



Parle Tilak Vidyalaya Association's

**M. L. DAHANUKAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE**

Affiliated to University of Mumbai and NAAC Accredited B+ Grade

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## INDIA'S DIVERSITY REFLECTS IN IT'S TOURISM

Siddhi Sawant

India is greatly known as the country with unique culture, heritage, and wildlife. From the Himalayas to Kanyakumari, India is surrounded by various picturesque beauties. India has a specialty of attracting not only Indians but also people around the globe with its architectural beauty. It has given rise to India's GDP of almost 3% and generated around 100 million jobs in 2019 in this field.



Illustrated by: Sneha Bangal

There are more than 200 tourism spots in India that attract people as per their likes and budget across India. Many refer to India as the best tourist destination in the world that treats people with great hospitality. The aesthetics of the nation is worth the watch. Along with the historic sites, there are educational medical, wildlife, agro, sports, economic, culinary tourism, that are famous globally. Wildlife photographers have enjoyed wildlife tourism a lot after the pictures in the media we see.

Temples, mosques, and churches have been designed differently. Quality architecture and a unique level of artistry puts tourists in awe. The Taj Mahal of Agra has made its place in the 7 wonders of the world. Jammu and Kashmir is highly known as the 'heaven of the earth' for its natural beauty. Along with its tourist factors, different cuisines of different religions like idli-dosa, puran poli, dhokla, lassi, as well as non vegetarian delicacies, that the tourists and locals enjoy alike. Haji Ali Dargah of Mumbai has a different vibe. Forts of Maharashtra reminds us of our great lord Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and the efforts he put into the betterment of Swarajya.

Looking at the prospects of Indian tourism, I would definitely like to tell the foreigners, "kuch din toh gujaro Bharat main"!

## CHANDRAYAAN-3: PAVING WAY FOR

## LUNAR DISCOVERIES

Mruda Zarekar

In the vital Moon mission, launched from Sriharikota on July 14, Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander module successfully completed a deboosting maneuver on Friday. Preparations are in full swing for its much-anticipated soft landing attempt, currently scheduled for August 23. ISRO released images of the moon taken from its Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft as it approaches the lunar south pole, a previously unexplored region thought to contain water ice where Russia is trying to land first.

The rover that will be a part of Chandrayaan-3 is expected to carry a suite of scientific instruments designed to analyze the lunar soil, rocks, and atmosphere. Chandrayaan-3 could significantly contribute to our understanding of the moon's formation and evolution, as well as its potential resources, by gathering data on the moon's composition. After examining the mistakes made by its predecessor in 2019, Chandrayaan-3 has a high possibility of becoming successful, as indicated by former ISRO chief Madhavan Nair. Soft landing of the lunar module involves 6,000 km/hour speed reduction, Vikram lander reorientation to 90 degrees, scanning complications, descent, and firing thrusters until touchdown. Following the separation of its lander module "Vikram" and the propulsion module that was bringing it closer to the Moon, Chandrayaan-3 achieved a crucial Milestone. It will perform the key landing on the lunar surface on August 23. Its success could not only bolster India's reputation as a space-faring nation but also foster international collaboration. By fostering curiosity and wonder about the Moon's place in the universe and showcasing India's commitment to space exploration, Chandrayaan-3 aims to advance space exploration.



Illustrated by: Shubham Guram

## SHOWBIZ TALES: A CANDID CONVERSATION

Photo credit: Mayur



Nikhilesh Bendre

On August 3rd, the students of the BAMMC Department were in for a treat as they got to witness actor Shivaji Satam live, in conversation with Prof. Ganesh Achwal for Showbiz Tales. Whether you are 6 or in your 60's, Shivaji Satam is someone we all have grown up watching. In his career spanning decades, he has played a wide range of characters although

is best known for playing 'ACP Pradyuman' in CID, Indian Television's longest-running sitcom, which made him a household name.

What made this session intriguing? A free-flowing dialogue between Satam sir and the students which made it more engaging to listen to. The session began with him discussing how his journey began and how he fell in love with the craft. While recounting an anecdote from his early career, he expressed that Dr Vasant Rao Deshpande was the one who had great influence on him.

Looking at the students, he then spoke about how times have changed since he was in college. Mr. Satam spoke about his experience of working on Dial 100 and how his association with BP Singh changed his career's trajectory. Speaking of challenges, he recounted the time when his character in the play 'Dhyani Mani' took a toll on his mental health. Playing cricket with friends, he says, is one of several things that keep him busy these days. Citing his own example, he urged everyone in attendance not to smoke because it is detrimental to one's health.

**India's beauty- a lavish dream**

In India, so much to see,  
Monuments tall, like history.  
People smiling, all day  
through,  
Colors everywhere, so true.

Mountains high and oceans  
wide,  
Different cultures side by side.  
Taj Mahal's beauty, oh so  
grand,  
Bazaars lively, across the land.

India's amazing, that's plain to  
see,  
So happy here, I feel so free!

India's like a rainbow so wide,  
Towers and statues with  
history inside.  
People with smiles from all  
around,  
Different cultures, beauty  
we've found.

Mountains and oceans, big and  
grand,  
We hold each other, hand in  
hand.  
Taj Mahal's love, a sparkling  
theme,  
Busy bazaars, like a vibrant  
dream.

Let's explore this wonderful  
land,  
India's magic, let's all  
understand!

- Kavya Vaidya

**Home for many,  
mother of all**

To our mother who we call  
it is her from whom the pride  
comes to all.  
From the corpse of the soldiers  
to seeing a sapling grow to  
tree, she stands strong and on  
her shoulders all the weight  
she carries.  
Many of the cultures she  
embraces,  
all of the differences she  
displaces,  
The Land Of Diverse Culture  
is called for a reason, taught  
many of them unity lessons.  
The past being full with  
noble and a great history,  
every story remains unfolded,  
full of mysteries.  
The beauty of the culture lies  
in the diversity,  
whether Folk or Tribal,  
whether be it Rama Yana,  
Kuran or Bible.

- Prathamesh Shinde

**Saffron, white and  
green...**

My tricolour flutters high,  
As it is destined to be  
On the peaks of Himalayas  
And on the borders in sea

I bow down to the brethren  
How can't I be proud, guys?  
For in the honour of our  
tricolour  
They happily laid down their  
lives

I thank all the teachers  
Who taught generations so  
well  
That love, peace and harmony  
Are must in society you dwell

How can I forget the farmers?  
They feed us so well  
And the scientists of my  
country  
For them with pride our hearts  
swell

Courage, peace and prosperity  
Saffron, white and green  
Together they make my  
tricolour  
This tapestry so serene!

