





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fter four days of enthralling action, the World Tennis League's India debut in December culminated with the Aussie Mavericks Kites prevailing over the AOS Eagles in the final. And it was Dhakshineswar Suresh, India's rising star, who delivered the title with a nerveless final-set win against compatriot Sumit Nagal in Bengaluru.

The big-serving Suresh had also taken out top-ranked Russian, Daniil Medvedev, and provided further evidence of his talent with a clutch performance in the decider. Unarguably, he was the player of the final.

For many years, Sania Mirza carried India's hopes, but it's been a while since the country had a singles player to boast. We have always excelled in doubles, with Sania, alongside Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna, flaunting multiple Grand Slams. Now, Suresh, along with a handful of exciting young female talents coming up through the ranks, offer promise for the future.

Of course, India has pedigree when it comes to tennis, going all the way back to Ramanathan Krishnan, Vijay Amritraj and Ramesh Krishnan (the elder Krishnan's son), who all proved that they belong on the grandest of stages. The graceful Ramanathan was a regular on the circuit in the 1950s and 1960s, reaching two Wimbledon semi-finals (1960, 1961) and being ranked as high as No. 3 in the world.

Ramanathan also won the junior Wimbledon title in 1954, the first Asian player to do so, a feat Ramesh would emulate in 1979. In the same year, the younger Krishnan also won the junior French Open, and went on to top the junior rankings. He made it to the last eight of three Grand Slams in the 1980s, and also featured in India's run to the Davis Cup final in 1987, where they lost to Mats Wilander's Sweden. Ramesh got his own back on Wilander when he shocked the defending champion at the 1989 Australian Open.

nd of course, there's Vijay Amritraj, a two-time
Wimbledon (1973, 1981) and US Open (1973, 1974)
quarter-finalist, and for many years an articulate
and witty commentator at the Slams. India has
graced the sport of tennis for many decades,
and hopefully will continue to do so in the
coming years.



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On May 6, 2025, a significant milestone was achieved in Dubai's ever-evolvingskuline. Our Chairman, Tauseef Khan, alongside CEO Azaan Khan and President Eifaad Khan, proudly officiated the groundbreakingceremony for Terra Tower, a premier residential project by Dugasta Properties.

Set in Dubai land, the heart of the bustling metropolis of Dubai, is Terra Tower by Dugasta Properties. Rising majestically above the city skyline, Terra Tower is a testament to modern architectural brilliance. This premium residential tower offers an unparalleled collection of studio, 1, 2 and 3 bedroom homes, each meticulously crafted to embody the essence of luxury and sophistication.

With its futuristic and aesthetic design, Terra Tower redefines the concept of urban living. The interiors are thoughtfully curated, combining functional layouts with lavish finishes. Enjoy breathtaking views of the city from the private balcony while basking in the serene ambience of a family-friendly community. Inspired by the color of the Earth, Terra Tower is strategically located near major highways and renowned landmarks, offering the perfect blend of convenience and tranquility.





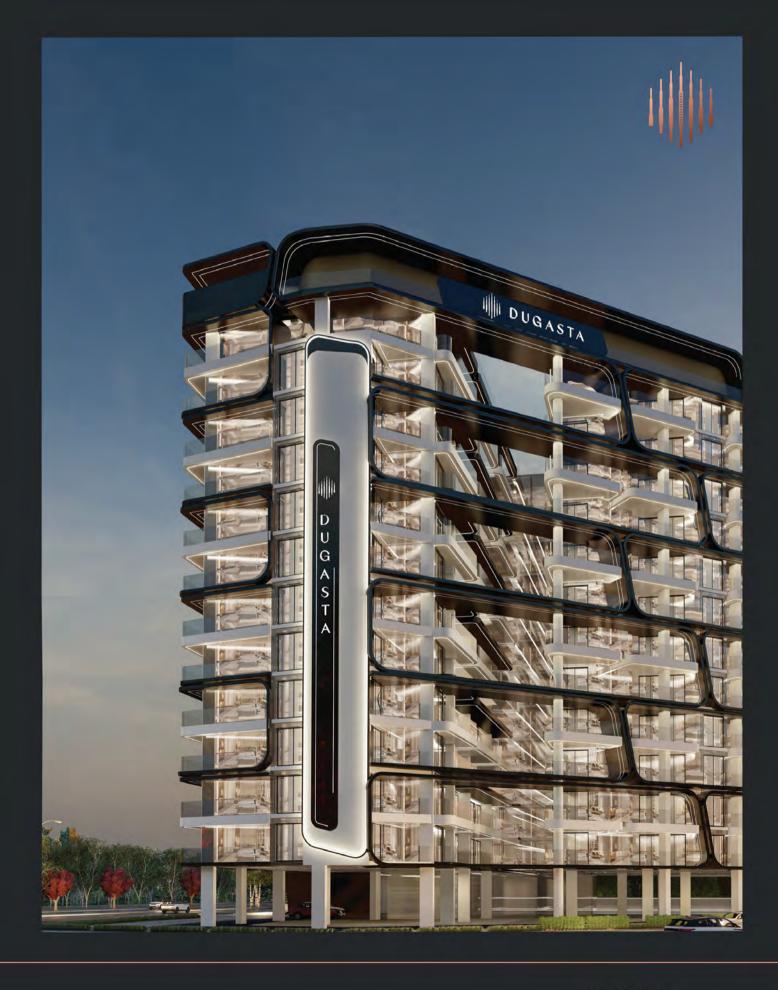
















The winds of change are blowing, and the world is moving decisively towards transformative travel.

Embracing perspective, connection, and renewal, transformative travel goes beyond activities and indulgence, leaving a lasting imprint long after the journey ends. **Kapil Chopra,** Founder, The Postcard Hotel, shares insights on the five key trends that will shape travel in 2026.







#### Emergence of Wellness Travel

If you look back ten years, people were not nearly as conscious about clean eating as they are today, when there is a clear shift toward organic food. Also concern around air quality is real. and hence wellness is the next natural evolution.

Chronic stress, lifestyle diseases, and long-term health issues have taken a serious toll globally, and people are now actively seeking meaningful ways to restore their health and vitality. In this context, while recreational tourism will always exist, the future lies in purposeful wellness travel encompassing quiet, restorative experiences that are medically structured and devised to allow people to truly heal, reset, and emerge healthier than before. This new approach to wellness travel focuses on longer stays, personalised programmes, and measurable outcomes.



# The Postcard in Durrung Tea Estate, Assan

#### Top & Left People are heading to locations close to nature in order to heal internally

Holidays in the midst of green estates can be magically therapeutic

#### Rise of Estate Tourism

Another major trend to look out for is the rise of experiential tourism centred around tea, coffee, and wine estates. These journeys are about where things come from-travellers want to understand the land, the craft, and the culture behind what they consume, and not just enjoy the end product.

