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Tourism & Wildlife

APRIL - JUNE 2019

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and the wisdom of ancient ways,
to find answers in the
mystery of mountains and
strength in free, soaring lives.

HUMAN *by* NATURE


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God's Own Country
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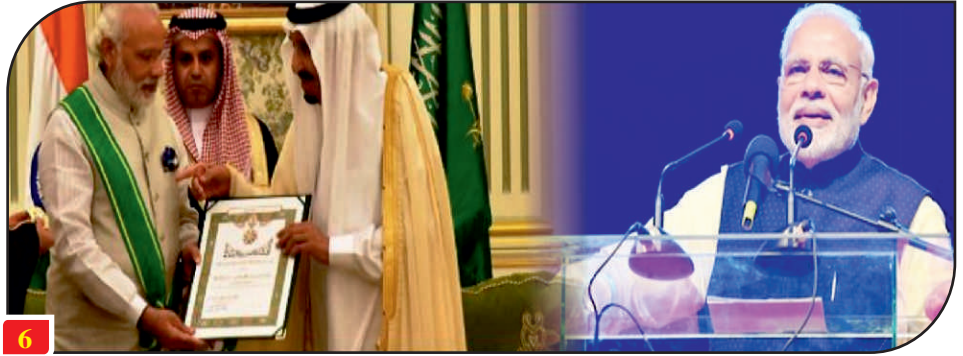
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SUN KONARK THE HINDU SUN GOD SURYA



Wildlife plays an important role in balancing the environment. Wild life provides a stability to different natural processes of nature. The importance of wildlife can be categorized as ecological importance, economic importance, investigatory importance, conservation of biological diversities etc.



**Founder Editor
Late G.C. Verma**

1. Ecological importance :- Wildlife helps in maintaining the balance of nature. Killing of carnivores leads to an increase in the number of herbivores which in turn affect the forest vegetation, thus due to lack of food in the forest they come out from the forest to agriculture land and destroy our crops. Therefore, once the equilibrium is disturbed it leads to many problems.

2. Economic importance :- The wild life can be used to earn money. Wild plant products like food, medicine, timber, fibres, etc. are of economic value and the wild animal products such as meat, medicines, hide, ivory, lac, silk, etc. are of tremendous economic value.

3. Investigatory importance :- Some wild organisms are used for scientific experiments such as to test effect of medicine. Generally monkey, chimpanzee, etc. are used for scientific experiments.

4. Conservation of biological diversities :- By conserving wildlife, diversity in the environment can be conserved. According to some scientists an ecosystem with more diversity is more stable.

5. As a gene bank :-

Group of genes of a population of any particular area is called as **gene bank**. To produce disease resistant variety diversity in gene bank is necessary

.6. Recreation :-

A visit to the parks and sanctuaries is an enjoyable proposition for children as well as adult. Thus, wildlife is best means of recreation.

7. Cultural importance :-

The wildlife of India has rooted effects on religion, art, sculpture and literature. Many mythological stories and children's stories are based on wildlife.

8. Importance in agriculture:-

Wild organisms are very important for modern agriculture. Importance of wildlife in agriculture field are as follows :

1. Production of new hybrid variety using wild plants.
2. Production of better hybrid variety of animals used for agriculture using wild animals.
3. New species of plants and animals can be produced by them.

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Environment Special



Naresh Kumar Choubey(Journalist)

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 came in to force with effect from October 25, 1980. Under the provisions of this Act, prior approval of the Central Government is essential for diversion of forest lands for the non-forestry purposes. In the national interest and in the interest of future generations,

this Act, therefore, regulates the diversion of forest lands to non forestry purposes. The basic objective of the Act is, to regulate the indiscriminate diversion of



forest lands for non forestry uses and to maintain a logical balance between the developmental needs of the country and the conservation of natural heritage. The, guidelines have been issued under the Act from time to time, to simplify the procedures, to cut down delays and to make the Act more user friendly. To ensure this, recently, new rules under this Act have been framed and notified on 10/1/2003 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The Act has succeeded in controlling the indiscriminate release of forest land for non forestry purposes. Prior to 1980, the rate of diversion of forest lands for non forestry purposes was about 1.43 lakh ha. per annum. But, with the advent of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the rate of diversion of forest lands has come down to around 15000 ha. per annum and mostly diversion of forest land is allowed to meet the developmental needs for Drinking water

projects, Irrigation projects, Transmission lines, Railway lines, Roads, Power projects, Defense related projects, Mining etc. For such diversions of forest lands for non forestry purposes, compensatory afforestation is stipulated and catchment area treatment plan, wildlife habitat improvement plan, rehabilitation plan etc. are being implemented, to mitigate the ill effects of diversion of such vast area of green forests. To monitor the effective implementation of the compensatory afforestation in the country, an authority named as "Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)" is being constituted at the national level. A monitoring cell is also being set up in the Ministry of Environment & Forests to monitor the movement of proposals at various stages and the compliance of the conditions stipulated in the forestry clearances by the user agencies. State Advisory Groups (SAGs) :-The State Advisory Groups (SAGs) constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall meet according to the timetable. In case any date indicated in the time-table happens to be a Government holiday, the meeting shall take place on the next working day.

The senior-most Conservator of Forests/Deputy Conservator of Forests of the Regional Office shall act as the Chairperson of the concerned SAG in the absence of the Chief Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests. Nodal Officer of the State shall act as the Member-Secretary of the concerned SAG.

April to June 2019

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MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AWARDS CONFERRED UPON PRIME MINISTER MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was recently awarded with the Order of St Andrew the Apostle, the highest order of the Russian Federation, for promoting partnership and friendly relations between the two countries.

On the similar lines, PM Modi has been honoured with various awards and accolades since the time of taking the hold of premiership of the country in 2014. Have a look at these honours:

1. Russia honours PM Narendra Modi with 'Order of St Andrew the Apostle'

Russia on April 12, 2019 announced that it had honoured Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the Order of St Andrew the Apostle, the highest order of the Russian Federation, for promoting partnership and friendly relations between the two countries. PM Modi has been decorated with the order for exceptional services in promoting a special and privileged strategic partnership between Russia and India and friendly relations between the Russian and Indian people. The information was shared by the Russian Embassy in India.

About Order of St Andrew the Apostle

The Order of St Andrew the Apostle is both the highest and the oldest state decoration of Russia. It was established as the first and highest order of chivalry of the Russian Empire in 1698 but was abolished under the USSR in 1918 before being reinstated as the top Russian order in 1998.

The honour is awarded to prominent statesmen and public figures, eminent representatives of science, culture, the arts and various industries for exceptional services, for promoting the prosperity, grandeur and glory of Russia. It may also be awarded to foreign heads of states for outstanding service to the Russian



Major International Awards conferred upon Prime Minister Modi

Federation. The award comprises the collar, sash and the star of the Imperial Order.

2. UAE honours PM Narendra Modi with Zayed Medal

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on April 4, 2019 honoured PM Narendra Modi with its highest decoration, Zayed Medal in recognition of his "pivotal role" in strengthening ties between the two nations. The Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan tweeted "*We have historical and comprehensive strategic ties with India, reinforced by the pivotal role of my dear friend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who gave these relations a big boost. In appreciation of his efforts, the UAE President grants him the Zayed Medal.*"

About Zayed Medal

The Zayed Medal is the highest decoration of the UAE awarded to kings, presidents and heads of states. The honour has previously been conferred on the leaders of several countries including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, and Queen of the United Kingdom Elizabeth II.

3. PM Narendra Modi conferred with first-ever Philip Kotler Presidential Award

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on January 14, 2019 conferred with the first-ever Philip Kotler Presidential Award. As per the award citation, the Prime Minister has been selected for his outstanding leadership for the nation. It is under his leadership that India is now identified as the Centre for Innovation and Value Added Manufacturing (through Make in India initiative). The Citation mentions initiatives such as Make in India, Startup India, Digital India, and Swachh Bharat, “which have positioned India as one of the most lucrative manufacturing and business destinations in the world.”

About Philip Kotler Presidential Award

The Philip Kotler Presidential Award has been named after Professor Philip Kotler, a world renowned Professor of Marketing at Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management. Professor Kotler deputed Jagdish Sheth of EMORY University, Georgia, USA, to confer the award to PM Modi, owing to his ill-health.

4. PM Narendra Modi awarded with prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for 'Modinomics'



The Seoul Peace Prize Committee on October 24, 2018 conferred the 2018 Seoul Peace Prize on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Committee recognised Modi's contributions to the growth of the Indian and global economies, crediting 'Modinomics' for reducing social and economic disparity between the rich and the poor. With this, PM Modi became the 14th recipient of this coveted award.

April to June 2019

About Seoul Peace Prize



The Seoul Peace Prize was established in 1990 to commemorate the success of the 24th Olympic Games held in Seoul, Korea which saw participation of 160 nations, creating harmony and friendship. The award was established to crystallise the Korean people's yearning for peace on the Korean Peninsula and in the rest of the world. The award has been conferred biennially to individuals who have made their mark through contributions to the harmony of mankind, reconciliation between nations and to world peace. The awardee receives a diploma, a plaque and honorarium of USD 200,000.

5. PM Modi honoured with UN Champions of the Earth Award 2018

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on September 26, 2018 awarded with the prestigious UN Champions of the Earth Award 2018, the highest environmental honour of the United Nations. Modi received the award on October 3, 2018 by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. Prime Minister Modi was selected in the leadership category for his pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance, a global partnership to scale up solar energy. PM Modi was also acknowledged for his unprecedented pledge to eliminate all single use plastic in India by 2022.

Champions of the Earth Award



The Champions of the Earth award, the UN's highest environmental recognition, was founded in 2005. The award celebrates exceptional figures from the public and private sectors and from civil society, whose actions have had a transformative positive impact on the environment. The award also recognises the efforts for promoting new areas of levels of cooperation on environmental action.