- rushikesh sawant

**The love for India be  
forever true!**

Unfolding the breathtaking  
view,  
From Himalayas to Ocean's  
Blue.  
Unity lies in the threads of  
you,  
The love for India be forever  
true!

Following the traditions of old  
and new,  
The culture of India evolves  
anew.  
Let's you and I be part of  
crew,  
The love for India be forever  
true!

Harmonious blend in future  
we pursue,  
Let's take care for the coming  
Avenue.  
Prosperity surely will began  
to brew,  
The love for India be forever  
true!

With growth of Industries  
already in queue,  
Opportunities for us to  
always prove.  
We will lead the whole world  
for true,  
The love for India be forever  
true!

- Pranav Jadhav

**INDIA- A Sacred Home-  
town...**

Dwells here a cultural  
diversity  
Resides several spices of  
variety,  
As i take pride in saying  
This is our India playing  
For her betterment.

Having a lot of food tastes  
Alongwith splendid religious  
fests,  
Feeling me blessed to be born  
here  
In a captivating nation to  
cheer  
Our nation to reach greater  
heights.

In every crisis stays united  
From any challenge never  
quitted,  
Me feeling a strong sense of  
courage  
Which my India has built by  
creating a powerful fierce  
image  
In the mind of her citizens

Owens a trend of welcoming  
every new culture  
Possessing a very  
kindhearted nature,  
Making equality a major part  
of the nation  
Of which indeed anyone can  
give out a beautiful narration

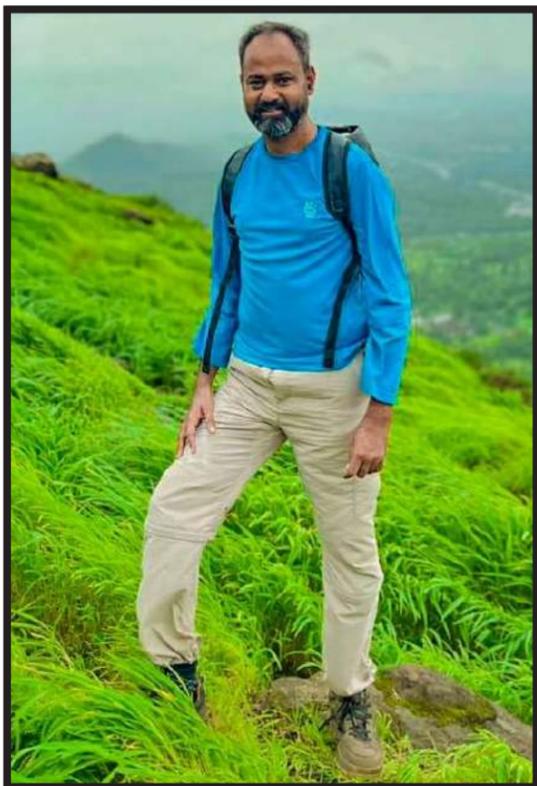
Indeed the true citizens give  
birth to her  
Through patriotism and love  
towards her,  
Speaks about their pride  
towards her  
Alongwith a token of respect  
for her

Being an avid tourist  
attraction  
With ancient as well as  
recent enchanting landscapes  
of the nation,  
Inviting tourists from the  
world's every side  
To wave in the ocean of India  
with a pleasant ride

Developing in almost every  
sector  
India being the second largest  
nation speaking English  
After the worldwide British,  
With a race to space  
With the emergence at a  
faster pace  
Of Chandrayaan and the  
Mission Mangal,  
Almost creating a place of  
victory in every angle  
With the feeling of pleasure i  
say with full willingness and  
interest  
That My Bharat, My India is  
the best!!

- Anisha Prabhu

## Journey of Discovery: Unveiling India's hidden treasures



Mruda Zarekar

Read excerpts from our interview with Mario Mascarenhas, professor at M.L. Dahanukar College. 15 years ago, a decision he took changed his life completely. A major operation left him bed-ridden without food and water for seven days. At that point, all he thought about was food, but reading newspapers and travel magazines exposed him to new things, which made him realize that there are many things in life that he would like to accomplish, ticking them off his bucket list.

To begin with, he got rid of all his fears. He overcame his fear of heights by going on treks. "Once, I got the opportunity to film for 'Limca Books of Records' while people were rumbling down. I hung on a rope on a wall for a full day, looking down upon thousands of feet and taking photographs". He has been to every state in India, except for Tripura and Manipur,

which he plans to visit soon.

### Did you face any challenges while traveling due to the diversity in language and atmospheric regions ?

Hindi is widely spoken in the north; however, people down south are reluctant to speak it. If you talk to them in Hindi, they will reply in their local language. Occasionally, one must manage using sign language. The only exception is Andhra Pradesh, where people speak in broken Hindi because of Hyderabad. If you're proficient in English and unable to communicate with them in Hindi, you won't face any problems. They are well-versed in the English language; even auto rickshaw drivers speak it

### Having explored different regions of India, what unique cultural features have you observed that differentiate one region from another ?

India's diversity is reflected in every aspect, even in people's attitudes as you move from one region to another. When compared to Kashmiris, the people of Ladakh are very hard working, always carrying a smile on their faces, and welcoming. But as we move towards Delhi or Haryana, we notice that the people become slightly aggressive. Although Punjabis believe in 'Sewa', the same can be said for them. However, communicating with people down south can be tough, as they aren't very friendly when compared to those in Himachal Pradesh. People from the Northeast though are very good and reliable.

### India's cuisine is renowned for its variety. During your travels, did you encounter any regional dishes or food experiences that stood out to you ?

Not just the food, but the kindness with which people welcome you, makes the experience stand out. For instance, whenever I'm trekking in Kashmir, I strike up a conversation with the shepherd community. They are kind enough to serve me what they call 'Namkin Moon Chai'

(salt tea) with bread. No matter how poor they are, they will provide you with 'Sukka Roti'. When I visited a remote area in Maharashtra once during the winter, I experienced the same thing. Upon seeing a fire being lit, we stopped near a house, after which a person walked towards us, serving us tea. People in tribal areas are also good at hospitality and will serve you good food, especially a chutney made of red ants, which has a nutty flavor.

Tribal people, Naxalites, Kashmiris, and others are generally feared by people. However, upon visiting these places, you will notice the stark difference in reality and perceptions and realize that what we see on television is exaggerated to a great extent.