We are already seeing this shift play out in India, with travellers journeving to estates purely for the landscape,

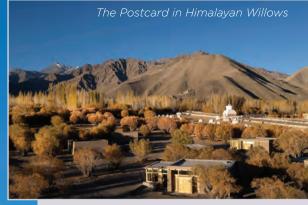
heritage, and craft. This trend will not only fuel domestic travel but also place India's estate regions firmly on the global luxury-travel map. Assam alone is home to vast tea estates ranging from 1,400 acres to over 3,000 acres, offering scale, beauty, and authenticity that few destinations in the world can match.

A similar evolution is set to unfold in coffee and wine regions. Imagine staying within a working coffee estate, where guests engage with the entire



journey of coffee, from cultivation and harvesting to roasting, tasting, and brewing. As the global coffee culture matures, travellers increasingly want to deepen their understanding of what they drink, beyond just consuming it. The same applies to wine, where vineyard stays have long been aspirational in Europe and are now finding resonance in newer markets.







#### **Mountains** Reimagined

Travellers will also be able to rediscover mountains, to experience them in ways never before possible in the luxury segment. Experiential luxury travel is increasingly moving towards dramatic, high-altitude landscapes, supported by attentively-designed, high-comfort accommodations that make these regions aspirational without compromising on experience.

Many indians have still not embraced destinations such as Ladakh, despite their extraordinary natural beauty and cultural depth. This is now beginning to change. Today, there are multiple daily flights to Leh from metro cities, including 11 flights a day from Delhi alone, making Ladakh far more accessible than ever before.

What is also changing is the nature of accommodation. Guests can explore monasteries, high-altitude deserts, and remote villages by day, and return to sensitively-built sanctuaries that prioritise silence, space, and understated luxury, as well as warmth, comfort, and elevated **service.** As accessibility improves and luxury infrastructure catches up. the mountains will no longer be seen as adventurous or niche destinations. Instead, they will emerge as mainstream luxury-travel choices, attracting travellers seeking solitude, scale, and awe.

#### Top & Left

Leh, with its mesmerising willows, is a sight to behold

The iconic Lamayuru Gompa monastery in Ladakh draws travellers from across the globe





#### **Top & Bottom**

Beach vacations offer a quiet ambience and are perfect for rejuvenation

A generous platter of seafood adds to the holiday mood



#### Call of the Coast

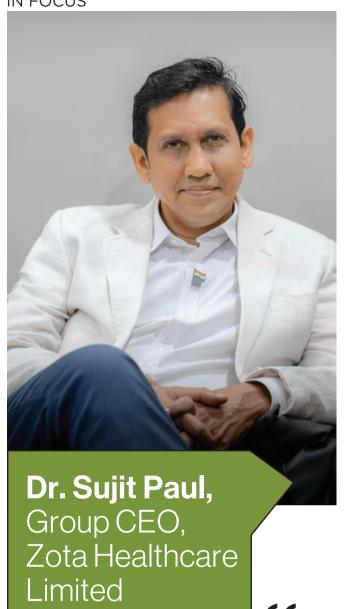
Finally, expect to see a resurgence in coastal travel, driven not by crowded beach towns but by quieter, culturally rich stretches of India's coastline that have remained largely undiscovered until now. These highly soughtafter destinations today offer a rare combination of unspoilt beaches, privacy, and alongside space, silence, and intimacy, luxuries that are increasingly hard to find in traditional beach hubs.

Equally important is the rediscovery of local culture and cuisine as an integral part of the coastal experience. Littoral Karnataka, for instance, is the birthplace of the iconic Ghee Roast, and its culinary heritage is now being celebrated once again. Guests are drawn not just to the sea, but to the stories, flavours, and traditions that

define the region. This seamless blend of geography, authenticity, and cultural depth is fast becoming a defining marker of modern luxury travel.

Beyond the mainland, India is home to some of the most pristine and underexplored beaches in the world, from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Lakshadweep. As thoughtfully designed luxury accommodations emerge in these regions, coastal travel will shift away from mass tourism towards quieter, experience-led stays that prioritise nature, culture, and sustainability.

In 2026, then, people will explore new places rather than repeat old ones, creating new travel circuits across wildlife, wellness, estates, mountains, and tranquil coasts, where luxury is defined by authenticity and a sense of place •



In an era increasingly driven by automation and efficiency, empathy is sometimes viewed as intangible or secondary. We see it differently. Empathy builds trust, and trust builds long-term relationships. It turns customers into advocates and transactions into meaningful connections.

At Davaindia, empathy is not a soft value—it is a strategic advantage. It guides our decisions, shapes our culture, and anchors our vision of becoming a truly neighborhood-trusted pharmacy brand. Because when businesses lead with empathy, they don't just grow—they make a difference.

## Why Empathy Is Our Strongest Business Strategy

In today's fast-paced world, success in business is often measured by scale, speed, and profitability. Yet, at Davaindia, we believe the most sustainable growth begins with something far more human—empathy.

Healthcare is not just a service; it is a deeply personal experience. Every customer who walks into a pharmacy carries more than a prescription—they carry concerns, hopes, and often, anxiety. Recognizing this reality has shaped our approach from day one. Empathy allows us to listen before we act, to understand before we advise, and to serve with intention rather than transaction.

For us, empathy translates into accessibility and affordability. By making quality medicines available at significantly lower prices, we aim to reduce the financial stress that often accompanies medical treatment. This is not merely a business decision—it is a commitment to ensuring that healthcare remains a right, not a privilege.

Empathy also defines how we work internally. A culture built on mutual respect, trust, and shared purpose empowers our teams to perform with sincerity and accountability. When employees feel valued and heard, they naturally extend the same care to customers. This creates a virtuous cycle where compassion strengthens performance and purpose fuels productivity.

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

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











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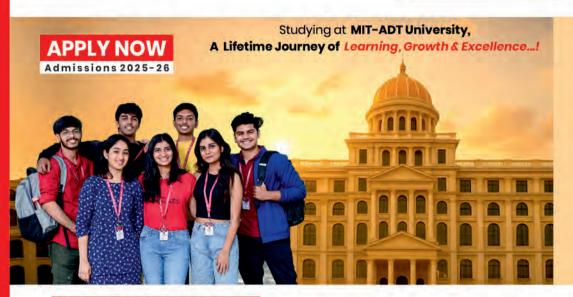




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For the brave men and women of the Indian Armed forces who are keeping the nation safe, SpiceJet offers up to 21 per cent discount on base fares. The discount is valid on bookings that are made on the SpiceJet website, mobile app or through our reservation numbers. It is also available at select airport ticketing centres.