The past laureates include - Afroz Shah, who led the world's largest beach cleanup (2016), Rwandan President Paul Kagame (2016), former US Vice-President Al Gore (2007), Ocean Cleanup CEO Boyan Slat (2014), scientist-explorer Bertrand Piccard, and developer of Google Earth Brian McClendon (2013).

6. PM Modi conferred with 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine



Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on February 10, 2018 conferred with the 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine' by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, recognising his contributions in promoting relations between India and Palestine. The award was conferred after the bilateral meeting between the two leaders during the first ever visit of PM Modi to Palestine. Moreover, Modi is also the first Indian Prime Minister to make an official visit to Palestine.

Grand Collar of the State of Palestine

The Grand Collar is highest order of Palestine given to foreign dignitaries such as Kings, Heads of State or Government and persons of similar rank.

The past laureates include King Salman of Saudi Arabia, King Hamad of Bahrain, President Xi Jinping of China, amongst others.

7. Prime Minister Narendra Modi awarded with Amir Abdulla Khan Award of Afghanistan



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his brief visit to Afghanistan, was on June 4, 2016 conferred with the Amir Amanullah Khan Award, the highest civilian honour of Afghanistan. He was awarded the honour by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani following the inauguration of the landmark Afghan-India Friendship Dam.

Amir Amanullah Khan Award

Amir Amanullah Khan Award is the Highest Civilian honour bestowed by Afghan government to Afghan national as well as foreigners in appreciation of their services. The award is named after the Afghan national hero, Amanullah Khan (Ghazi), who championed the cause of Afghanistan's freedom.

8. PM Modi conferred with King Abdullaziz Sash



Award of Saudi Arabia

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on April 3, 2016 conferred with the Saudi Arabia's highest civilian honour 'King Abdulaziz Sash' by King Salman bin Abdulaziz at the Royal Court of Saudi Arabia.

King Abdulaziz Sash Award

The King Abdulaziz Sash Award is named after Abdulaziz Al Saud, the founder of the modern Saudi state.

Among other notable recipients of this honour are US President Barack Obama, British Prime Minister David Cameron, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Indonesian President Joko Widodo.

Other honours and achievements Narendra Modi wins reader's poll for the TIME Person of the Year 2016

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 4, 2016 won the online reader's poll for the TIME 'Person of the Year 2016'. Among the total votes cast, 18 percent went to Modi, which is almost two times more than the percentage of yes votes received by U.S President Barack Obama, US President-elect Donald Trump and Founder of Wikileaks Julian Assange, who all got 7 percent votes each. **PM Modi ranked 9th in Forbes World's Most Powerful People list 2018** Prime Minister

Narendra Modi was on May 8, 2018 ranked among the 10 most powerful people in the world in the 2018 World's Most Powerful People list that is topped by Chinese President Xi Jinping. PM Modi (9th rank) and Mukesh Ambani (32nd rank) were the only two Indians on the Forbes World's Most Powerful People list. PM Modi emerged as a key figure on international front to tackle climate change through the launch of the International Solar Alliance. **PM Modi featured in TIME's 100 Most Influential People of 2017** Time Magazine on April 20, 2017 released the annual list of 100 most influential people of 2017. The only two Indians to feature on the list were Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma. **PM Modi third most followed world leader: Burson Cohn & Wolfe (BCW) study** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the third most followed leader on Twitter in July 2018 after US President Donald Trump and Pope Francis, as per a study by a global communications agency Burson Cohn & Wolfe (BCW).

Modi took the third spot among the world's most followed leaders with 42 million followers on his personal account. Modi's institutional account @PMOIndia ranked fourth with over 26 million followers

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Environment: beautiful and full of natural resources



Aryanshi Shrish

Environment is the visible or non-visible surroundings which support life on this earth. This earth is full of natural surroundings, some are biotic and some are non biotic. Biotic element is that element that has life like human, bird, animal, plants and micro organisms. Whereas abiotic elements are those which have no life like air, sunlight, water, land, soil, minerals, etc. Element comes in categories of biotic and abiotic, further can be divided among four types of sphere like



Biosphere, Hydrosphere, lithosphere and atmosphere. Biotic and abiotic elements reacts with each other in some manner like fresh water, sunlight and soil are used for growing plants same as plants produce oxygen that is highly required by all the living organisms existed on this earth. Human beings use all the available natural resources in different manner for better living on earth.

At its initial stage this earth was so beautiful and full of natural resources that we even cannot describe. But, as time passed, due to increased population the requirement of resources has also been increased and now the current situation is so worst that we cannot surely say that for how much time we would be able to use these resources as they are continuously disappearing from the earth.

Use of natural resources should be carefully planned and executed. It is completely wrong to cut the forest as trees are the key operator of natural cycle. Forest cutting may cause the poor situation of drought, increased heating temperature, unstable seasons, uncertain rainfall, flood, decreased agricultural quality or the worst one "global warming" which is completely not acceptable for the existence of life on earth.

For giving a better and healthy life to our future generations, we all should unite with take some pledge about prevention of our environment with less and safe use of natural resources.

Uttarakhand

UTTRAKHAND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD



पशुपालन विभाग उत्तराखण्ड, पशुधन भवन, प्रथम तल, मोथरोवाला रोड, देहरादून

भारत सरकार से "ए" श्रेणी मान्यता प्राप्त अतिहिमीकृत वीर्य उत्पादन केन्द्र से जर्सी, फ्रीजियन, साहीवाल, मुरा, रेड सिन्धी नस्ल के सांडों का प्रतिवर्ष 30.00 सीमेन डोज का रिकार्ड उत्पादन।

—1394 कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्रों (राजकीय/प्राइवेट कृत्रिम गर्भाधान कार्यकर्ताओं/एन.जी.ओ./दुग्ध संघों) के माध्यम से पशुपालकों के द्वार पर गाय/भैंसों में कृत्रिम गर्भाधान की सुविधा।

कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्रों पर वीर्य एवं तरल नत्रजन व अन्य लाजिस्टिक्स का वितरण हेतु नेटवर्क।

— प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र पशुलोक, ऋषिकेश एवं कालसी, देहरादून में भ्रूण प्रत्यारोपण कृत्रिम गर्भाधान, पशु प्रबंधन, चारा विकास आदि विषयों पर वर्ष भर पशुचिकित्सकों/कृत्रिम गर्भाधान कार्यकर्ताओं/पशुपालकों/कृषों हेतु प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन।

— नेशनल डेरी प्लान के अन्तर्गत उच्च आनुवांशिक गुणवत्ता (Progeny Tested High Genetic Crossbred HF Bulls) सांडों का उत्पादन।

— कालसी प्रक्षेत्र पर रेड सिन्धी नस्ल की देशी गायों का भ्रूण प्रत्यारोपण तकनीक द्वारा संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन।

— आयातित एच.एफ.ए. एवं जर्सी भ्रूणों के प्रत्यारोपण द्वारा उन्नत सांडों का उत्पादन। आयातित जर्सी एवं एच.एफ.ए. नस्ल के सेक्सड सीमेन की वास्तविक मूल्य पर पशुपालकों

को आपूर्ति।

— नेशनल लाइवस्टॉक मिशन के अन्तर्गत राज्य के 13 जनपदों में पशुधन बीमा योजना (Risk Management) का समान रूप से संचालन।

— कॉम्पेक्ट फीड ब्लाक उत्पादन यूनिट रुद्रपुर एवं

कालसी के माध्यम से काम्पैक्ट फीड ब्लाक (चारा भेली) का उत्पादन एवं राज्य के 109 उप चारा बैंकों के माध्यम से राज्य के दूरस्थ स्थानों तक चारा भेली के वितरण की सुविधा।

— कालसी प्रक्षेत्र पर रेड सिन्धी गायों के गौ मूत्र से गौ अर्क का उत्पादन एवं विपणन।

— श्यामपुर-ऋषिकेश एवं पशु प्रजनन प्रक्षेत्र, कालसी से नैपियर घास रूट कटिंग का विपणन/वितरण।

— भारत में पहली बार सेक्सड सीमेन तकनीक की प्रयोगशाला की स्थापना आगामी 6 माह के अन्दर प्रारम्भ।



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यू.एल.डी.बी. देहरादून



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KAPPILE BEACH



PADMANABHASWAMY



VARKALA SIVAGIRI MUTT



Guest enjoy carroms game



ANJENGO FORT

What to see in Varkala & Around

Every year thousands of pilgrims at Papanasam beach to pay homage to their ancestors. Centenary old Sri Janardhana Swamy Temple also many worshippers visit daily. many people visit Varkala - Sivagiri Mutt, the place of Sree Narayana Guru's Samathi. Centre for performing Arts(new), Aquarium,

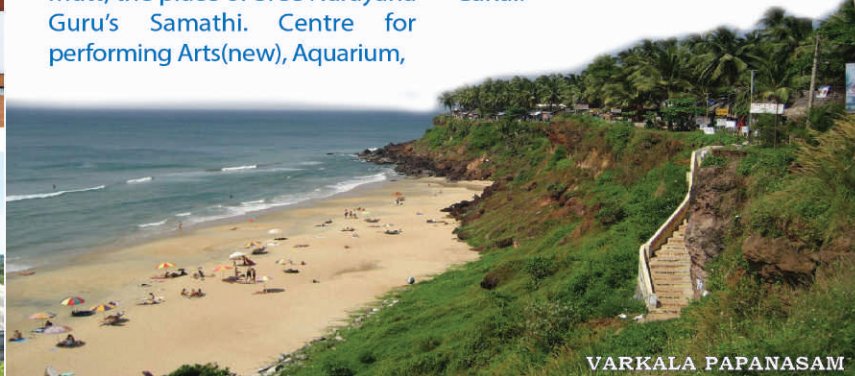
Edava - Kappil beaches, Kappil Lake and water sports Centre, Priyadarshini boat club, Puthenkulam Elephant ride, Jatayupara Nature Park (with world's Largest bird sculpture) (new), Golden island, Anjengo Fort, Varkala T. S Canal.