### What are your thoughts on the Historical Monuments of India and how would you describe them ?

Our country has a diverse range of talents. Take Ellora, for example, which is carved entirely from a single rock. It is made with such precision. In Maharashtra, I have barely covered 50 of the total 350 forts. I still have 300 forts to check off my list. Of the 12 Jyotirlingas, I have been to three in Maharashtra (Trimbakeshwar, Bhimashankar, and Grishneshwar), one each in Ujjain (Mahakaleshwar), Varanasi (Kashi Vishwanath), and Jharkhand (Baba Baidyanath Dham). Paying close attention to every historical monument will reveal to you some interesting things from that period.

### Does India's diversity of religions divide or unite us ?

Our country is a melting pot of cultures, and its strength lies in its diversity. To accept India for what it is, one needs to know its various aspects. I am a Catholic Christian, but that did not stop me from exploring my country. I discover something new each time during my expeditions. As citizens, we learn something from the different cultures present, and the most beautiful thing to happen is when we exchange our traditions and accept them willingly.

## Untamed splendor: India's 7 UNESCO natural wonders

Supriya Kulkarni

India, a land of diversity and cultural richness, boasts a remarkable collection of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, showcasing its stunning natural beauty and ecological significance. These seven locations offer an enchanting journey into the untamed wilderness, standing as tributes to India's distinctive natural history.

Nestled in Assam, Kaziranga National Park is a wildlife haven with sprawling grasslands and wetlands, providing a sanctuary for the rare one-horned rhinoceros, as well as elephants, tigers, and vibrant bird species.

Travelling farther to Sundarbans National Park, the world's largest mangrove forest, located in West Bengal and Bangladesh, reveals a mysterious charm. Its intricate network of canals and lush vegetation offers a beautiful environment for the rare Bengal tiger and diverse wildlife species.

In Himachal Pradesh, the Great Himalayan National Park showcases a cosmic canvas of snowcapped peaks, deep valleys, and lush alpine meadows, serving as a spectacular setting

for the elusive snow leopard and other endangered species. The Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks in Uttarakhand honour the Himalayan marvel, transforming into a kaleidoscope of colours during the flowering season.



The towering Nanda Devi peak stands tall, guarding its flowery realm. The Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, bordering Assam and Bhutan, pro-

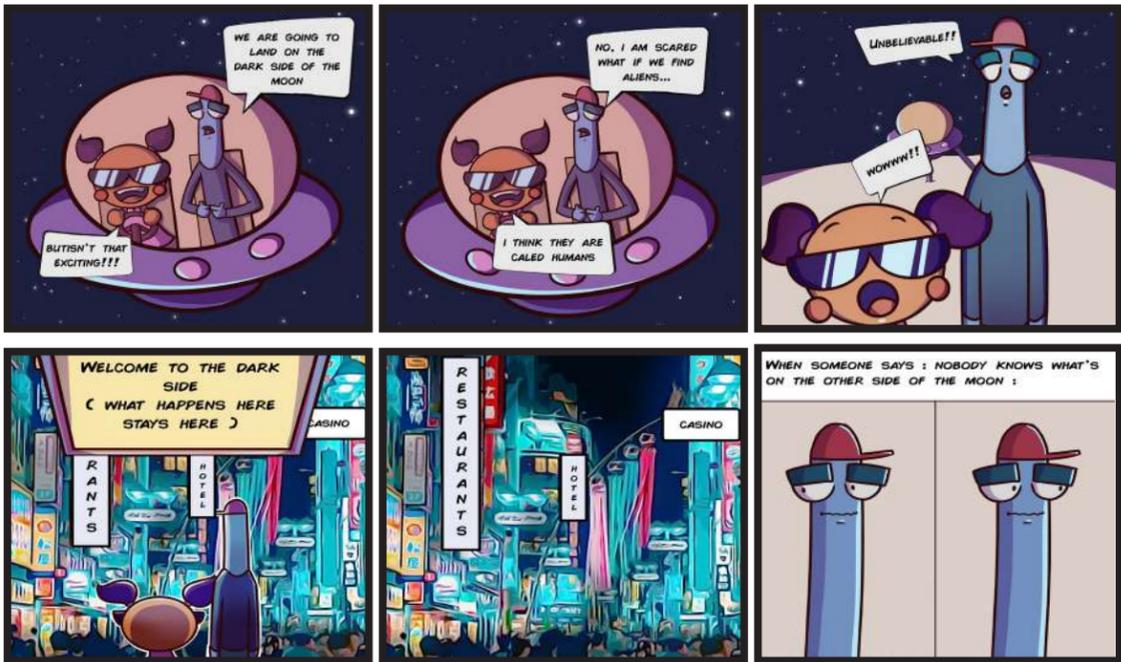
TECTS a diverse ecology of grasslands, forests, and rivers, safeguarding rare and endangered species. For bird enthusiasts, the Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan, formerly known as the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, offers a captivating spectacle of bird sounds during migration, making it a refuge for nature lovers. India's west coast is bordered by the breathtaking

Western Ghats mountain range, a biodiversity hotspot harbouring numerous rare species of flora and wildlife found nowhere else on Earth. The misty peaks and green valleys of the Western Ghats create unforgettable vistas for travellers fortunate enough to explore these enchanted landscapes.

Beyond being vacation destinations, these UNESCO World Heritage Sites are priceless natural gems that demand our utmost attention and protection. By preserving these treasures, we safeguard sensitive global ecosystems and India's biodiversity. We need to cherish and conserve these natural wonders for generations to come, ensuring a harmonious coexistence with nature and fostering a sustainable future for all.

## Kratiya and Velky

Illustration by: Arya Parab  
Written by: Rohit Mundy



## Patrakar kehete hai ...

Illustration by: Priya Wishwakarma  
Digitalized by: Sara Ghadi



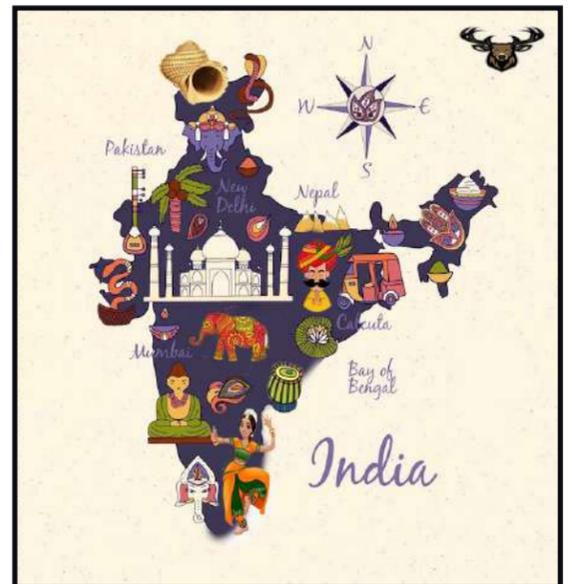
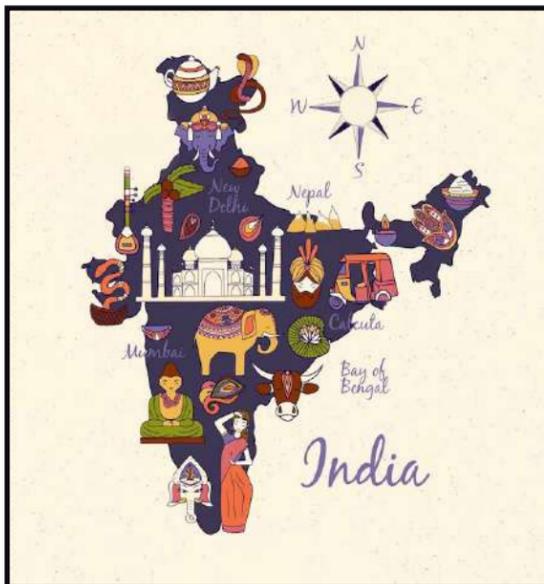
## SUDOKU