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#### **GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

SpiceJet has a host of benefits to offer government employees. You can enjoy complimentary seats, excluding those under SpiceMax. Even the extra-comfortable SpiceM seats can be booked at a 25 per ce discount. Avail complimentary mea - vegetarian or non-vegetarian. Change of date or cancellation of tickets booked under this offering can be done at a nominal fee of INR 500. You can also enjoy the convenience of You1st service at a 50 per cent discount. This is valid on bookings made on the SpiceJet website and mobile app.



#### FRIENDS & FAMILY

Get up to 25 per cent off on base fare when you book for two or more people together. You can avail of the discount when you book for up to nine passengers. The discount is valid on bookings made on the SpiceJet website, mobile app or through our reservation centre, on domestic and international flights for both one-way and return journeys. Changes or cancellation of tickets booked under this fare can only be done through SpiceJet's reservation centre.

Cancellation shall only be permissible if a minimum of two passengers are retained in the booking.





#### **FLY EARLY**

Looking to prepone your flight? Fly Early is a unique service that allows you to reschedule your travel to an earlier time on the same day. You can choose it at the ticket counter at the airport, just prior to takeoff.

## **CARRY MORE ON-BOARD**

Have you exceeded your cabin luggage limit of 7 kg? Or do you wish you could skip the conveyor belt wait periods or the queue at the baggage drop counter? To carry a cabin bag weighing up to 12 kg, reserve SpiceJet's Carry More On-board service right now. Take your belongings with you and travel without any hassles!





#### 10 Heroes of India - Your Story Deserves the Spotlight by Teams Applaud

Teams Applaud proudly presents the 10 Heroes of India – Your Story Deserves the Spotlight. These visionary leaders are transforming industries through innovation, passion, and excellence. With bold ideas and unwavering resilience, they are redefining success and inspiring millions in today's ever-evolving world.



#### Founder and CEO of **SmartQR Technologies**

Rohit Bajaj is the Founder and CEO of SmartQR Technologies, leading India's progress in Al-powered MedTech. Under his leadership, SmartQR developed "InGene A Min DNA Lab" designed for fast, treatment-focused genetic insights. By combining science with accessibility. He is helping bring advanced healthcare technology closer to the people



#### PhD scholar and goldmedallist Tarot expert

Dr. Ritisha Konwar, a PhD scholar and gold-medallist Tarot expert, is one of India's most promising young astrologers. With mastery in astrology, tarot, numerology and Vastu, she has guided more than 20,000 clients with her intuitive, compassionate approach. She has been honoured with the Best Emerging Astrologer & Tarot Card Reader at NFA and the Excellence in Tarot Card Reading & Astrology Award at RCA.As the Owner-Director of Divine Astro, she leads a respected spiritual consultancy dedicated to ethical guidance, accurate predictions and holistic well-being. ritishakonwar@gmail.com

#### Sanjay Malik

#### Founder of **Malik Music Events**

Sanjay Malik a renowned figure in the music industry. founded Malik Music Events 35 years ago in Delhi. Specializing in weddings and global music events, including free talent platform Kelorelive, he's earned top awards for his excellence, creativity, and strong industry relationships worldwide.



With 10,000+ surgeries to his credit, Dr. Saurabh Bansal practising at New Delhi, India is among India's foremost laparoscopic and gastrointestinal surgeons. Founder of The Clinics, located in heart of south delhi he fuses surgical excellence with innovation, building next-generation surgical teams with daycare surgical hubs designed to provide excellent care He also practices with National Herat institute apollo spectra and apollo hospitals Delhi. Voted as Best laparoscopic and gastrointestinal surgeon in delhi for 3 consecutive years by Delhi medical association.



## **Brand Vista**

#### Ms. Ankita Pandev

#### **Asia Pacific Busines** Head

Brand Vista Consulting is a leading Management. Marketing, and Strategy Consulting firm. The firm is dedicated to enabling transformative growth and innovation through leadership summits, business forums, Marketing, Branding, PR and Digital Marketing Consulting services. With a strong footprint across Asia, the Middle East, and Europe, Brand Vista Consulting brings together leaders, brands, and policymakers to exchange insights, create strategic collaborations, and co-develop solutions for a better future.



Pt. Dr. Sanieev **Kumar Srivastava** 

#### Chairman & CEO, IINAV

Pandit Dr. Sanieev Kumar Srivastava is a world-renowned Nadi Nakshatra Astrologer and Vastu Expert, TEDx Speaker, and Founder of IINAV, with over 28 years of mastery in the sacred sciences. Blending ancient Nadi wisdom with modern analytical insight, he is globally acclaimed for 97-99% prediction accuracy and precise timing. He actively teaches and mentors Nadi Astrology worldwide, empowering seekers and leaders across 75+ countries with spiritual clarity and transformational quidance.

#### **Divyesh Mehta**

#### **Taxation Advisor**

Divyesh Mehta is a renowned taxation consultant and author of 14 law books covering GST, VAT, corruption laws, RTI, and legal terminology. A national-level sportsperson and international speaker, he has delivered lectures across India and abroad, earning recognition with the Atal Bharat Gauray Samman 2025.



Rakesh Joshi Founder and CEO of Turning Point, Gems from Khokhara village, Pali, Rajasthan, is a self-made gemologist who founded Turning Point Gems in July 2005. Starting at 19 from a small 60-carpet area outlet in Borivali West, Mumbai, he steadily expanded the brand. Today, Turning Point Gems operates four branches across Mumbai, with its head office in Kandivali West, and is a leading company in precious astrological gemstones, serving certified, authentic stones to clients across India and globally, with a vision to open 100 branches nationwide



Rakesh Joshi

Founder and CEO of **Turning Point, Gems** 



#### Co-founder and Director of Red Monk Wellness Pvt. Ltd.

Mrs. Mandavi Sanjay Mishra, Co-founder and Director of Red Monk Wellness Pvt Ltd. transformed from homemaker to wellness leader. Driven by purpose over profit, she built a customer-centric, award-winning holistic wellness venture, championing safe, doctor-led IV programs to enhance health, confidence, and sustainable well-being.



#### Founder of Mahamun Developers Pvt. Ltd.

Anil Dhale, Founder of Mahamun Developers Pvt. Ltd., has been honored with the Icons of India 2025 - Best Plot Seller Award. Known for ethical practices, quality projects, and timely delivery, he has set new benchmarks in real estate, earning trust and transforming land into lasting value.







heritage. Follow a history lesson at Dubai Museum and Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding with an *abra* (boat) ride across the creek. Deira has the fascinating gold and spice *sougs,* while a stroll in Meena Bazaar in Bur Dubai feels like travelling back in time. Finally, do drop in at the king's old house in Al Shindagha, to turn a few pages from the life of the Al Maktoum family.

#### **THEMES & THRILLS**

For thrill-seekers with a taste for highoctane rides, keep a day or two aside Atlantis the Palm. Then there's Global Village, a foodie's paradise that serves cuisines from around the world.