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VARKALA PAPANASAM



Pulari Gardens



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Kerala Tourism's new campaign film for global audiences a huge success



Human by Nature' offers new perspective on Kerala's interconnectedness of Human with Nature

New Delhi, Apr 11: Kerala Tourism's latest brand campaign, **Human by Nature**, which encapsulates the state's spectacular charm in dramatic visuals and offers refreshing insights into the interconnectedness of its people and the bountiful nature, has received wide acclaim in international markets, firmly pushing post-floods Kerala back into the itinerary of global travellers.

The three-minute destination campaign film, part of a marketing blitzkrieg to refurbish Kerala's touristy appeal beyond the Indian shores, showcases the state's signature assets, and celebrates local people as heroes. The film subtly depicts warm, authentic human stories that travellers rummage through this land for a liberating experience.

The global brand campaign, which was recently launched by Kerala Tourism Minister Shri Kadakampally Surendran in New Delhi, packs soul-stirring images of the state where life moves at a leisurely pace in tranquil environs, where culture flourishes in syncretic traditions, where tradition complements modernity in the context of everyday life, all strung together in a visual tapestry.

Alongside, it offers a spectacular snapshot of the state – tranquil backwaters, beaches, houseboats, catamarans, Theyyam artistes, hill stations, exotic wildlife, magical festivals, and scrumptious cuisines,

and there is a surreal feel to it that is both real and fantastical for tourists.

In essence, **Human by Nature** presents Kerala as 'the courtyard of the world', where no one is an outsider, not even the traveller; where the land and the people create a fabric of tolerance and interconnectedness; where you speak with no words and listen from the heart; where you can explore Magic in Everyday and Eternity in the Ordinary—all of which can make us human, all over again.

Describing the latest campaign as a powerful multi-media outreach, Shri Surendran said it would act as a trigger to put Kerala Tourism on a higher pedestal in a competitive global marketplace.

"I am sure it will strike an emotive chord with travellers and position Kerala as an essential fixture on the



international travel circuit. It will appeal to both high spenders and backpackers. Tourism is a major contributor to Kerala's economy and a significant source of foreign exchange. The increase in footfalls can have transformative effect on the lives of our people," he added.

The film, which was shown as part of Kerala Tourism's roadshow in the American cities of New Jersey, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles, drew an enthusiastic response.

The film has been conceived and scripted by Stark Communications, the brand agency for Kerala Tourism for several years, and directed by Vivek Thomas, Director of Miramar Films. It was shot in the enchanting locations like Kumarakom, Alappuzha, Arthungal, Chellanam, Fort

HUMAN *by* NATURE



He travelled extensively across the state to create a set of stunning portraits that showcase the people and the terrain they live in - like never before.

HUMAN *by* NATURE



Kochi, Munambam, Wayanad, Kannur and Thaliparambu.

The 360 degree integrated campaign has also a strong print component, and it was shot by the renowned New York-based Canadian photographer Joey L, who is known for his work that straddles the worlds of photojournalism and commercial photography.

Tourism Secretary Smt. Rani George said Kerala Tourism keeps reinventing itself with fascinating ideas. "The film is both sophisticated and emotive. It shows Kerala in a wider spectrum as vibrant and welcoming, underlined by a powerful human touch. This will further firm up Kerala's position in the itinerary of international travellers as one of the most fancied global destinations," she added. The campaign would run in Kerala Tourism's key markets, such as USA, the UK, Gulf

countries, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Spain, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Belgium.

In 2018, the state's tourism netted record revenue of Rs 36,528.01 crore, clocking an increase of Rs 2,874.33 crore from the previous year, while the number of domestic and foreign tourist arrivals stood at over 167 lakhs.

April to June 2019

13



India's first International Conference on Religious, Pilgrimage, Wellness, Spiritual Tourism & World Yoga Day Celebration to be held at Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

New Delhi, May 21st 2019:
India's leading Travel, Tourism
Exhibition & Conclave

ITM Rishikesh 2019 is scheduled from June 20th till June 22nd 2019 at Ganga Resort, GMVN Rishikesh, Uttarakhand with a focus on Religious, Pilgrimage, Wellness & Spiritual Tourism & World Yoga Day Celebration. Spirituality is often mixed up with religion, with the words "spiritual" and "religion" often being used interchangeably. Spiritual tourism involves people traveling to places to find the meaning of life and attain inner peace through self-realization and personal transformation; they may or may not follow a particular religion or faith. Religious tourism, on the other hand, involves devotees travelling individually or in groups to undertake pilgrimages or to visit temples and other places of worship.

About the Exhibition & Conclave

The three day exhibition & conclave will highlight Religious, Pilgrimage, Wellness and Spiritual Tourism across the globe, Focused sessions throughout the day, Structured, Organized, B2B meetings, Interaction with approx 200+ delegates from trade from PAN India, Yoga Sessions, Ganga Arti, and other interaction would be there.

According to Mr. Ajay Gupta, Chairman & Managing Director, ICM Group, "With the kind of stressful lives that we lead, a person tends to look for refreshing holidays and unique travel destination. We have organized this exhibition & conclave on Religious, Pilgrimage, Wellness & Spiritual Tourism & World Yoga Day Celebration which will establish mutual relationship with Delegates/Visitors as we are anticipated Tourism Professionals, State & International Tourism Boards/Departments, Religious & Spiritual Book Publishers, Tour Operators, Travel Agents, Trusts & Shrine Boards, Health Resorts, Ashram & Yoga Centre's, Hotels, Resort & Spa, Motivational Speakers, Travel Guides, Online Travel Portals and professionals from other industries. You can get up to date knowledge about the latest tourism trends, Tourism Promotion and Information Exchange via this conclave & mart. There is B2B Business Possibilities & Exchange of Business Ideas as all the niche products will be showcased under one crown.

Amanpreet Kaur

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flynas launches direct flights between Riyadh and New Delhi starting from 1st July



Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia, 30 April 2019, Saudi airline's national airline and Middle East's low budget airline, "flynas", has announced a direct airline service between Saudi Arabia's capital

Riyadh and India's capital New Delhi from 1st July.

flynas will now fly from King Khalid International Airport to Indira Gandhi Airport every 5 weeks. Last year, in June 2018, the company started service between Riyadh and Hyderabad.

The decision of this new destination has been taken into account with increasing demand among Riyadh

and New Delhi, as well as supporting the global belief strategy of flynas.

Bookings of passengers flying between Riyadh and New Delhi, are now available through all the booking forums of flynas; Sales agent, flynas website, and mobile application, or by calling flynas Call Center number: 920001234. flynas call center is available twenty-four hours a day.

Flynas has recently started flights to Lahore, Islamabad, Algeria, Trabzon, Irbil, Baghdad, Sarajevo, Vienna, Batumi, Tribbyesi and Baku. In addition, Erlin has also announced to double the passengers in the extension of the next phase and to add new destinations. Flynas flew 66 million passengers and 60,000 national and international flights last year.

AGASTYA LAKE IS AN ENORMOUS LAKE

Located at a distance of 1 km from Badami bus station, on the outskirts of the city, Agastya Lake is an enormous lake that lies below the caves temples. Formed way back in the 5th century, this sacred lake is known to have waters that have healing powers. A dip in the holy waters take away all your sins and ills. The cave temples are on the south west part of the lake, Bhoothanatha temples is on the eastern banks and the fort on the north western side. All the caves face the lake and one of them has ruins of Buddha inside it. As per Puranas, Pushkarini was a pleasure of tank of Lord Vishnu in his abode. Lord's vehicle, Garuda, brought it here and set it.

Agastya Lake has wonderful



surroundings and the visitors can enjoy lovely views of the hills and some historical monuments as well. Bhoothanatha temples that look like it is emerging from the lake is a great sight with a huge hillock in the backdrop. This lake is also a popular picnic spot amidst locals as well as tourists. The other nearby temples have a wonderful architecture and are festooned with superb sculptures. The lake has been named after Rishi Agastya, one of the Saptarishis. According to legend Badami has its origin in the Vatapi legend in the great Hindu epic of Ramayana relating to the Sage. Using the sandstone rocks around the lake with gaps in them, act as pathways for climbing up the nearby hill.



Technical session addressing by IATO,ADTOI & T.Tourism with Btm buyer's seller & Media



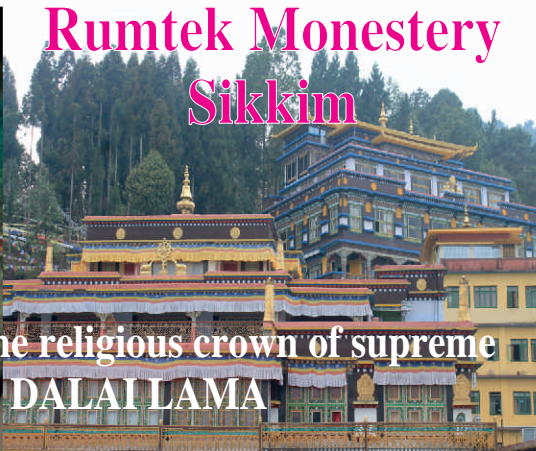
All team of the Btm in siligurhi (W.B.)



Opening ceremony Btm 2019 (Siligurhi,W.B.)



Women seller's & women buyer's in Btm



**Rumtek Monastery
Sikkim**



**organic agriculture
at sikkim**

Rumtek Monastery also called the Dharmachakra Centre

Geeta Bisht, We attended BTM at siliguri W.B for 3 days, after that our group went to fem tour in Gangtok Sikkim. There we visited some repudiated hotels, parks and Nathula pass (which is a Indian army border with a long and great history) & Rumtek Monastery

Rumtek Monastery also called the **Dharmachakra Centre**, which is in Gompa located in the Indian state of Sikkim near the capital Gangto. It is located about 24 kilometres (15 mi) from Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim, at an altitude of about 1,500 metres (4,900 ft).