9	6		1 3					8
	5 8							9
	3							1
	6		8			9 2		
		3 4		9 1				
	4 9			6		3		
	9						8	
	1					6 7		
4			9 6		3			1

### How to play:

Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

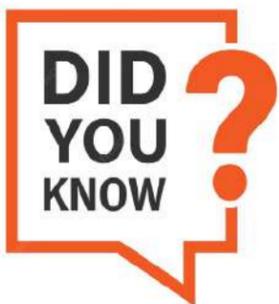
## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



## WORD SEARCH

B	R	I	T	I	S	H	Q	D	U
I	Q	S	W	A	R	A	J	F	H
K	T	X	S	I	G	G	F	L	H
A	W	A	P	D	I	V	M	A	D
F	H	C	P	E	N	T	A	G	N
L	J	D	N	J	D	E	H	L	E
Q	H	H	B	U	I	I	A	T	T
Z	B	H	A	R	A	T	T	G	A
X	G	Z	B	O	N	I	M	G	J
F	R	E	E	D	O	M	A	D	I

The first unofficial flag of India was hoisted on August 7, 1906 at Parsee Bagan Square in Calcutta (now Kolkata). It comprised three horizontal strips of red, yellow and green, with Vande Mataram written in the middle.



India did not have a national anthem at the time of its independence. Though Rabindranath Tagore composed 'Jana Gana Mana' in 1911, It was officially adopted as the National Anthem on January 24, 1950.



Vande Mataram, India's national song, was composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and was part of his novel Anandamath (1882). On January 24, 1950, it was adopted as India's national song.

## SOULUTIONS TO GAMES / PUZZLES

### WORD SEARCH

I	J	D	N	J	D	E	H	L	E
L	J	D	N	J	D	E	H	L	E
Q	H	H	B	U	I	I	A	T	T
Z	B	H	A	R	A	T	T	G	A
X	G	Z	B	O	N	I	M	G	J
F	R	E	E	D	O	M	A	D	I

### SUDOKU

1	5	7	6	2	8	4	8	2	4
6	9	7	9	1	5	7	6	3	1
7	9	4	6	7	8	1	4	8	3
2	8	1	4	8	2	1	4	8	3
5	4	9	1	2	6	4	7	8	3
8	2	3	4	7	6	5	9	1	8
7	6	1	8	3	5	2	6	4	7
2	3	4	7	9	8	5	1	6	2
1	5	8	4	2	7	6	3	9	8
4	8	2	7	6	3	9	1	5	8

# Media Vibes

## Giving credit where its due

We Indians are very patriotic taking pride in our national institutions and organizations. We also take our national holidays very seriously. Infact on the occasion of 76th Independence Day, the tricolour was all around us, even on WhatsApp and Instagram stories.

While we celebrate those who laid down their lives to keep this nation together, we often forget those who have been there with us when we needed them the most.

Indian defence has been tirelessly working, retaliating the enemy attacks with wars as well as tactics like surgical strikes and ariel attacks to keep the country safe from not-so-loving neighbours. We love and respect our Indian Army, Navy and Air Force who are working for India's defence. But is it same for those and who risk their lives helping Indians when a disaster strikes?

Few days ago, there was a landslide that crushed entire village of Irshalwadi. More than 100 people were trapped in the debris. Remember who went on the rescue operation? It was National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) who were instrumental in almost all the rescue operations. When the floods engulfed the North India, 65 teams of NDRF were deployed in the flood-affected areas including Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, etc.

Do you remember the boy who was rescued from borewell in Nalanda? No guesses required to find out who rescued him. NDRF, of course! These are the people who have been working day in and day out to help the victims of disasters. Remember Japan's triple disaster back in 2011? Yep, NDRF crossed borders to save lives even when there was a danger of nuclear disaster. No wonder they have been called 'Angels in Disaster'!

Indian Army's Engineering wing also known as 'Bombay Sappers' were instrumental in constructing the Elphinstone Road (now Prabhadevi) station bridge when it suddenly collapsed. How many of us were aware about this?

As citizens the least we can do is be more thankful towards our unsung heroes, acknowledging the fact that they put their lives at risk to keep us safe. We must also keep in mind that in the midst of carrying out these operations they have lost their brothers. They have been our 'Friends in Need' in the true sense. While we celebrate the spirit of freedom and patriotism, we should also salute their spirit of bravery, courage and patriotism which keeps them going every day.

I think it is high time that we all should honour these legends just like we worship Bollywood actors. These are the ones who are actually the heroes in the real life, fighting the nature to save humans. What else a hero does? Indeed, not all heroes wear a cape.

**Mansi Mule**

"Education is one thing that no one can take away from you," said BB King, the famed singer. Indeed, it is true! Afterall, how can you unlearn something that has been imbibed in you by your teachers and mentors? Education! Education! Education! This is how I had to start my article, being BAM-MC professor. I think overacting from tele-series has ingrained in my blood. Can we say education is equal to literacy? Yes and no. We can look at it from two perspectives. Yes, education is equal to literacy because this literacy has made many families educate girls and thus initiated equality. Or we can say that education is not equal to literacy because many families still suffer from dowry and domestic abuse in the name of traditions, despite being literate. Education is an important factor in shaping your personality.

In today's professional world there is high demand for educational qualification. Today corporates need resume with well-educated individuals. Education needs to be a combination of skills and knowledge. When an individual gains combination of skills and knowledge both the personality is automatically different from others. Education in India has developed and is helping many youngsters be well educated citizens of India. Now students can jump from commerce to science or vice versa. The graduation degree can be in normal B.A. but they can make photography their career. This all thanks to many vocational courses that different universities and colleges have introduced.