#### **SAND SPECIALS**

In Dubai, one can experience the best of both beachside leisure and desert adventure. Ditch the all-you-can-fit-in itinerary and unwind on Kite Beach or JBR, with their watersports and seaside cafés. Waterfront luxury is assured on Burj Al Arab, La Mer, and Nikki beaches, spaces where evenings are a lot of fun! And it goes without saying that when the desert calls, it's time to indulge in



For a one-off experience, check out the 13-deck ocean liner Queen Elizabeth 2-Dubai's only floating hotel—or enjoy a meal at the world's only three-Michelinstarred Indian restaurant, Tresind Studio. Museum lovers can take their pick from the quirky Coin Museum, Camel Museum, Women's Museum, and Perfume House Museum. Of course, garnering all the limelight is the Museum of The Future.

#### **Left and Right**

LEGOLAND Dubai is a magnet for people of all ages

Few cities can match the culinary diversity of Dubai



for Dubai Parks and Resorts. This home to three theme parks—Motiongate Dubai (a Hollywood-themed park based on DreamWorks, Columbia Pictures, and other blockbuster franchises), Real Madrid World, and LEGOLAND Dubai (along with LEGOLAND Water Park)—will add energy to your getaway. True fans know how to beat the queues for the Madagascar Mad Pursuit, Now You See Me, and Kung Fu Panda rides. For the water-babies, Aquaventure World, the emirate's largest water park, awaits at

some dune-bashing, sandboarding, camel rides—and a sunset safari.

## TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!

Dubai's incomparable dining scene is also one of its strengths. Indeed, in the last decade, the emirate has been defined as much by its culinary diversity as by its cityscape. The city delights at every turn, from humble

street fare and premium steakhouses to the wonders and variety of Emirati cuisine. Dubai is also home to some of the best chefs from around the world, who you can find cooking up a storm in their kitchens. And if you're new to this part of the world, make sure to shop your heart out—whatever catches your eye, from gold, diamond jewellery and oud to designer handbags, exotic dates and spices, the *sougs* and malls will leave you spoilt for choice

# SpiceJet SUPERSTARS

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



#### SAMEER VILAS BOBHATE

#### Catering

#### Experience with SpiceJet

During the past nine years with SpiceJet, my seniors and team always backed me up during challenging projects. Without their support, I would not have been able to achieve the milestones that I did. I have learned a great deal at the organisation, and each valuable life experience here will, I believe, stand me in good stead for the future.

#### **Internal Appreciation**

Sameer Vilas Bobhate is a reliable team player who actively contributes to the team, always maintaining a strong focus on the work at hand. His punctuality, and proactive approach to communication and providing timely updates, is invaluable and significantly assists in the smooth completion of our responsibilities. His hard work and commitment has directly and positively impacted our team's performance.



#### **WASIM AKRAM MOLLAH**

#### **Aviation Security**

#### Experience with SpiceJet

In 2016, I began my aviation journey with SpiceJet Ltd. in the field of Security. By God's grace, it has been truly rewarding. Every day brought new learning, responsibilities, and opportunities to contribute. And it's a wonderful feeling when trainees appreciate your efforts, and say. "Sir, your training was so clear... we learned a lot." Moments like these motivate me to keep giving my best.

#### Internal Appreciation

I would like to appreciate the outstanding efforts and dedication shown by Wasim Akram Mollah from ASTI. He is the only Government-certified AVSEC Instructor in the Indian aviation industry holding a BCAS-certified Instructor licence—a remarkable achievement. He has successfully imparted training to Indian crew as well as foreign crew members of Corendon Airlines and Smartwings, representing SpiceJet at an international level.



#### **GAURAV ANAND CHOUDHARY**

#### Revenue Management

#### Experience with SpiceJet

I joined SpiceJet as a fresher, and the company has provided me with the platform to enhance my skills. The work culture here is excellent, with supportive seniors and colleagues. I work in the Revenue department, the backbone of any airline, where our job is to optimise revenue through automation, scripting, and forecasting. For this opportunity, I am grateful to the organisation.

#### **Internal Appreciation**

Gaurav is a very hard-working and valuable team member of SpiceJet, and the perfect gentleman in the Revenue team. He is always ready to take on responsibilities and completes the task in hand with sincerity. Besides being a man of principle, I have never seen someone so humble, dedicated, and always committed towards his work. We wish him all the best for his future endeavours. Thank you, Gauray, for your hard work and commitment.



# COASTAL

#### BINDU GOPAL RAO

The capital city of Chennai is all things culture, cuisine, and craft, ensuring your day in the city packs a punch. If you have 24 hours to spend, here are some curated experiences that will guarantee you a slice of what Chennai has to offer.

#### START YOUR DAY WITH A GUIDED TOUR

While you can choose from close to 30 walks organised by Madras Inherited, the House of Triplicane walk takes place in one of the older areas of the city, home to many ancient temples, bustling bazaars, and quaint homes. This guided walk through narrow alleys and corridors allows you to take in and admire the history of a place that dates back to the 8th century-keep an eye out for the various architectural styles here: vernacular, neoclassical and Art Deco.



#### **BREAKFAST** AT CARNABY

Start with a cup of freshlybrewed filter coffee, followed by soft, steaming idlis (also available in millet) served alongside a bowl of tangy

sambar and a variety of chutneys. The golden and paper-thin crisp dosas, available at the live counters, are a staple of and a favourite among children and elders alike. And the uttapams, medu vada and masala vada. dipped in spicy sambar and chutneys, are just the fuel you need for the day.

#### **BEST PLACE FOR SHOPPING**



T Nagar and Pondy Bazaar markets have everything that you need from clothes, shoes, jewellery, arts, artefacts and more. Chennai is known for its Kanchi silk saris that are a must here. Pondy Bazaar has several street shopping options that are pocket-friendly too.





## HISTORY LESSONS AT THE MUSEUM

This museum in Egmore, the second oldest in the country, is a must for history and architecture buffs. Its six buildings and a whopping 46 galleries house a wide collection of archaeological, numismatic, and Roman collections—also look out for the original works of Raja Ravi Varma, alongside Buddhist ruins from Amaravati.



## LUNCH AT JOLLY INDIAN

Located in Alwarpet, Jolly Indian is a new restaurant that serves modern Indian fare. Their signature dishes reimagine classics with creative flair, such as the Mutton Sukka served with green-pea hummus and crispy peas, or the Chettinad Shepherd's





Pie featuring chicken *thokku* and a flavourful *urulai varuval* mash. The pesto and parmesan *naan* paired with edamame masala curry is a great choice too.

#### FORT ST. GEORGE

This is India's first British fortress, built by the East India Company in 1639, and is widely considered to be the birthplace of Madras (as the city was earlier known). Home to the Tamil Nadu legislative assembly and secretariat, it's where you can see the Fort Museum, home to numerous colonial-era paintings, coins, and art. And St. Mary's Church, widely referred to as the 'Westminster Abbey of the East', is the oldest Anglican church in India, with many centuries-old gravestones.