. It is a focal point for the sectarian tensions within the Karma Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism that characterize the Karmapa controversy.

Originally it was built under the direction of Wangchuk Dorje, 9th Karmapa Lama in the mid-1700, Rumtek served as the main seat of the Karma Kagyu lineage in Sikkim for some time. But when Rangjung Rigpe Dorje, 16th Karmapa, arrived in Sikkim in 1959 after fleeing Tibet, the monastery was in ruins.

Despite being offered other sites, the Karmapa decided to rebuild Rumtek. To him, the site possessed many auspicious qualities and was surrounded by the most favorable attributes. With the generosity and help of the Sikkim royal family and the local folks of Sikkim, it was built by the 16th Karmapa as his main seat in [exile](#).

It took four years to completed the construction of the monastery. The sacred items and relics brought out from Tsurphu Monastery, the Karmapa's seat in Tibet, were installed. On Losar in 1966, the 16th Karmapa officially inaugurated the new seat, called "The Dharmachakra Centre, a place of erudition and spiritual accomplishment, the seat of the glorious Karmapa."



The monastery is currently the largest in Sikkim. It is home to the community of monks and where they perform the rituals and practices of the Karma Kagyu lineage. A golden stupa contains the relics of the 16th Karmapa. Opposite that building is a college, Karma Shri Nalanda Institute for Higher Buddhist Studies.

Rumtek is facing a controversy regarding stewardship of the monastery in the Indian courts claiming [Karmapa](#) claim stewardship of the monastery and its contents. The two organisations are the Tsurphu Labrang (supporting Ogyen Trinley Dorje) and the Karmapa Charitable Trust (supporting Trinley Thaye Dorje). Since 1992, the monastery has been the site of pitched battles between monks supporting one candidate or the other. Neither candidate resides, nor has been enthroned, at Rumtek. Monks supporting Trinley Thaye Dorje (the minority) were thrown out of Rumtek by Indian security forces in order to quell violence between the two factions. Armed Indian soldiers still patrol the monastery to prevent further sectarian violence.

Panna National Park

The Gemstone of Indian National Parks

The Panna National Park is generally not overly crowded with tourists compared to the other neighbouring national parks, which makes it a surreal, quiet and soothing environment to be in. The wildlife here is diverse and includes deer species like Sambars (which are

listed in the 'Vulnerable' category of the IUCN red data list), wild dogs (Dholes), jackals, Indian Gaurs and Nilgai (the largest antelopes in India), and of course big wild cats like leopards and tigers, among others. Not many know this, but Panna is also home to the oldest female elephant, called Vatsala, who at present is around 96 years old.

Panna National Park was considered as one of the best managed and maintained national parks in India by the Ministry of Tourism of India and bagged the Award of Excellence in the year 2007. However due to

poaching and other practices, the number of tigers in the park reduced to only 2-4 in 2008. An efficient team headed by IFS Officer, Mr. R. Shreenivasa Murthy, reintroduced tigers from other national parks to Panna with proper monitoring and protection. They achieved successful breeding and thereafter the number of tigers satisfactorily rose up, reaching to 35 today. Panna is thus now mostly known for its incredible tiger conservation.

The park also houses a variety of forest birds including 6 types of vultures, Paradise Flycatchers, and Savanah Nightjars. These colourful, feisty birds are an absolute treat to the eyes. While the adult male Paradise Flycatcher, which is also the State Bird of Madhya Pradesh, has fine white feathers and is aptly called Dudhraj (milk-king) in Hindi, the Savanah Nightjar is a master of camouflage, and is difficult to spot.

If one is not completely engrossed by the scenic beauty of the park, one can also visit tourist places like Ken Gharial Sanctuary, Raneh Fall, Pandav Fall, Dhubela Museum, Ajaygarh Fort, Kalinjar Fort and Khajuraho Temples.

GETTING THERE:

By Air: The nearest airport is Civil Aerodrome Khajuraho which is around 64 kms away from the park.

By Road: Well-built roads are connected to the most of the major cities of India, and are easily accessible.

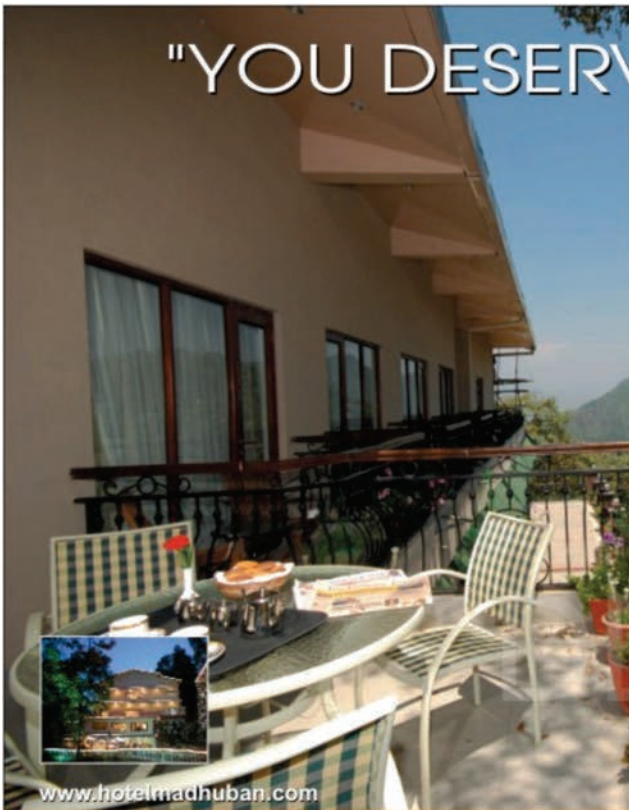
By Rail: Satna and Jhansi are the nearest railway stations. Regular train services from here connect to the major cities in India.

BEST TIME TO VISIT:

During the summer ground vegetation is sparse and hence there are maximum chances to spot elusive wildlife. However, it is extremely hot and dry during this time of the year. Therefore, if one has a problem with the heat, it is advisable to go there in the winter, which is from November to February.



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WALAYA VILLAGE

A HILLS, UTTRAKHAND



THOUGHTS FROM OUR COMMUNITY



"We started with a team of four and, through our food waste awareness campaign, the importance of reducing food waste has spread throughout the campus."

'Food Savivors' Team
National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality
Management, India
'PATA announces BUFFET for Youth Challenge winners'

EVENTS



First confirmed buyers at PATA Travel Mart 2019

The countdown is on for PTM 2019! There are just five months until PTM takes place from September 18 to 20 in Nur-Sultan (Astana), Kazakhstan - our first foray into Central Asia! Please note that registration for pre-matched appointments closes on June 30th, so act fast! **Here are some of the 120 buyers that have already registered from across all regions of the world.**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Speaker Introduction: 'The Chinese Outbound Tourism Market'



Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Georg Art is Founder and Director of China Outbound Tourism Research Institute (COTRI). He has authored numerous books and articles on China's outbound tourism, and shares valuable insights via international organisations and major publications, including CNN, Forbes, Time Magazine, The Times, The Economist, and South China Morning Post.

Beijing Municipal Cultural and Tourism Bureau participates at PATA Annual Summit 2019

BANGKOK, The Beijing Municipal Cultural and Tourism Bureau actively participated at the PATA Annual Summit 2019 in Cebu, Philippines from May 9-12. The event included a one-day conference, the UNWTO/PATA Leaders Debate, Executive Board and Board Meetings, Committee Meetings and the 68th Annual General Meeting. The organisation also hosted a dinner for all delegates at the Radisson Blu Cebu on Thursday, May 9.

The Asia-Pacific region has become one of the most dynamic economies in the world with frequent dialogue and exchanges between governments and organisations. It is also the most important area of cooperation for China's "Belt and Road" initiative. The interconnection of culture and tourism is an important part of enhancing understanding, strengthening mutual trust, promoting development and achieving mutually beneficial results for all parties.

The Beijing Municipal Cultural and Tourism Bureau actively participated in various activities during the PATA Annual Summit, sharing experiences with representatives of all parties, summarizing trends and looking to the future. During the event, the Beijing Municipal Culture and Tourism Bureau promoted Beijing's 144-hour transit visa-free policy, departure tax rebate and conference awards. Showing the classical, fashionable and modern "glamour" of the new Beijing..

About PATA

Founded in 1951, PATA is a not-for-profit membership association that acts as a catalyst for the responsible development of travel and tourism to, from and within the Asia Pacific region. The Association provides aligned advocacy, insightful



Mr. Zhang Hongyi, Associate Consultant of Legislative Affairs Division of the Beijing Municipal Culture and Tourism Bureau.

research and innovative events to its more than 800 member organisations, including 95 government, state and city tourism bodies, 20 international airlines and airports, 102 hospitality organisations and 70 educational institutions, as well as over a hundred young tourism professional (YTP) members across the world. The PATA network also embraces the grassroots activism the PATA Chapters and Student Chapters, who organise numerous travel industry training programmes and business development events across the world.

Thousands of travel professionals belong to the 35 local PATA Chapters worldwide, while hundreds of students are members of the 22 PATA Student Chapters globally. The PATAmPOWER platform delivers unrivalled data, forecasts and insights from the PATA Strategic Intelligence Centre to members' desktops and mobile devices anywhere in the world. PATA's Head Office has been in Bangkok since 1998. The Association also has official offices or representation in Beijing and London. Visit www.PATA.org

Maithon, derived its name from “Mai Ka Sthan”,

Maithon, derived its name from “Mai Ka Sthan”, meaning the place for the Hindu Goddess Maa Kalyaneshwari. It is located on the banks of river Barakar. The Maithon Dam is located about 48 kms from the Coal City of Dhanbad. The dam with an underground power station is one of its kinds in the whole of South East Asia. The lake on which it is built is spread over 65 square kilometers.