Nowadays students have many options. Earlier generations complained they had to complete graduation to get a job but now there is no pressure of choosing a particular course students can go for

graduation or can go for their passion. Many parents have started supporting their kids with passion. Getting a degree is a plan B option. The best example is rise in start-ups. Many wants to be an entrepreneur. Shark tank was a huge success in India. Nowadays Universities are offering courses in software engineering, programming, communication, stock market, businesses etc. These courses have training module which help students to focus only on topics they like to develop their career instead of everything.

With implementation of NEP there would be many more changes

1. Syllabus framework by the industry experts and faculty
2. Additional short-term training
3. More post-graduation courses on different hobbies that earlier people would practice only as passion.

This NEP might solve the problem of gap in academics and corporate. Corporate might not have to spend lot of money on training the graduates. Also, the corporate under NEP can train students on different concepts that are used in corporates. To end with my thoughts education is important and there is no age limit to gain knowledge and at every stage we keep gaining valuable insights through our experiences.



**Sanskruiti Sachade**

On the stage you can be whoever you want to be! This is the one statement that stuck with me when my father first talked to me about theatre. At the time I had no clue what the charms and contortions of being a theatre person were, but I soon found out. Growing up in a family that is in the show business does not just give you a sneak peak into that world but also in some way shapes your personality.

I feel that every aspect of theatre whether stage production, costuming, writing or directing have all influenced who I am today. That is true for any theatre person you would meet, not in recent times but since the inception of the concept of stage.

In India theatre is not just an occupation or performance art it is an emotion it is a form of self expression. The tradition of storytelling in India goes as far back as the 2nd century when adaptations from Sanskrit texts. From there it evolved into various ways of telling a story and evoking emotions within the audiences. For-

mats like Yakshagana from Karnataka, Therakottu from Tamil Nadu, Krishnattam from Kerela showcase various mythological stories adapted into dance and drama structures. Dashaavtar a unique play structure from Konkan in Maharashtra and Goa is widely known for its depiction of Lord Vishnu in his 10 different avatars.

While these dramas are a way of interpreting and humanising mythological characters, there are several other formats of theatre in India that celebrate the daily woes of life. Bhavai from Gujarati, Koodiyattam from Kerela, Maach and Rasleela have stories filled with humour, wit and satire. These are stories that exaggerate the ordinary and leave the audiences thinking.

While in Nautanki and Tamasha, females were for the first time given a chance to showcase their talents. The next big step in the evolution of Indian Theatre came with the British colonial rule in India. Theatre as a form of self expression really started to be explored here, when dramas spoke

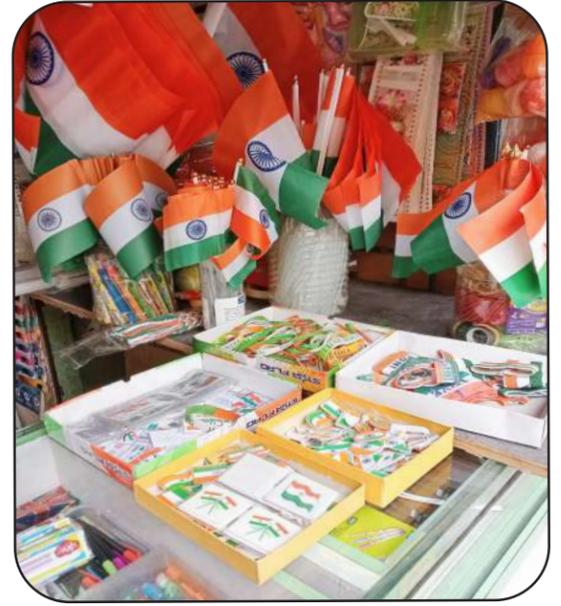


of the common man and his struggles. These plays were then used as wonderful mediums of arousing patriotism and spreading the word for freedom.

Modern theatre, even today is full of stories about human expression and the society at large. Since the beginning, the one thread of commonality in Indian Theatre has been the display of our rich culture, and self expression.

Every writer, actor and director has freely showcased through this beautiful medium the power of self. The stage is your chance to tell the world your truth or to be completely immersed in someone else's.

# LENS SCOPE



15th August 1947: the day India got independence. It was a long battle where a lot of freedom fighters fought with blood and sweat to make our motherland free from the shackles of the British. Our photographers share the spirit of independence and celebration of patriotism and the sheer emotion that every Indian feels even after 76 years. This patriotism has been passed down in generations and the monuments stand tall as a testament of it.

Photography Credits:  
Aasavari Gadade    Sayalee Natu    Gargi Rane  
Harshad Naik      Sanika Khedekar



## UPI: India's superway to fintech superpower

Pranav Jadhav

In the recent times, do you remember carrying money more than Rs 200 or 300 in your wallet when you go now? I'm sure you don't! And why will we? We have our own smartphones with us, right?

We all are living in the 2020s, where the countries like the US, Germany, France, the UK and other developed countries rely on cards, eWallets, and private systems for payment. On the other hand, we live in India, a still developing country, which has its own independent payment system with more



than 300 million active users every month! I'm talking about the UPI and platforms like BHIM, GooglePay, PayTM, PhonePe, etc. that has not only made our lives easy with simple transaction options, but also ensured that we have legal, white transactions. In the Fiscal Year 2021-2022, on an average 2,348 transactions were enabled every second, accounting for 52% of India's total digital transactions. Moreover, a 650% surge in UPI usage was observed in semi-urban and rural stores.

### How Unified Payments Interface (UPI) contributes to the country

According to the Reserve Bank of India, UPI transactions reached a total of INR 139.2 Trillion in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. With Gpay, PhonePE, BHIM and other UPI apps, the UPI network has reached upto France, UAE, UK, Nepal and Oman. Thanks to the international diplomatic ties, Indian UPI would now be globally accepted. During the pandemic, the growth of UPI marked 13% volume and 15% value. Besides, UPI transactions helped in saving 0.10% of GDP from going out of the country in 2020. UPI has increased its spread by 75% in volume during 2022-2023.