## SUNSET ON MARINA BEACH & VIVEKANANDA HOUSE

For a lovely sunset, head to Marina Beach. India's longest and the world's second-longest urban beach. Post sundown, check out the many memorials and statues that dot the place. Feeling adventurous? Try the green-chilli fritters and other local snacks sold on the beachfront. From here, cross over to Vivekananda House, which gained prominence after Swami Vivekananda stayed here for nine days in 1897. Besides hosting many cultural activities, this landmark building, maintained by Ramakrishna Ashram, houses the Vivekananda Museum. screens a 3D movie on the monkphilosopher, and holds the original photo exhibition.

#### DINNER AT UP NORTH PULLMAN

Wind down a busy day at Up North, Pullman Chennai Anna Salai's swanky rooftop restaurant. Here, you can



sample the authentic flavours of North India while taking in the breathtaking city views in an alfresco seating. With ingredients sourced from local farms, Up North's food has both freshness and a regional connection. The cocktails incorporate ingredients like raw mango, saffron, and rose, flavours that resonate with both Indian palates and global mixology trends •

## PONGAL IN JANUARY

January is when Chennai celebrates one of its most important festivals, Pongal. The four-day harvest festival is from 14 to 17 January, including Bhogi, Surya Pongal or Thai Pongal, Mattu Pongal, and Kanum Pongal. 'Pongal' means

'to boil over' and is all about abundance and prosperity. Do not miss trying out the dish itself. The savoury Pongal is a rice and lentil porridge flavoured with black pepper, cashew nuts and ghee, while the sweet version has jaggery, raisins

and coconut.





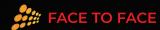
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## 'I'M A STRONG **BELIEVER** IN STORYTELLING'

**FLORINA SOREN** 

The characters **Pankaj Tripathi** has immortalised-Madhay Mishra of 'Criminal Justice', Bhanu Pratap Pandey of 'Mimi', Sultan Qureshi of 'Gangs of Wasseypur'-continue to live on in the memories of filmgoers. And if you can't get over the raw charisma of Kaleen Bhaiya, there is great news for you—'Mirzapur: The Film' will soon hit the silver screen. As the year comes to a close, we caught up with Tripathi, busy shooting the movie in Jaisalmer, to find out what lies in store for his fans in 2026.

You are currently shooting for 'Mirzapur: The Film', are you enjoying the recap of Mirzapur, and is this experience any different?

'Mirzapur' has always been very close to my heart, so going back to the story and working with the same team, is definitely enjoyable for me. As for the acting in the film adaptation, the process is quite the same. Having said that, the viewing experience I am sure will be completely different for the audience. For them, seeing their loved characters making a comeback on the big screen with an amazing story forward, is surely going to be exciting.



#### You ended last year on a high note with 'Metro in Dino', 'Criminal Justice', and more-how does your 2026 calendar look like?

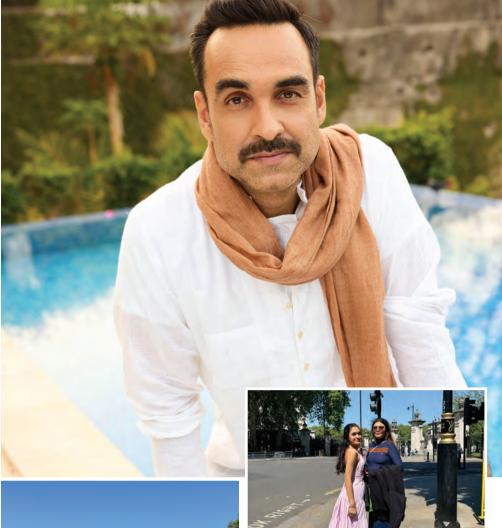
Well, I have decided to take it easy in 2026. From now on, I will be very selective with my work and do only 2-3 projects a year. I will only take projects that really excite me. So far, I have done as many as six to eight projects in a year, and now I want to slow it down. This is not to say that I am not enjoying my work, or I am running away from acting, but yes, I have worked hard for so many years, and now is the time to slow down and take it easy. Having said that, 'Mirzapur: The Film' will be ready soon, 'Parivarik ManuRanjan' opposite Aditi Rao Hydari—another of my ongoing films—will be released soon. and I am also doing a great comedy film with Privadarshan.

#### We also saw you venturing into production with 'Perfect Family'. What prompted you to take up production, and how has the experience been so far?

See, I am exploring new things in life, be it in acting or otherwise. And the story of 'Perfect Family' is something that attracted me. Mental health is a burning issue, and I thought the story needed to be told. And yes, I loved the experience—it is so much different from acting. The contribution of the producer is manifold; you have to be responsible for every aspect of the film, right from casting to the final production of the movie. If you are an actor, it is like all the ingredients have been prepped for you, and you come and cook the dish. As a producer, you have to source your own vegetables, chop, cook, clean the kitchen, and everything in between. It is like there is no packing up as a producer—but yes, it is equally rewarding.

#### You have rocked both OTT web series as well as the big screen-what is your your preferred platform?

As an actor, the process is the same. What changes between the two mediums is the viewing experience for the audience. While one is private viewing alone or with close family and friends, the other is community viewing where the experience changes completely. Also, we actors, when we go to see our movies (on the sly of course!), to see a theatre full of people enjoying and reacting to our acting is the most exhilarating experience. But otherwise, the process for both is similar.





Inset: Wife Mridula and daughter Aashi

#### Tell us about Velvet, your new venture...

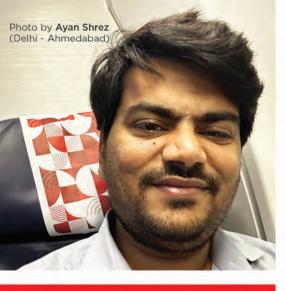
I am a strong believer in storytelling. India has a great legacy of storytelling. and in earlier times, children in our families had their grandmother telling them stories. Today, we are all glued to the screen with no one to tell us stories. So, along with a couple of friends, we launched Velvet, an initiative to bring people back to audio stories. It is a cinematic audio storytelling platform which already has over two million downloads in a short span of time. There is also a segment, 'Pankaj Tripathi in your living room', where I share anecdotes and stories from my experiences. I am very happy that we have got such a resounding response from the audience. It means people are ready to listen to you if you have a good story to tell •



#### Goals for 2026

I will travel on a holiday with my family — South India has been on my wish-list for a long time, so will visit Kerala and the neighbouring states