This was developed by the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC Ltd) way back in the year 1948. The dam is about 15712 ft long and about 165 ft long. The underground power station has a capacity to generate around 60,000 KW of electric power.



Maithon- Spread over an area of about 65 sq km this place has got a lake which is featured with the facility of boating. A deer park as well as a bird sanctuary located within its proximity makes this place a favorable picnic spot.

Famous for the industry of coal mining, this city is even regarded as the “Coal Capital of India”. Apart from being the 42nd biggest city, this industrial city cum district of the state of Jharkhand is the 96th fastest developing city of the world.

The district has got around 112 coal mines.

The coalfields of this area are called “Jharia coalfields”. These coalfields are the sole source of metallurgical and coking coal in India. Besides these, the place has even got some tourist places, which attracts tourists from the nearby places.

The district is featured with dry deciduous forests. Rivers like Damodar, Gobai, Irji, Jamunia, Katri and Khudia flow through the district. All of these contribute to the natural beauty of the region.



The Maithon dam itself is located on a picturesque landscape amidst a beautiful lake and beautiful green forests. You could avail boating with friends and family on the lake. Apart from that you could even enjoy a walk in the beautiful green forests around the lake. Watching the sun rise and sunset is delightful for tourists, which you must not miss when you are in Maithon. If you are spiritual minded then you must also visit the ancient temple of Mother Goddess Kalyaneshwari.

Popular Attractions in Ranchi

Ranchi, the City of Waterfalls, is one of the finest places to visit in Jharkhand. It is the city where you can find the most mesmerizing views of waterfalls in the country.

You can enjoy more than just an ordinary stay in Ranchi, amidst some of the finest waterfalls in the country. Ranchi truly offers a sojourn worth-remembering for the rest of your lives.

Popular Attractions in Ranchi: Hundru Falls, Dassam Falls, Paanch Gagh Falls, Kanke Dam, Birsa Zoological Park, Jonha Falls, Ranchi Lake, Sun Temple, Deer Park, Jagannath Temple, Nakshatra Van, Pahari Mandir and Rock Garden.

Nearest Airport to Ranchi : Ranchi Airport.

Railway Connectivity at Ranchi: Regular trains exist from Ranchi Junction, Ray, Namkon, Ranchi Road and Hatia Railway Stations.

#2: Jamshedpur

places to visit in jharkhand



Jamshedpur is popularly known as the Steel City of India. It is one of the largest cities in Jharkhand, and a home to the first ever iron and steel company of India, Tata Steel. It offers an interesting experience to visitors, especially to people who love the nature and seek comfort in nature's beauty. In addition, Jamshedpur is also the Industrial City of India, founded by Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, the founder of Tata Group. Nature is at its best in Jamshedpur, with lush greenery all around and plenty of attractive spots to ensure that you can enjoy a delightful holiday with family.

Popular Attractions at Jamshedpur: Dalma Hills, Jubilee Park, Jayanti Sarovar, Jubilee Lake, Tata Steel Zoological Park, Tribal Culture Centre, Bhuvneshwari Temple, Hudco Lake

Nearest Airport to Jamshedpur: Sonari Airport.

Railway Connectivity at Jamshedpur: Regular train services to Jamshedpur from Tatanagar Junction, Adityapur and Gamharia Railway Station.



BIHAR REGION WHICH WAS THEN KNOWN AS MAGADH

Two of India's most glorious dynasties, Mauryas (321 -185 BCE) and Guptas (320 to 550 CE) flourished in ancient Bihar region which was then known as Magadh. The Great King Ashoka (born c.304 BCE, died c. 232 BCE) of Mauryan dynasty whose empire spread across South Asia. He had his capital in Pataliputra that is present Patna. The Gupta period termed as India's golden age was also based in Magadh and Pataliputra as its capital. Nalanda and Vikramshila were centres of learning established in the 5th and 8th century respectively in Bihar, and are regarded amongst the oldest and truly international secular universities, where students from across the world came over to study. The great spiritual way of Buddhism originated and thrived in ancient Bihar, as Buddha attained his enlightenment in Bodhgaya. Therefore the region is full of remains of the monasteries known as Stupa. Jain leader Mahavira also belonged to this region and attained his Nirvana at Pawapuri. Among Hindu religious places Bihar has one of the most prominent pilgrimages at Gaya for imparting offerings to ancestors. Ramayana and Mahabharata, the grand epics of India which are still very popular and connected to Hindu religion have numerous tales associated with various places in Bihar. The Qadri order, which is now believed to be one of the chief Sufi orders in the state, had one of its prominent representatives, Syed Muhammad of Amjharsharif, based in the Aurangabad district of Bihar.

The Sikh leader the tenth Guru Govind Singh was born in Patna in 1660. The Har Mandir Takht built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh to commemorate his birth place is regarded as one of the five 'Akal Takht's by the Sikhs. The religious choice is there to take trips on the basis of the Buddhist Circuit, Jain Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Hindu Circuit, Sikh Circuit etc. for



pilgrimage purpose or just to enjoy the sheer beauty of the archaeological remains and the amazing unspoilt natural surroundings of this land. During the 12th century CE Bihar suffered aggressive attacks from the Afghan ruler Bakhtiar Khilji and all the glorious historical places were plundered by him. Later during the reign of the great Afghan ruler Sher Shah Suri who ruled from Patna and built the Grand Trunk Road the longest road of India Bihar saw a span of five years good governance. During British rule Mahatma Gandhi started his first experiment of Satyagraha movement from the Champaran region against the oppression of the indigo farmers by the Britishers. In 2000, the southern part of earlier Bihar was given a separate state status as Jharkhand. Presently, Bihar is the country's fastest growing state with a reported a growth of 13.1% for the year 2011-12 while it was 14.8% for the previous year. This economic revival is the direct result of the improved governance which focused into investment in infrastructure, better health care facilities, education and declining crime and corruption. Thus Bihar has become a prospective opportunity for investment interest to global business and economic leaders.

GERMAN NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD WRAPS UP SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION IN ARABIAN TRAVEL MARKET 2019

The German National Tourist Board (GNTB) together with a host of leading German tourism trade partners, has wrapped up another highly successful participation in this year's Arabian Travel Market, the largest gathering of travel and tourism professionals in the wider Middle East region, which took place at the Dubai World Trade Centre from 28th April to 1st May 2019.

During the four-day event, trade professionals from across the region and beyond, met with representatives of the GNTB as well as its partners, covering local tourist boards, luxury hotels, hospitality, retail, spas and theme parks. Each partner had its own unique proposition, whether spring, summer, autumn or winter, emphasising that Germany is a diverse and unique all year-round travel destination.

The GNTB's partners this year included; 'Hotel Palace Berlin'; 'Frankfurt Tourism and Congress Board'; 'OUTLETCITY METZINGEN'; 'Baden-Baden Tourism Board'; the State Tourist Board SouthWest-Germany (Baden-Württemberg Tourismus) and the Black Forest Highlands Tourism Board (Hochschwarzwald Tourismus). VIP visitors to the GNTB stand at ATM included H.E. Mr. Günter Rauer, Consulate General of the German Consulate in Dubai and Mr. Felix Neugart, CEO of the German Emirati Joint Council for Industry and Commerce (AHK).

Sigrid de Mazieres, Director for the Gulf countries at the German National Tourist Office (GNTO), an affiliate of the German National Tourist Board, commented, "The GCC region is an important market for the German tourism sector and we are delighted with the outcome of our participation at ATM. "Visitors to our stand remarked about Germany's natural beauty, rich cultural heritage



and impressive infrastructure, as key reasons for travelling to Germany. We are confident that many of them, will use the upcoming Eid Al Fitr holiday and of course the subsequent summer holiday season, as ideal opportunities to visit our beautiful country."

The GCC market is Germany's third-largest non-European source market behind China and the US. Moreover, GCC travellers tend to stay an average of 11 nights and spend on average \$5,300 per person per trip, significantly more than other international travellers. According to the latest forecast from the GNTB, GCC nationals visiting Germany are expected to increase to 3.6 million overnight stays by 2030, compared with 1.8 million guest nights from Gulf nationals recorded in 2018, with key markets being UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. In 2009 overnight stays in Germany by GCC nationals, amounted to 770,000. By 2018 the number of overnight stays had increased to 1.8 million, which demonstrates that the annual number of overnight stays has grown by 130% over the past decade.



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Lagerstroemia (Naked Maiden of the Forest / Nano), Kindall, Jamba, Mimusops, Saraca indica etc. The thorny bamboo Bambusa arundinacea and Giant Lianas (Entada) abound. Gaur the state animal is frequently seen. The Panther is the largest carnivora and the Jungle Cat, Leopard Cat, Toddy Cat are others. Herbivorous consist of Deers (Sambar, Spotted, Hog, Barking and Mouse) Wild Boar, Porcupines Scaly Ant Eater, and Malabar Giant Squirrel. The diminutive Flying lizard (Draco) is fairly common. Over a hundred species of birds are residents. The State Bird (Ruby Throated Yellow Bulbul) can be seen... and the Common Grey Hornbill and Golden Backed Woodpecker are daily visitors to the Garden.

38 kms from Margao is the smaller of the three wildlife sanctuaries of Goa - the Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary. More than a sanctuary, it is an ideal jungle resort, a major attraction for school going children and nature lovers. Its mini zoo, sprawling deer park in natural habitat, botanical and rose gardens attract people throughout the year. The Bondla wildlife sanctuary is about 50 Kms from Panaji and 38 Kms from Margao and 20 Kms east of Ponda. It is more of a jungle resort with tourist cottages available on site run by the Forest Department. The common animals that inhabit the sanctuary are the Gaur and the Sambhar deer. It is a popular destination for school picnics. It is closed on Mondays. There are tour buses that make a stop over at Bondla from Margao and Panaji.