### UPI contribution in making India economically independent

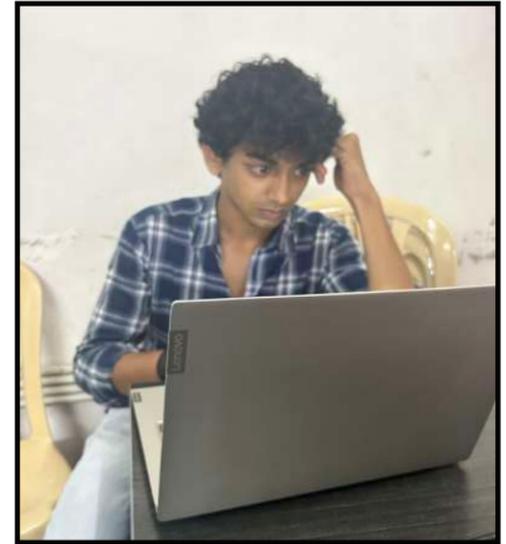
According to the PwC India report, UPI is growing at a steady pace, from 83.71 Billion transactions in 2022-23 to 379 Billion transactions in 26-27, the number of UPI transactions is likely to reach 1 Billion per day by 2026-27. UPI may go forward to replace debit card withdrawals in the coming 5 years.

UPI payment using credit card is a bomb feature that will enhance the credit system in regular use. Transparency in managing and spending money is the biggest advantage of UPI.

The use of cash is already declining, thus the usage of UPI may help in collection of fair taxes. Achievement of India in the digital payment sphere has pushed our country into the spotlight making us the leader for the global fintech ecosystem.

The adoption of UPI by other countries may lead India to surpass countries like China, the USA, Canada and the UK economically. Considering the fact that UPI is considered the most advanced invention of India worldwide. Definitely, world already has a Fintech Superpower!

## Journey of innovation



Ketaki Raut

India has become a global technology powerhouse, transforming industries and daily life through innovations like Vande Bharat and planning for a bullet train. Indians are known for their intelligence in technology, with CEOs from leading companies like Google and Microsoft. Their talent is also employed in global agencies. Indian success in various fields like Information Technology, Electronics, Space Technology, Biotech, and Pharmaceuticals indicates a potential for Indians to enter the AI space, ensuring their needs are met.

As we enter a new era with applications like ChatGPT, Snapchat, and Alexa, jobs may soon be replaced. We can see AI anchors in Hindi news channels (Aaj Tak has appointed Sana as AI anchor). However, the AI anchors, are reducing job opportunities of ones who have will, potential and talent to be a news anchor. India's technological journey has achieved a lot. India's technological journey has made it a global tech powerhouse, but AI anchors are reducing job opportunities for those with talent.

## ISRO: Commitment to aim for the star and reach above the sky

Jay Bijutkar

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has consistently exhibited excellence in the field of space exploration, making India proud on both national and international fronts. ISRO has established itself as a leading global space power, demonstrating India's scientific and spacial capability through a series of notable achievements and advancements.

Established on 15th August 1969, ISRO has completed 54 glorious years of space exploration and launching more than 125 satellites till date. The organisation's commitment has led to many accomplished missions that have enhanced our knowledge of the universe and bolstered India's position in the global space community.

The 'Chandrayaan' series by ISRO focused on exploring the moon to uncover its secrets. India's first lunar probe, The Chandrayaan-1, made global headlines when it discovered water droplets on the moon's surface in 2008.

ISRO's 'Mars Orbiter Mission', known as 'Mangalyaan', launched in 2013, demonstrated India's innovation and affordability in space exploration. It showcased ISRO's techno-



logical capabilities and made India the fourth space agency to reach Mars' orbit. The mission's success impressed the global scientific community by achieving significant milestones despite limited resources.

In recent years, ISRO's aims have extended from spacial research to satellite launches, communication systems, and navigation technologies. Its recent achievement of launching 104 satellites in one mission and successfully deploying the NavIC satellite navigation system highlights their contributions to different sectors such as communication, agri-

culture, and disaster management.

The accomplishments of ISRO have gone beyond the realm of science, promoting pride in the country and influencing many young people. Today, many respected spacial agencies collaboate with ISRO for their campaigns. The organisation's emphasis on research and development exemplifies India's dedication to innovation and quality. Indians take great pride in and are inspired by ISRO's continual technological breakthroughs. With exciting ventures like the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission and the Aditya-L1 mission to investigate the Sun in the pipeline, ISRO is poised to reach new heights, enhancing India's reputation in the field of space exploration.

ISRO's dedication to excellence and pushing limits has not only made India proud but has also established it as a global icon of innovation. As ISRO continues to strive for greatness, its impressive accomplishments will continue to showcase India's scientific potential.

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## Folk songs: Making our local music fun



**Ashlesha Kamble**

Every country has their own tradition that they are known for. Folk music has an unbroken tradition from centuries in India. Other countries are embracing India's culture and being drawn towards our traditions. Each state in India has its own unique customs, culture, and folk songs that reflect the distinct way of life in that particular region.

Indian music encompasses more than just Film music or Bollywood music; it represents the essence of India and is deeply rooted in our cultural heritage.

Folk music responds to the three cycles in nature - one is life and death, day and night, season. It is music for everyone and every occasion. Indian folk music includes a wide range of

musical styles, genres with its own unique style, instruments and traditions. It also helps to promote culture identity.

Music has been always important in the life of Indian people. Lavani, Powada and Gondhal are the three famous folk songs of Maharashtra. Lavani is for entertainment purpose, powada is sung for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and and gondhal is to worship goodness and usually has mythological stories of Gods.

Bihu songs are the most famous among music lovers in Assam and are based on themes like Assamese new year, farmers, daily life, love and more. Rajasthan's most famous folk music style is Maand, which has evolved over time.

The captivating rhythm and words of Rajasthan folk songs can enchant anyone. These songs are inspired by everyday life, emotions, and stories, and often involve dancing and storytelling.

Garba is a traditional folk music form of Gujarat. It is performed, especially during the Navratri festival. Garba is a vibrant dance style that is performed to lively music, which includes clapping, singing, and the use of instruments like dhol and traditional folk instruments. Garba is famous in the old and young alike.

Karnataka music, also known as Karnatic or Carnatic, is a form of music from southern India. It has a strong historical connection to the Vijayanagara and Woodeyar kings, who were patrons of music and literature.

## Exploring India's tapestry of folk dances

**Harsh Dubey**

Every nook and cranny of this nation has something unique to offer, through folk songs, music, movies, literature, languages, and more. You will find references to different cultures that have shaped our very being.

Art, in particular, is something that we have been appreciative of. It gives us the freedom to express ourselves, and through this article, we want to bring to light the various forms of folk dances in India, which are widely popular all across the country. Our exploration of India's many folk dance styles begins in the south and ends in the north.



**Art credit: Reena Almeida**

- 1) Yakshagana (Karnataka): This traditional Karnataka dance show features elaborate costumes, makeup and lively stories through dance and music. In Yakshagana performances, mythological stories are a common theme.
- 2) Bonalu (Telangana): Celebrated in Telan-

gana, particularly in Hyderabad, this folk dance festival has women carrying pots of food and water on their heads as an offering to the goddess and dancing in procession.