As far as work is concerned. I will slow down







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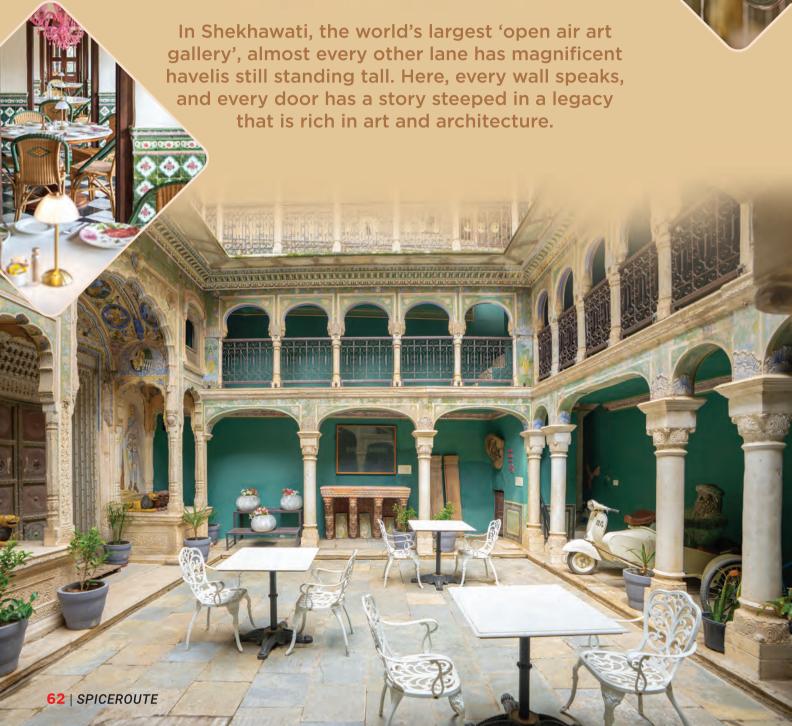


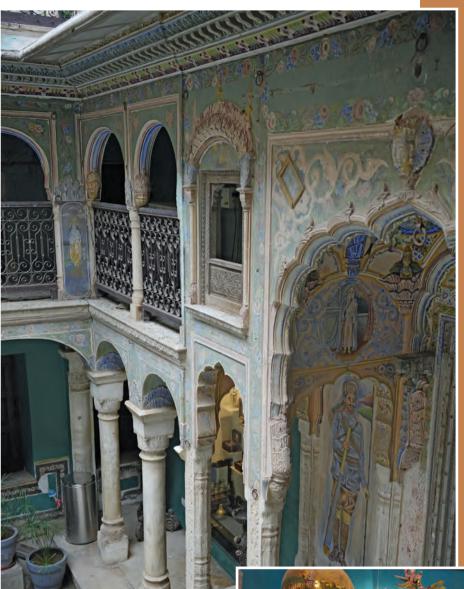
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FLORINA SOREN





t is amazing how the narrow lanes in these quaint towns can surprise you with a marvellous frescoadorned haveli at any turn. Majestic doors open to equally grandiose havelis marked by the characteristic courtyard surrounded by rooms on all sides. And among these, the Vivaana Museum Hotel in the otherwise nondescript town of Nawalgarh, stands out in all its restored glory.

For beginners, Shekhawati is the region where many of India's leading business families have their roots. The Marwari seths who mostly owned these impressive havelis left the region long ago to make the world their playground. While a few are still well maintained, plenty are lying in dilapidated condition—a far cry from their glorious past. "My passion to bring back to life these small nuggets of heritage is what has led me to restore the havelis of Shekhawati, one at a time," says heritage conservationist Atul Khanna. The one with a Midas touch, Khanna's love for restoration has helped give these old havelis a new lease of life.

This particular 19th century haveli, is an artistic reflection of everything that the region holds true to its heart. With an open courtyard, rooms with ample windows, and balconies on the sides, this was for Atul an open canvas. The frescos, adorned with paintings in subdued colours, share glimpses from yesteryear—from figures of gods and













goddesses to scenes of everyday life, every corner of this architectural marvel has a story waiting to be told.

While the exterior is rich in historic detail, the interiors have undergone a rebirth, in the form of a tasteful nineroom hotel. Khanna is a strong believer in adaptive restoration and reuse, and so the hotel has all the trappings of modern comfort but with the style of the past intact. The Majolica tiles from Japan allow the haveli to stay faithful to its old grandeur, besides adding a unique element of beauty across all rooms. The entry is striking, with the floor in black-and-white checks, long corridors, and a courtyard with interesting artefacts, making for a fine amalgamation of the past and present. And the humongously tall ornate door is original, taking one back to the days of camels and horses.

The Vivaana Museum makes the extra effort to remind visitors about the incomparable heritage of the Shekhawati region. Atul Khanna confesses his extraordinary love for Shekhawati-in his own words, one of the most mystical parts of India-and goes on to explain how he scouted through towns and villages to collect the precious antiques showcased in the museum under different sections. Starting with a modern metal statue of Ganeshji reading a book, the museum takes you back to a bygone era with its collections of kathputlis, myriad

turbans, artefacts belonging to the many tribes of the desert state, old pocket watches, and the bahi khata and trunks used by travellers and traders while traversing the world.

A wall with terracotta art holds special significance, providing glimpses of the daily lives of ordinary people: women cooking, a soothsayer forecasting the future of a child, and tourists clicking photos. The many walking sticks here, with their distinct handles, catch your attention-from an ivory stick with the leg of a woman to those with heavilycarved wooden handles, and one with a torch on top, each was unique as well as quirky. The 'Lion of the Desert' section has a striking statue of a lion-headed Marwari seth, sitting in the iconic pose on the gaddi. Known for their fine business acumen, Marwaris made great wealth wherever they went, which is why Atul Khanna calls them 'lions'. This statue has prime position here—all this and much more makes the museum a must-visit.

The icing on the cake is the hotel's restored first floor, which has been turned into a restaurant. Ambri is very aesthetically designed, complete with warm pink chandeliers. The small rooms, set in a row, have been nicely turned into multiple exclusive single-table seating, with two bigger rooms at both ends. As one relaxes and relishes the fingerlicking preparations curated by talented chefs, the feeling you get is truly regal •





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

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



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industrialist Sushil from New Delhi. He says, "My son and lare running a factory but were not getting the desired results. We came to know about Vimalji and inflight magazines. Upon showing them the factory, we immediately realised our Jhajharia ji's recommendation. Now every new factory of ours is made unde their able guidance and we also recomend them to all our friends and

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Vimal Jhajharia along with his son Vikas Jhajharia





## Into 2026-KEEPING BODY & MIND IN SYNC

ISHI KHOSLA, NUTRITIONIST

As we step into 2026, wellness is no longer a trend. It has become a deeply personal journey of self-discovery, discipline, and mindful living. Today, fitness is about far more than just shedding kilos; it is about building a body and mind resilient enough to sustain a long, active, productive life.

nat makes 2026 unique is the shift towards rooted, science-backed practices that honour individuality—especially gut health, food sensitivities, and lifestyle precision. Here are the fitness mantras that will shape your health in

#### **Begin with the Gut—Your Inner Fitness Engine**

Gut health continues to dominate the wellness landscape. A balanced microbiome supports immunity, mood, hormones, metabolism, and even how efficiently we absorb nutrients. Prioritise whole foods rich in fibre—vegetables, fruits, legumes, nuts, seeds, and fermented foods like curd, kefir, or kimchi. Avoid ultraprocessed foods (UPFs), which disrupt gut microbes and promote

If you suspect food sensitivities, address them urgently this year. They can manifest as bloating, fatigue, skin concerns, brain fog, and stubborn weight. An elimination diet or guided testing can help identify triggers such as gluten, dairy, soy, or additives commonly found in packaged foods.