The Sanctuary is just 8 sq. km. in size, located among hills at the junction of three Talukas viz. Ponda, Sanguem and Sattari. It boasts of a Mini Zoo, Deer Safari Park, Formal Gardens, Botanic Gardens and Eco-Tourism Cottages. It is connected to Ponda as well as Molem by a good tar-road.

Late evenings and nights are very pleasant. Bondla is a Paradise for Eco-Tourists. The area is covered with Moist Deciduous Forests, with small patches of Evergreens and Canes along the nullahs.

The State Tree Terninalia crenulata (Matti) and Rosewood are common here. Others are

Zoological Park- A tiny Zoo permits one to see the fauna of Goa in moated enclosures with natural surroundings. Animal exhibits include, Panther, Lion, Gaur, Sambar, Deers (Spotted, Hog & Barking) Sloth Bear, Crocodiles, Reptiles etc.

Deer Safari Park- Visitors can move among deers in vehicles inside the sprawling Deer Safari Park housing Sambar and Spotted Deers.

Formal Gardens- Spacious lawns, exotic trees, varieties of roses, and colourful flowering plants in the middle of the forest do.

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BEST PLACES TO VISIT IN AND AROUND TASHKENT

Tashkent Circus :

Another pearl in the Modernist crown of Tashkent, the circus of Tashkent builds on the tradition of other circus buildings in the region. The building is a splendid example of what Frédéric Chaubin has termed Soviet cosmic architecture.



Visit Tashkent Zoo: Make use of this opportunity to explore the world of wildlife during your visit to the Tashkent Zoo. This day outing will be a fabulous experience for everyone irrespective of age. It's always an amazing thing to watch different species of fauna in their natural habitat. Some of the animals that you can find in this zoo include monkeys, tiger, lion cub, bear, hippo, lamas, camels and goats to name a few. Eagles are also found here;

Parks in Tashkent :

Tashkent is one of the greenest capitals in the world. There are many parks and open spaces in Tashkent. There is always a reason to visit Tashkent's parks – from sunbathing to refreshing walks. Besides the fact that parks in Tashkent are ideal place for relaxing, you will also find sporting or any other exciting events, as well as many kids' attractions in Tashkent's top parks and gardens. Approximately 35 percent of the territory of Tashkent is a "green spaces".

All of these are overflowing with trees, shrubs, flowers and a wide variety of wildlife. Green space in central Tashkent consists of eighteen large-scale parks, supplemented by a number of small garden squares scattered throughout the city centre.

Mountain Activities :

The slopes of Chimgan mountain call out to adventure enthusiasts. This place is a popular ski resort of Uzbekistan during winter time, and is a heaven for trekkers and rock climbers in summer.

Located at 80 km from Tashkent, Greater Chimgan at 3309 m is its highest peak. As you take the trek to this mountain, you will be awestruck with the picturesque views of nature that surround this place.

Uzbek Food: Festival of Taste

Not for nothing people from all over the world like and honor the Uzbek cuisine. It is one of the most savoury and various in tastes cuisine in Central Asia. Only names of appetizing Uzbek food make one's mouth water. Many Uzbek recipes have centuries-old history, and the process of preparing food is accompanied with various rituals, which have reached our days. All specific peculiarities of Uzbek food have been forming for centuries.

Fun At Aqualand Tashkent :

Fun and enjoyment is what makes you feel relaxed and revitalized. Aqualand is one such place which offers unlimited fun and entertainment to visitors. This amusement park is beautifully designed and entices visitors to spend long hours here. It is highly recommended to visit this amusement park at least once for a spine-tingling experience.

Visit Fine Arts Museum Of Uzbekistan :

The Fine Arts Museum located in the Central Asian region, houses several unique works. You can take a look at the beautiful West European and Eastern artworks in this museum. The history of this place dates back to 1918, when it was founded to store some valuable collectibles. It is estimated that there were about 500 items in this art museum which consisted of Western European Art along with the Russian sculptures. Visitors can take a glimpse of the beautiful paintings, artistic furniture, sculpture, bronze, porcelain and much more. The number of artworks and exhibits had increased to about 50,000 by the 21st century.

Now flying from Amritsar, New Delhi and Mumbai to Tashkent By UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS.

India continues as the third largest visitor source market for Singapore



Tuesday, 12th March: For the fourth time in a row, Singapore welcomed more than one million Indian travelers in 2018, reinforcing it as one of the most preferred destinations for Indian outbound travel. The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) announced that India retained its third position, after China and Indonesia, as a Visitors Arrival (VA) source market for Singapore, having first gaining that spot in 2017. It recorded the second highest growth at 13%, after USA (14%). While key metro cities like Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai continue to contribute the highest number of visitors to Singapore - 498,000 travelers in 2018, a year-on-year (YOY) increase of 8%, STB's efforts to engage other key metros and secondary cities resulted in them providing good growth in visitorship. These cities, including Hyderabad, Kolkata Pune, Amritsar, Coimbatore and Visakhapatnam contributed 253,000 travelers in 2018, a YOY growth of 12%.

The year 2018 was an eventful year for STB in the Indian market. It promoted the destination brand "Passion Made Possible" vigorously and presented Singapore's diverse offerings to audiences across India - families, early & established careers, cruise travellers, meetings and incentive groups and travellers from Tier 2 & 3 cities. It embarked on several creative consumer engagement initiatives like the first-ever English music video collaboration by an international tourism agency in India with Vh1, marketing partnerships with high consumer-touch brands Paytm and Ola and a music promotional association with Maestro Ilaiyaraaja targeting the South India market. The STB also undertook intensive travel trade outreach efforts across 21 cities to connect with travel intermediaries promoting Singapore holidays.

Speaking to media in Chennai and Bangalore, as part of STB's first trade engagement programme in South India for 2019, GB Srithar, Regional Director SAMEA (South Asia, Middle East and Africa), STB said, "We are grateful to all our partners who promoted Singapore actively in 2018, making us welcome a record 1.44 million visitors from India. With Singapore's diverse sightseeing and attraction offerings, array of exciting events and year-round festivals and celebrations catering to the different passion points of travelers, we look forward to welcoming more visitors from India to experience Singapore in 2019." Visitors will have many reasons to visit and revisit Singapore in 2019. The city will celebrate the much-anticipated opening of Jewel Changi Airport on April 17th.

The 10-storey complex will be home to more than 280 shops and food and beverage (F&B) outlets. A five-storey garden with more than 2,000 trees and 100,000 shrubs, with two walking trails and a 40m-high Rain Vortex - the world's tallest indoor waterfall will delight visitors. One of Singapore's finest attractions, the Singapore Cable Car celebrates 45 years of providing scenic views with the debut of 'Miraculous', an original multi-sensorial video-mapping show on the Angsana tree at hilltop restaurant Arbora at Faber Peak Singapore. There will also be a line-up of exciting activities, events, F&B promotions at Singapore's only hilltop destination.

Collaborating with Madame Tussauds Singapore, Tollywood superstar Mahesh Babu will be launching his first and only wax figure in the world on March 25th, 2019 in Hyderabad. This will be a special moment for Madame Tussauds Singapore as this will be the first time unveiling a prestigious figure outside of Singapore. Mahesh's wax figure will join Madame Tussauds Singapore – the home of other A-list icons, the IIFA Award Experience and the new upcoming Ultimate Film Star Experience. All his fans will be able to get up close and grab their selfies with superstar Mahesh very soon. On the BTMICE front, Singapore is set to host some key events like Kaspersky Security Analyst Summit 2019, KPMG Asia Pacific Tax Summit 2019, 18th Asia Pacific Life Insurance Congress 2021 and Asian Patent Attorneys Association General Assembly and Council Meetings 2022. Collectively, these events are expected to draw close to 10,500 foreign delegates to Singapore. The STB will continue reaching out to and enticing M&I travellers in India to Singapore, through its incentive schemes, INSPIRE and BeIS.

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Clean & Green Holi Celebrations at Parmarth Niketan

People from 35 countries joined Pujya Swamiji and the Parmarth Rishikumars, devotees and sevaks in special eco-friendly Holika Dahan & Holi celebrations at Parmarth. As divine music and chanting filled the air, people danced and coloured each other with eco-friendly, organic colours of turmeric, sandalwood, natural flower dyes and were showered and blessed by Pujya Swamiji with beautiful flower petals.

All of the guests were deeply touched by Pujya Swamiji's inspiring message and were eager to learn about the deeper meaning of Holi and the message one gains from the story of evil Holika and divine Prahlad. Immediately after the green Holi celebrations there was a divine and refreshing Ganga Snan. As the waters of Ganga washed away the organic colours and petals, we were once again reminded of the deep connection within ourselves to the Divine which colours a part of us that never washes away. During the divine Ganga Aarti ceremony, it was commemorated that Holi was falling this year at the same time as International Happiness Day (20th March), International Forest Day (21st March) and World Water Day (22nd March), and a special pledge was taken to keep our forests and sacred rivers clean, and to make all our festivals and holidays into clean and green ones. There was a special Gobar Holika Dahan ceremony with cow dung biscuits in the evening with a special full moon meditation, divine Vedic chanting and music from yoga practitioners and students from across the world. Everyone was invited to offer their desires, expectations, grudges and negativity to the Holika fire and shine forth with faith and devotion like the full moon and like divine Prahlad.



Secy Joins PujyaSwamiji to Inaugurate Woodless HolikaThe Green Holika Dahan initiative was

inaugurated during the Ganga Aarti with a special ceremony in which the Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Climate Change, Government of India Shri CK Sharma joined Pujya Swamiji to offer the first two cow dung biscuits and inspired a mass pledge to make all our festivals, celebrations and holidays into clean and

green ones. District Forest Officer, Dehradun Shri Shri PK Patro and other delegates also joined on the occasion.