3) Dhensa (Goa): The folk dance of Goa, the smallest state in our country, involves both men and women dancing together, forming circles while holding hands, and moving to the rhythm of the music.

4) Dhangari Gaja (Maharashtra): This folk dance is the speciality of the animal rears, the Dhangar community in Maharashtra that have people celebrating their culture and traditions, wearing colorful costumes, and dancing to lively steps.

5) Padhar Dance (Gujarat): The Padhar community performs this folk dance, which involves rhythmic steps and movements, frequently accompanied by singing and clapping.

6) Kalbelia (Rajasthan): Often referred to as the "snake dance", the dancers of Kalbelia dance are often seen wearing black traditional costumes, performing rhythmic swaying and twirling movements.

7) Giddha (Punjab): Mainly performed by women in punjab, this folk dance sees participants forming circles and clapping their hands expressing themselves through vibrant movements and singing.

8) Chholiya (Uttarakhand): Chholiya is a folk dance from Uttarakhand that mimics sword-fighting movements. Showcasing the bravery and strength of warriors, it is performed during weddings and other festive occasions.

9) Nati (Himachal Pradesh): Often accompanied by traditional music, Nati is a cheerful dance with simple steps performed at festivals and celebrations.

10) Kud (Jammu and Kashmir): Kud is a folk dance originating from the Jammu region in Jammu and Kashmir. Dancers form circles and move rhythmically, often holding hands, while performing to the rhythm of traditional music.

It's crucial for us to adhere to our culture and bring our own dance forms to an international level to help the future generation connect with their roots.

## Exploring palette of Indian folk art

**Veekat Parpolkar**

Indian folk art, a kaleidoscope of tradition and creativity, unfurls an enchanting narrative of the country's diverse cultural heritage. Spanning across regions and communities, these extremely beautiful paintings offer a glimpse into the lives, beliefs, and stories of the people who create them.

Every stroke of the brush or pen, carrying a lot of historical significance, transports art enthusiasts into a realm where time seems to stand still. The Warli art of Maharashtra, for instance, encapsulates the essence of rural life through geometric patterns and minimalist depictions of daily activities. These creations serve as visual diaries, documenting the bond between humans and nature. The Tanjore paintings of South India exhibit opulence and grandeur. Adorned with complex decoration and radiant colors, these artworks often portray deities from Hindu mythology, reflecting the spiritual fervor ingrained in the Indian psyche.

Further east, West Bengal's Patachitra paintings breathe life into mythological narratives and folklore. The vibrant hues and intricate detailing of these scrolls narrate stories of gods, goddesses, and heroic feats, captivating audiences with their intricate craftsmanship.



**Art credit: Aasavari Gadade**

Moving northward, the Phad paintings of Rajasthan narrate heroic tales and folk legends. Painted on long pieces of cloth, these scroll paintings are meticulously executed, narrating stories of valiant Rajput warriors and historical events, often accompanied by melodious renditions of traditional ballads.

The Madhubani art from Bihar transforms everyday surfaces into vivid canvases, where nature's beauty and human expressions intertwine. With bold lines and vibrant colors, these paintings celebrate love, fertility, and devotion, while showcasing the skill and creativity of the local women artists.

The Bhil art of central India brings forth a fascinating amalgamation of tribal life and spirituality. Characterized by tribal motifs and vibrant earthy tones, these paintings mirror the community's deep-rooted connection with nature and their belief in animism.

While modernity continues to reshape our world, Indian folk art remains steadfast, preserving centuries-old customs and sagas. In the face of changing times, these art forms remain an intrinsic part of cultural celebrations, religious rituals, and everyday life.

The vibrant tapestry of Indian folk art reflects the soul of a nation, honoring its past while embracing the present. It is definitely a testament to the enduring power of creativity and the human spirit, a testament that continues to inspire and captivate generations with its unique and resplendent strokes.

## Voyage of dreams and challenges: A journey through merchant navy life



**Sakshi Shirodkar**

Who said serving India was only about going on the border and fighting with the enemy? Serving India is all about ensuring that the Indian goods are safe and sound while its on the Indian and overseas. This is exactly what merchant navy does. Meet **Prathamesh Jadhav**, who has recently joined the merchant navy in order to serve the nation.

### Could you share with us something about yourself?

After my 12th I completed a one-year diploma course in nautical science at the Anglo-Eastern Maritime Academy in Karjat. I completed my

ground-based basic training and now I have been a Cadet on two ships.

### Why did you decide to join Merchant Navy?

My dream was to become a commercial pilot, but dropped because of financial reasons. But upon research, I found out that Merchant Navy is same as what I wished to do, so I joined it.

### How do you manage to stay connected?

It has become easy for us to be in touch with our loved ones as companies are now providing Wi-Fi connectivity on commercial ships.

### What were the major challenges you faced while on the ship?

As a Cadet, I recall being on my first container ship with the Bosiet, the deck leader, and I was extremely confused on the second day. Compared to the ships, the time spent on ports was much more challenging.

### Can you share any memorable incidents you had on the ship with us?

Once, I was working on the extreme end of the ship while we were on the North Atlantic Ocean. Upon hearing that someone had jumped into the water, I went to find out what had happened only to discover seven dolphins jumping together. It was beautiful sight!

### What is the difference between Merchant Navy, Indian Navy and private ships?

Merchant Navy involves transporting goods

from one country to another. Our expertise lies in temperature management, chemicals transport, etc. Indian Navy ships are equipped with weapons and are smaller and faster. The private ships transport passengers to different destinations. Their crew excels crowd management skills.

### How has Merchant Navy shaped you as a person?

Merchant Navy has given me wonderful experience, beautiful memories, and a lot of knowledge about many topics. I am more confident now in my ability to speak or initiate a conversation with strangers and it is helping me become a better human being.



## Being a warrior for our country is a matter of pride: Kargil hero



**Amruta Jadhav**

Sunil Manohar Panchal Ex- Army personnel. He joined the Indian Army at the age of 17 and served the country for 18 years. Let's know some of his stories and exciting experiences during his time in the Army.

### Where did you get the inspiration to join the army?

The village where I grew up and the school I attended had many people from the army. Even when I was in NCC in school, the army training and living in a secluded environment fuelled my fascination with the army. The thought that a soldier serves the country selflessly without thinking about himself, I too should do something for my country inspired me to join the army.