#### **Rethink Carbohydrates: Quality First**

Carbohydrates are still very much part of a healthy diet; the key is favouring quality over quantity. Swap refined flours and sugars for complex carbs from alternate grains like jowar, bajra, ragi, red rice, or guinoa. These improve satiety, stabilise blood sugar, and are gentler on the gut.



Reducing sugar and alcohol is central to metabolic health in 2026. Both directly impact the liver, gut flora, and inflammatory pathways. Even modest reductions can have significant benefits.

Fasting as a Reset Button

Intermittent fasting, circadian fasting, and occasional 24-hour fasts remain popular, but in 2026 the focus is on gentle, mindful fasting. A simple 14-16 hour eating window can improve insulin sensitivity, reduce inflammation, and energise the body. Personalisation is key—fasting should support your hormones, not stress them.

## Supplements: Support, Not Substitutes

This year sees supplements being used strategically—for example:

- Probiotics/prebiotics for gut balance
- Moderation Omega-3s for brain, heart, and ioint health



#### The New Trend of 2026

A major shift this year is the embrace of longevity practices, habits inspired by Blue Zones and centenarian studies. These include:

- Eating early, light dinners
- Prioritising plant fibres and fermented foods
- Daily natural movement
- Strong social connections
- Purposeful living ("ikigai")
- Deep, quality sleep
- Minimal alcohol consumption, if you must
- Avoiding chronic stress through nature, meditation, and rest
- Magnesium for sleep, stress, and muscle recovery
- Vitamin D for immunity and bone strength
- Collagen for skin, gut lining, and joints
- Antioxidants like resveratrol or glutathione

Stem cell-based supplements and regenerative therapies are evolving trends, but require medical guidance.

## Movement as Medicine: Build, Stretch, Breathe

Wellness in 2026 emphasises functional, sustainable movement, incorporating:

Weight training 2-4 times a week to support muscle and metabolism

- Yoga for flexibility, balance, and organ health
- Breathwork (Pranayama) for regulation of the nervous system
- Daily walking, even 8,000-10.000 steps
- Short bursts of high-intensity interval training (HIIT) for cardiovascular fitness
- © Consistency beats intensity. Simple, regular movement still yields extraordinary results.

## Mind-Body Tools—The New Wellness Essentials

Meditation and mindful emotional regulation are no longer optional. Incorporate them as daily hygiene for mental clarity and stress resilience. Photo biomodulation—red and near-infrared light therapy—is becoming a powerful tool for cellular energy, recovery, sleep, and skin health.

Wellness retreats centred around digital detox, gut repair, nature therapy, and breathwork are emerging as "reset vacations" that recharge both mind and body.



#### **7** Test—Don't Guess

This is the year of precision wellness. Instead of guessing what your body needs, regularly test key health markers, such as:

- 🛭 Blood sugar and insulin
- Vitamin D, B12, iron, and thyroid markers
- g Gut microbiome analysis
- **7** Hormone profiles
- **8** Body composition over body weight

Data empowers you to personalise your diet, supplements, fitness, and lifestyle. It prevents unnecessary experimentation and helps you track meaningful progress •



epublic Day, celebrated on 26 January every year marks the country's transition to a republic on 26 January, 1950. The day signifies the formal establishment of India as a sovereign, democratic republic governed by the rule of law. It honours the vision of the Constitution's framers and reaffirms the nation's commitment to the core values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity that continue to guide India's democratic institutions.

The celebrations are centred around the Republic Day Parade at Kartavya Path in New Delhi, organised by the Ministry of Defence in coordination with various central ministries. The parade is a carefully choreographed event that reflects India's military preparedness, cultural diversity, and institutional strength. Through marching contingents of the armed forces, vibrant tableaux from states and union territories, and thematic presentations, the parade showcases the country's heritage, achievements, and aspirations.

The formal proceedings begin with the President of India unfurling the national flag, followed by the National Anthem and a ceremonial 21-gun salute. The parade features disciplined contingents from the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, and Central Armed Police Forces, highlighting professionalism and operational readiness. A major highlight is the Indian Air Force fly-past, which underscores the nation's aerial capabilities, while cultural performances along

the route reflect India's pluralistic traditions and artistic richness.

An important diplomatic aspect of Republic Day celebrations is the presence of an international chief guest, a tradition that symbolises India's global engagement and strategic partnerships. Over the years, the selection of chief guests has reflected India's foreign policy priorities and strengthened bilateral relationships. In 2025, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto attended the Republic Day celebrations, reinforcing close ties between the two nations.

For the 77th Republic Day Parade in 2026, India has invited senior leadership from the European Union. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, and António Costa, President of the European Council, are expected to attend as chief guests. Their participation highlights the growing importance of India-EU relations, particularly in areas such as trade, strategic cooperation, and global governance.

Beyond the national capital, Republic Day is observed across the country with flag-hoisting ceremonies, cultural programmes, and civic events. Schools, government institutions, and community organisations participate actively, fostering a sense of national unity and reaffirming collective commitment to the constitutional ideals that define India as a republic.

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MR. NAVNEET GUPTA SENIOR CABIN CREW

# **My Town**

In our series, we travel to various Indian destinations with a SpiceJet family member. This time, Navneet takes us around his home town, Jammu.



## Where is your hometown, and what makes it so special?

Jammu is the place I call home, a lovely city located in the southern part of Jammu & Kashmir. It is popularly known as the City of Temples but aside from its spiritual significance, it also boasts a rich culture and much scenic beauty. Jammu is also the gateway to the holy shrine of Vaishno Devi, which attracts millions of devotees every year.

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

The peaceful environment, warmhearted people, and strong cultural roots always call me back to Jammu. My city is an engaging mix of tradition and simplicity, and its temples, old markets, and the calm flow of the Tawi River, create a feeling of belonging and comfort.

## Which is the perfect hangout spot in Jammu?

If you're in search of a few contemplative moments, and an opportunity to get away from Jammu's bustle, head to Bahu Fort, Bagh-e-Bahu, and the serene banks of the Tawi River. These are ideal for spending quality time with friends and family while enjoying the beauty and charms of the city.