Pujya Swamiji shared that by Kumbh 2021 woodless havan with cow dung patties would be propagated widely across the region and inspired all to make all our festivals and celebrations clean and green by reducing our carbon and water footprint. **In this way, He added that trees would be protected, the cow dung would be properly utilised, waste would be reduced and Mother Nature would be preserved.**

Tehri Lake Festival 2019

The Tehri Lake Festival 2019, organised by the Uttarakhand Tourism, was inaugurated by Pujya Swamiji, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat, and Hon'ble Minister of State Dr Dhan Singh Rawat. While there, Pujya Swamiji also led the world famous Ganga Aarti at the holy banks of Bhagirathi in Tehri.

Sadhvi Bhagawatiji was at the United Nations in March for the 63rd Convention on the Status of Women and to speak at three events on issues related to women in India. The first was an event organized by WSSCC with the Governments of Spain and Germany on "Access to Menstrual Health as Public Service: The Lived Experiences of Women and Girls," led by Sue Coates, Deputy Executive Director, WSSCC and Ms. Maria Bassols, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations. The second was an event



organized by Islamic Relief World Wide and Side by Side on "Stories Of Faith: Social Protection, Stigma & Safe Havens." The third event was organized by UNFPA on Women's Leadership in the world of faith and religion. The event focused on sharing experiences as women in leadership -- heartfelt stories, challenges, responses and solutions. Sadviji represented the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and Divine Shakti Foundation and shared the work we are doing for women and girls in India.

Inauguration of the Rishikesh Railway Station Bio-Toilet New Bio-Digester toilets*

were inaugurated at the Rishikesh Railway Station, supported and sponsored by CSR initiative of BHEL, in partnership with

FICCI and the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA). This is the fifth public location in Rishikesh to benefit from the construction of this innovative and eco-friendly toilet technology, and the third in the twenty-five such clusters of public toilets being built in partnership between BHEL, FICCI and GIWA in Rishikesh. BHEL and FICCI Executives warmly welcomed Pujya Swamiji for the inauguration by presenting him with a beautiful shawl and sacred Rudraksha sapling, as a symbol and loving gesture of taking Pujya Swamiji's own green example to heart. Pujya Swamiji gave a heart-warming speech to the crowd gathered, saying, "Before we go to the temple we need the toilet. For me toilets come even before temples because without a clean body we cannot have a clean mind and therefore impossible to have clean surroundings. To me sanitation is my meditation, because until every women and girl child has access to adequate sanitation facilities, what good is our meditation and spirituality?" Pujya Swamiji then lauded the efforts of all stakeholders, especially the great leadership, vision and commitment of BHEL in this noble endeavour.



Divine Satg in Santa Monica, California

In a rare West Coast appearance together, Pujya Swamiji and Sadhvi Bhagawatiji graced a very special satsang in Santa Monica, California at the Bhakti Yoga Shala, organized by Tommy Rosen and Kia Miller. Everyone gathered together for divine satsang, a question & answer session, and kirtan. Symposium on Meditation & Cardiovascular Diseases/AIIMS Rishikesh A beautiful conference on the role of Medicine in Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular Diseases took place at AIIMS Rishikesh, inaugurated by Pujya Swamiji; Sadhvi Bhagawatiji; Dr HR Nagendra, Chancellor of SVASYA; Dr Subodh Tiwariji, CEO, Kaivalyadam; and others. It was presided on by Dr Ravi Kant, Director of AIIMS Rishikesh; Dr Indranill Basu, Cardiologist from America; and Prof Bhanu Dugal, Head of Department, Cardiology, AIIMS Rishikesh. Haridwar Visit Organized by Uttarakhand Gov't for Participants of IYF 2019 Following the conclusion of International Yoga Festival 2019, Pujya Swamiji led participants from 35 countries the following day on a divine pilgrimage to Haridwar at the invitation of Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development Shri Madan Kaushik. The Hon'ble Minister had graced the IYF on the evening of the second day and attended Parmarth's renowned Ganga Aarti, where he had extended the invitation to all to experience the divinity and grandeur of Haridwar. The yogis all visited the temples of Chandi Devi and Anjani Devi in Haridwar, and meditated along the banks of Mother Ganga at Har ki Pauri, followed by a wonderful meal arranged by the Hon'ble Minister. Pujya Swamiji invited all the seekers to come back to Haridwar in the year 2021 for the divine and auspicious Kumbh Mela, when people from around the world will come to the banks of Ma Ganga in Haridwar to take a holy dip in her sacred waters.

SUN KONARK THE HINDU SUN GOD SURYA

SUNKONARK: Dedicated to the Hindu sun god Surya, what remains of the temple complex has the appearance of a 100-foot (30 m) high chariot with immense wheels and horses, all carved from stone. Once over 200 feet (61 m) high, much of the temple is now in ruins, in particular the large shikara tower over the sanctuary; at one time this rose much higher than the mandapa that remains. The structures and elements that have survived are famed for their intricate artwork, iconography, and themes, including erotic kama and mithuna scenes. Also called the *Surya Devalaya*, it is a classic illustration of the Odisha style of Architecture or Kalinga Architecture. The cause of the destruction of the Konark temple is unclear and remains a source of controversy. Theories range from natural damage to deliberate destruction of the temple in the course of being sacked several times by Muslim armies between the 15th and 17th centuries. This temple was called the "Black Pagoda" in European sailor accounts as early as 1676 because its great tower appeared black. Similarly, the Jagannath Temple in Puri was called the "White Pagoda". Both temples served as important landmarks for sailors in the Bay of Bengal. The temple that exists today was partially restored by the conservation efforts of British India-era archaeological teams. Declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1984, it remains a major pilgrimage site for Hindus, who gather here every year for the Chandrabhaga Mela around the month of February. Etymology: The name *Konark* derives from the combination of the Sanskrit words *Kona* (corner or angle) and *Arka* (the sun). The context of the term *Kona* is unclear, but probably refers to the southeast location of this temple either within a larger temple complex or in relation to other sun temples on the subcontinent. The *Arka* refers to the Hindu sun god Surya.

Location : The Konark Sun Temple is located in an eponymous village about 35 kilometres (22 mi) northeast of Puri and 60 kilometres (37 mi) southeast of Bhubaneswar on the Bay of Bengal coastline in the Indian state of Odisha. The nearest airport is Bhubaneswar airport (IATA: BBI). Both Puri and Bhubaneswar are major railway hubs connected by Indian Railways' Southeastern services. **Description:** Original temple and the surviving structure (yellow), left; the temple plan, right

The Konark Sun Temple was built from stone in the form



of a giant ornamented chariot dedicated to the Sun god, Surya. In Hindu Vedic iconography Surya is represented as rising in the east and traveling rapidly across the sky in a chariot drawn by seven horses. He is described typically as a resplendent standing person holding a lotus flower in both his hands, riding the chariot marshaled by the charioteer Aruna. The seven horses are named after the seven meters of Sanskrit prosody: Gayatri, Brihati, Ushnih, Jagati, Trishtubha, Anushtubha, and Pankti. Typically seen flanking Surya are two females who represent the dawn goddesses, Usha and Pratyusha. The goddesses are shown to be shooting arrows, a symbol of their initiative in challenging the darkness. The architecture is also symbolic, with the chariot's twelve pairs of wheels corresponding to the 12 months of the Hindu calendar, each month paired into two cycles (Shukla and Krishna). The Konark temple presents this iconography on a grand scale. It has 24 elaborately carved stone wheels which are nearly 12 feet (3.7 m) in diameter and are pulled by a set of seven horses. When viewed from inland during the dawn and sunrise, the chariot-shaped temple appears to emerge from the depths of the blue sea carrying the sun.

1822 drawing of the mandapa's east door and terrace musicians, Temple was damaged either intentionally or through natural causes sometime between 1556 and 1800 CE. The intentional-damage theory texts from the 19th century do mention ruins, which means the temple supported by Mughal era records that mention the Muslim invader Kalapahad attacking and destroying Jagannath Puri and the Konark temple. Other texts state that the temple was sacked several times by Muslim armies between the 15th and 17th centuries. Islamic texts describing the raids of Kalapahar mention his army's first attempt to destroy the temple in 1565, but they failed. They inflicted only minor damage and carried away the copper *kalasa*.

Snow wall lovers, Japan's alpine route will blow you away

National, 21st May, 2019: From mesmerizing landscapes to panoramic hiking trails to tranquil lakes, Japan's Tateyama Kurobe Alpine route offers fun for all. This naturally spectacular journey through Japan's Northern Alps is so high (3000 m level), that it is often called the '**Roof of Japan**'. To witness its beauty to the fullest, one has to travel through varied means of transportation including cable cars, trolley buses, and a ropeway to complete the journey.

While the route can be completed as a long day trip from either Toyama or Nagano, it is advised to relax and complete this 23 miles long journey in two days. The best recommended time to travel Alpine route is from **April till November**. The highlight of this snow route which makes it all the more popular is the majestic snow corridors of Midagahara and Murodo. Straight out of Game of thrones fairy-tale, the wondrous wall reaching 66ft high entails a section for pedestrians which can be accessed from April 15 to June 22. First on this nature trail comes Midagahara, a stunning snowy landscape on an altitude between 1600 and 2000m which is a haven for snow trekking aficionados. Next, on the route tourists can't miss the panoramic snowy landscape of Tengudaira, which after spring transforms into a flower garden. The last tourist spot of day one of Alpine tour is Murodo, which is also the midpoint of this tour. Murodo, which is known for being the highest altitude railway station/bus terminal, is also famous for its mind-boggling sunset point. From there, one can't miss the sight of the sun slowly setting in a sea of clouds amid the hues of orange, pink, red, and purple. The second day begins with an exciting walk along the snow corridor of Murodo which leaves the traveler awestruck by its beauty. After a 10-minute bus ride from Murodo Terminal comes Daikanbo. This tourist spot has an observatory which allows visitors to captivate the enthralling picturesque beauty of the Tateyama Mountain Range and Kurobe Lake's emerald green sheen. The exciting voyage then proceeds to Kurobe dam, which can be reached by using a 7 minutes ropeway to Kurobedaira and from there 5 minutes cable car to the tallest dam in Japan. Towering at an altitude of 1470m and 186 meters high, the dam supports a hydropower plant which helps supply electricity to the entire Kansai Region. Tourist can also enjoy cruising



around the lake if they are lucky enough to be visiting during a time when the floodgates are open to let pass the water. The tour then ends on a healing note at the hot spring sightseeing spot Omachi Onsenkyo, where tourists can wash away their fatigue in a natural hot spring surrounded by the majestic view of the Northern Alps.