#### Name one restaurant you would recommend to a visitor, and a can'tmiss delicacy on the menu...

I would guide you towards any of the local eateries and restaurants that serve authentic Dogra cuisine. Wherever you drop in for lunch or dinner, a must-try is Rajma Chawal, eaten along with Kaladi Kulcha, a delicious combination that is unique to Jammu and loved by locals and visitors alike.

What is the best season to visit Jammu and why?

#### Which must-visit places would you recommend back home?

There's plenty to see in Jammu but I would suggest to include in your itinerary the world-renowned Vaishno Devi Temple, while also making time for Raghunath and Ranbireshwar, the other shrines of note. Besides places of worship, which the city is blessed with, there is also the magnificent and storied Bahu Fort, the awe-inspiring Amar Mahal Palace—residence of the erstwhile Dogra dynasty, now a museum—and the scenic Bagh-e-Bahu. a sprawling garden situated atop a hill that presents delightful panoramas of Jammu •

#### PLACES FOR A QUICK DAY TRIP NEARBY...

You are not lost for choice when it comes to planning a day-long excursion out of Jammu. Patnitop, nestled in the Shivalik belt of the Himalaya, is a picturesque hill station that's home to India's highest ropeway, and offers classic Himalayan vistas of deodar and pine trees, and majestic peaks; it is also popular among pilgrims making their way to Vaishno Devi. Besides being holy sites, Mansar and **Surinsar lakes**—regarded as twins even though they're 10kms (approx.) apart—are designated Ramsar wetlands surrounded by thickly-forested hills; in their midst lies the Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary, rich with and protective of species of flora, fauna and avifauna. And Shivkhori, a cave shrine, draws the Hindu faithful for its association with Lord Shiva. All of these destinations are ideal for lovers of nature.



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# FORECAST for 2026

#### Dr. Prem Kumar Sharma

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

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









In 2026, a bold inner awakening will help Aries refine ambitions and elevate professional direction through new skills, communication roles. and short travels. Financial growth improves with sensible decisions reshape planning, though midyear urges restraint in comfort-led spending. Family bonds strenathen through overdue conversations. Clarity, confidence and Health stabilises with disciplined rest and hydration.

Lucky No.: 9 **Lucky Colour: Peach** 

Taurus steps into 2026 with a quiet resolve that strengthens your emotional foundation, helping you reassess priorities with patience. Midvear adjustments in partnerships or shared long-term plans. April to June calls for quality rest. Home matters settle, short trips revive warmth. balanced judgement prepare you smoothly for 2027.

Lucky No.: 3 **Lucky Colour: Brown** 

A renewed mental rhythm greets Gemini in 2026 offering clarity and stronger professional direction. Income improves, though mid-year curbs on impulsive spending are encouraged. Spring may bring nervous strain or digestive sensitivity, necessitating mindful habits. Reconnecting with elders ensures harmony at home. Travel for learning or work feels fruitful. Calm reasoning and practical decisions will guide you forward.

Lucky No.: 5 **Lucky Colour: Green** 

Cancer enters 2026 wrapped in emotional warmth and renewed sensitivity. Early months bring financial comfort supported by thoughtful saving. Work intensity increases mid-year, needing time balance and discipline. Good sleep and mindful routines keep health stable. Patient study strengthens academic pursuits. Travel broadens insights and family trips nurture solace. Year-end brings peace, healing, and clarity.

Lucky No.: 6 **Lucky Colour: White** 

A radiant spark ignites Leo's journey into 2026, inspiring ambition, creativity, and leadership. Shared-income matters progress between February and May, though mid-year warns against risky choices. Health flourishes when rest balances enthusiasm. Academics thrive through structured effort and innovation. Early travel enhances networking, later trips offer spiritual calm. Partnerships strengthen with sincerity.

Lucky No.: 1 **Lucky Colour: Red** 

Virgo begins 2026 determined to organise life with precision, helping you refine commitments and enhance professional presence. The first half boosts leadership and clear communication. Earnings rise through dedicated initiatives. though spring advises caution on emotional spending. Health stays steady under disciplined routines. Travel for duty or family offers insight. Relationships mature through sincerity.

Lucky No.: 7 Lucky Colour: Blue



#### **LIBRA**

A widening horizon welcomes Libra into 2026, encouraging learning and exploration. Consultancy, teaching, or communication assure earnings early on, international ties between February and April strengthen opportunities. Spring requires mental rest. Mid-year focuses attention on domestic balance and emotional conversations. Property matters smoothen after mid-vear. Year-end brings clarity, balance, and renewed direction.

Lucky No.: 6 **Lucky Colour: Pink** 



#### **SCORPIO**

Scorpio steps into 2026 with a transformative inner shift, helping shed outdated patterns and rebuild emotional strength. While spring discourages loans or impulsive commitments, finances improve through disciplined planning. Creativity and communication flourish mid-year. Health steadies with emotional release and mindful routines. Family dynamics shift early but stabilise through heartfelt dialogue. Travel offers healing.

Lucky No.: 9 Lucky Colour: Maroon Lucky Colour: Yellow



#### **SAGITTARIUS**

An inspiring burst of optimism powers Sagittarius into 2026, encouraging bold expression and creative exploration. Early months enhance visibility through collaborations. Sharedincome arrangements strengthen gradually, though spring urges checks on spending. Health stays strong with balanced routines. Academics thrive with competitive focus. Year-end blends ambition with wisdom.

Lucky No.: 2



#### **CAPRICORN**

Capricorn enters 2026 with calm introspection and quiet determination, ready for steady growth. Early months favour planning, emotional alignment, and disciplined routines. Health strengthens through rest and meditation. Finances grow via organised work or digital avenues, though spring warns against speculation. Travel with loved ones promotes healing. Yearend brings inner strength and progress.

Lucky No.: 8 **Lucky Colour: Purple** 



#### **AQUARIUS**

Creative brilliance opens 2026 for Aquarius, inspiring bold ideas and strengthening professional influence. Early months boost visibility, networking, and achievements. Finances stabilise between February and April. Mid-year calls for restraint in lending and spontaneous spending. Health stays balanced with proper rest. Shared decisions support domestic comfort. Property matters succeed with legal clarity.

Lucky No.: 4 **Lucky Colour: Brown** 



#### **PISCES**

Growing inner discipline guides Pisces into 2026, blending intuition with structure. Early months bring professional recognition, financial stability, and appreciation for consistent effort. Home life becomes emotionally uplifting. Health improves through sleep, hydration, and gentle fitness. Earnings rise through strategic choices, though midyear cautions against impulsive spending. Travel for work or spiritual reflection feels rewarding. Lucky No.: 2

**Lucky Colour: Orange** 

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