Japan has been a loved destination amidst the Indian travelers and this year **18,400 Indian travelers** visited the destination in the month of April, which saw **3.9% growth** from last year. When compared with January to April, Japan welcomed **57,700 Indian visitors**, which is **13.7% year-on-year hike**. While the Cherry Blossom season in Japan has faded away, one cannot miss to be on an Alpine route tour which will leave one surprised by the astounding elements that this tour entails!

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April to June 2019

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Incredible India @ New York Times Travel Show 2019



The New York Times Travel Show 2019 Award of Excellence for **'Best in Show'** has been awarded to India in the recently concluded New York Times Travel Show, the largest travel show in North America, held in New York, USA. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India participated in the New York Times Travel Show (NYTTS 2019) organised from January 25-27, 2019 at Jacob K Javits Centre, New York as the '*Presenting Partner*' with a view to scale up its tourism promotional efforts in the US, enhance India's visibility and to increase its share of US Outbound travel market. A high level delegation led by Shri Yogendra Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and a number of stakeholders from India's tourism

industry participated in the Show. A number of India centric activities were organised at the Show including 'Focus on India' and Consumer Seminars, Indian cultural performances, Indian Culinary Demonstration, Food tasting, etc. The Consumer Seminar at the Show was attended by Ms. Padma Lakshmi, a renowned international celebrity. Secretary (Tourism) interacted with a number of leading travel professionals from the US at the Trade Key Note Session during the Show and sought their continued support in positioning India in the US. India was honoured during the Closing Bell Ceremony at the New York Stock Exchange. Secretary (Tourism) was also interviewed by the CBS Television Network of the US in 'This Morning Show'.

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We're moments

TravelBiz Monitor | May 01-15, 2012 | 31



We're timeless



We're Egypt



Hello,
I'll never forget the look of awe on my wife's face when we took our first Nile cruise thirty years ago. Special moments like that made this one of our favourite trips. It's like you're time travelling as you go through different historical dynasties on the Nile's banks.
Now, my granddaughter is back from the pool. She wants me to tell her stories about our ancient kings and the Kamak Temple... for the fifth time!
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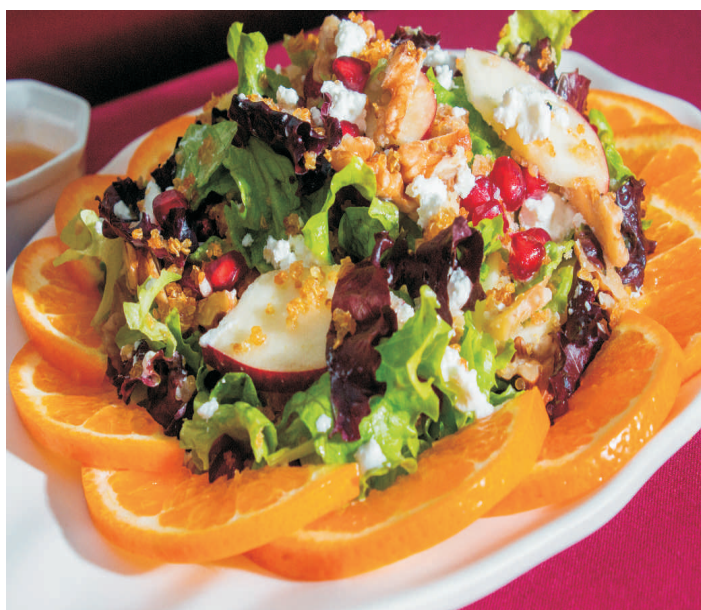
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The Ashok Hotel to celebrate magnanimous spirit of Ramadan through its special menu and care

As the arrival of holy month of Ramadan is just around the corner, The Ashok hotel, New Delhi is all set to take care of its guest and their special needs with its special menu of 'Iftar' and 'Sehri'.

This Ramadan, Hotel The Ashok is hosting a special '**Sehri**' and '**Iftar**' menu for its guests at the coffee shop 'The Samavar' (24*7 hrs). To pay exceptional regards to traditions of guests, the management will provide special amenity 'Prayer Mat' to facilitate the course of festival. The Mats are being made available the



moment guest check-ins. The hotel is also extending "**book your meal**" facility where the guest can book their *iftar* or *Sehri* even before reaching the hotel. The service will be extended through room service and Coffee Shop.

During Sehri and Iftar, the lavish handpicked selection right from the starters, main course to the desserts is presented to delight the taste buds.

The course of Sehri begins with varieties of dishes made with eggs, to the mouth-watering '**Fried fish**', '**Mutton Rogan Josh**', '**Chicken Nuggets**' served with traditional paranthas and roomali roti. To complement the after taste of these amazing dishes, milk and jalebi is served to the guests.



Treat of Iftar is journey of flavours in itself. It begins with refreshing drinks '**Nimbu Paani**' and '**Sharbat-e-Gulab**' and '**Dates**'. To tune the palate for the night, the course delights with assorted vegetable/paneer pakora, 'Chicken-Do-Pyaza' and much more.

The sehri and Iftar are non-chargeable for the in-house guests.

When- Month of Ramadan (5th May to 4th June 2019 as per the moon citation)

Cost for non resident guest – Rs. 500/- for Sehri & Rs.1000 for Iftaar (All Inclusive)

Where –The Samavar (24*7 Coffee Shop), Hotel The Ashok, New Delhi

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*Loi Krathong
The Festival of Light
17 November*

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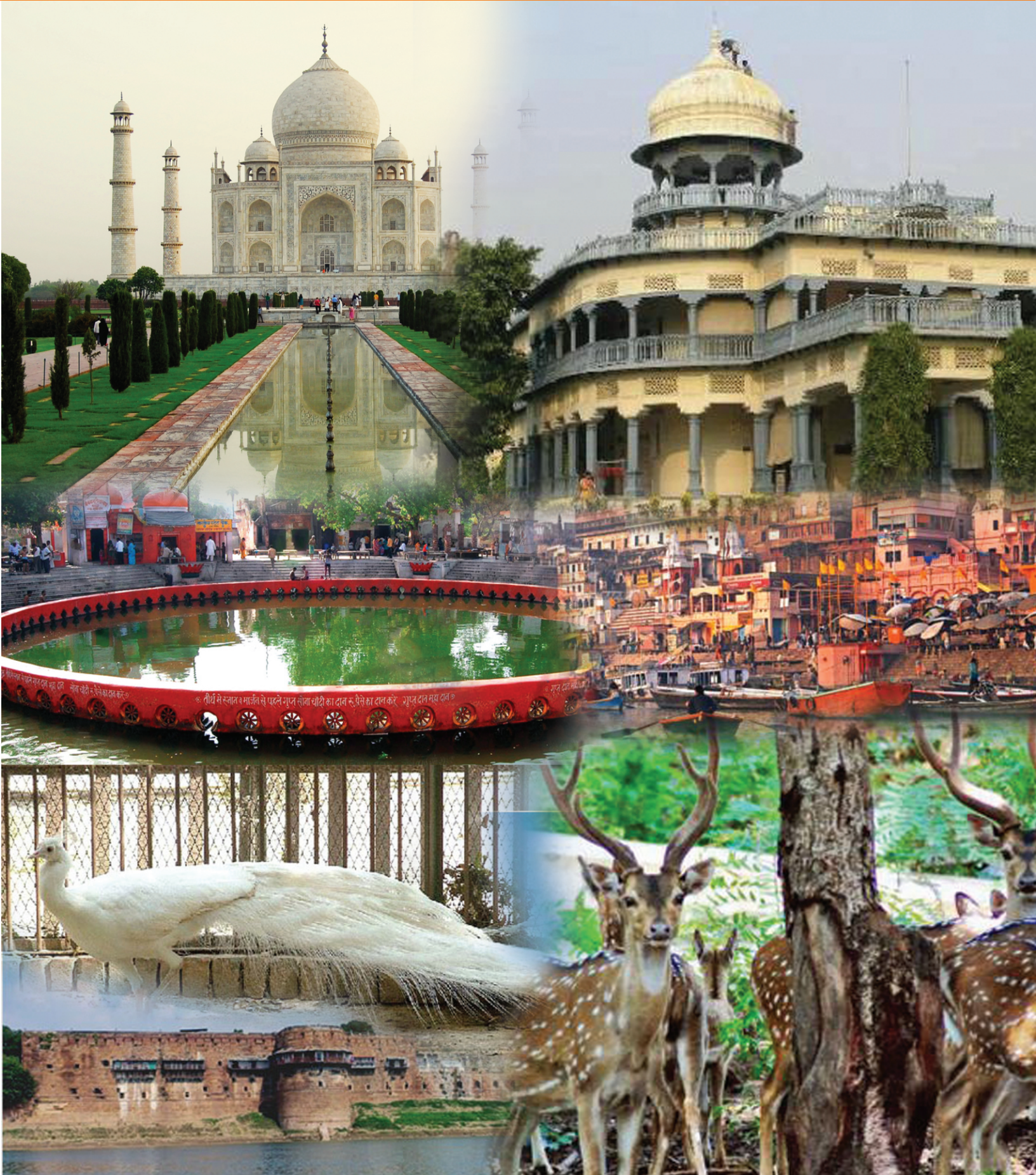
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