### Can you share your experiences during the Kargil War?

During the Kargil War, I was ordered to move to LOC in Kashmir. Before that, my posting was in Rajasthan. In the time of the Kargil War, we fought without thinking about hunger and thirst. Sometimes we had to wear our bullet-proof jackets, boots and keep rifles aside while sleeping. Even though we had a tiffin with us, during the ongoing war, we had to quench our thirst and hunger by eating leaves, fruits and drinking coconut water, because the enemy in front was not ready to stop even for a second. Family contact was lost. Our family was constantly worried.

### When the armed enemy is in front of you, did you fear for life?

These feelings come into the mind of every person, But when there is a uniform on your body, a rifle in hand and the enemies of the country are standing in front of us, there is a different enthusiasm in the body which inspires us to put aside these fears and such thoughts and perform our duty as a soldier.

### Can you share a thrilling story you experienced while you were in the Army?

After the Kargil war, I was again posted to Rajasthan. We were training to operate a tank in water for our juniors. I was I.C.U commander and I had two drivers under me. One who was driving the tank was a newbie and the other was an experienced



driver who was instructing the new tank driver.

It happened that the bottom track of that tank came out and our tank started sinking in the water and the tank was such that if the water started filling the tank, we couldn't get out. Our tank started filling up with water. We were very scared. As the water filled the tank, our heartbeat increased. Our members who were outside were a little worried but some were laughing at that situation. But we were much more restless inside.

Finally, two boats came. They pulled the tank out of the water with the help of a rope. Then we went out of that tank and breathed a sigh of relief.

### What were your feelings when you were taking retirement from the army?

During the time when I was doing my duty as a soldier, my father passed away and my mother fell ill, so I decided to retire from the army. That time I thought that I should take care of my parents. When I was retiring from the army, I was feeling sad as well as happy. Sad because I was leaving my squad, my army friends and happy because I am going to be with my family and take care of my family. But even today, I have kept my army uniform. Even today, I am ready to wear that uniform and go to the battlefield with the same enthusiasm and fearlessness.

### As a soldier, what message would you like to convey to today's youth?

As a soldier of India, I want to give this message to young people that if you are physically and mentally fit, you should join forces. Being a soldier of the country is a matter of great pride. As a soldier, people look up to you with a lot of respect, you get a lot of respect in society along with the government facilities and, along with this, you get an opportunity to repay the favour of the soil you were born into. And now the country also needs you a lot. Also, being in the army teaches you good discipline and you get physically and mentally stronger.



## Indian Cinema : Contributing in taking Indian culture worldwide

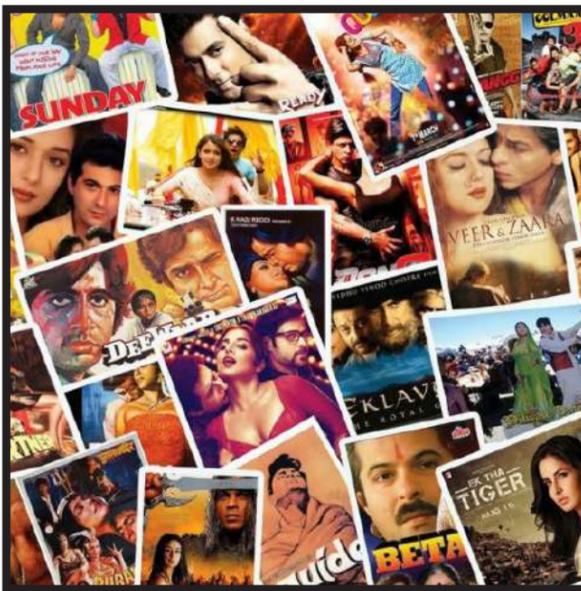
Sharvari Dandekar

India is known for its diversity in cultures, religions, art, tourism, food, people, etc. Apart from this, India is also known and lauded for its contribution to the Cinema industry. India's diversity is influencing the types of movies, thus creating a different taste in genres for audiences.

The Indian cinema industry contains mainly Bollywood, Tollywood, and other small industries like Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Bhojpuri, etc. Today, Indian Cinema is no longer limited to Bollywood, on the contrary, the regional flavour in the cinema makes the films even more relatable, interesting and laced with regional culture. This makes the Indian cinema rich and fresh.

Now talking about Bollywood, it is one of the largest film industries in the world, which produces over 1000 movies per year. Bollywood has been a platform to numerous iconic and legendary actors and actresses who have achieved international recognition like Raj Kapoor, Guru Dutt, Rajnikanth, Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan, Aishwarya Rai, Priyanka Chopra, Alia Bhatt and many more. They have not only found success within India but have also made their name in Hollywood and other international platforms.

Not just celebrities but Indian movies are also getting recognition outside India by using advanced technologies, new filming tricks, and different kinds of subjects. It's always something new and exciting. That is the reason why movies like Mera Naam Joker, Sholey, Lagaan, Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge, 3 Idiots, Munnabhai MBBS, Dangal, A Wednesday, Kabhi Alvida Na Kehna



and Sultan were successful and widely reached, globally successful and critically acclaimed.

We cannot miss the contribution of Satyajit Ray, the legend himself, who was honoured with Honorary Oscars in 1992 for his contribution to the cinema. Ray's films have always been path breaking and found success with the classes and masses alike. He won an array of awards internationally and remains to be one of the most respected Indian directors of all time.

While Bollywood has been globally renowned for its musical appeal and timeless romantic films, its southern cousin, Tollywood carved its niche as action, masala films that entertained and amused the audience alike.

Film-makers from Tollywood are now seen experimenting with different genres like action comedy, mythology, fiction, time travel, etc. Movies like K.G.F., Pushpa, and Bahubali are so popular that they are gaining popularity outside of India too!

Indians have proven their mettle in the films as well. While Bhanu Athiyya won oscar for Best Make-up, AR Rehman made India proud by winning Oscar for best sound score for O Saaya for Slumdog Millionaire. Recently 'Natu Natu', the song from the RRR also won an Oscar award. These moments made us proud of Indian cinema.

Thanks to Mr. Dadasaheb Phalke, the father of our Indian cinema, cinema was introduced in India. With the wonderful job that our cast and crew is doing, Dadasaheb Phalke must be beaming with pride. Lets us hope that the film-makers and artists pass on the baton in equally able hands in the future!

## VOX Populi : Teachers idea of perfect and futuristic India

Sarvottam Rege



To become industry-oriented, our education system needs to be significantly improved. Though theory is important, practical, industry-specific knowledge must come first. To fight corruption and brain drain, financial and intellectual literacy has to be widespread. It is crucial to support initiatives like Make in India because they increase employment and lift many people out of poverty. Additionally, the brain drain phenomenon, where skilled individuals seek opportunities abroad, can be countered by providing a competitive and relevant education right here at home. Education must be required, free from bias, and aimed at raising awareness in rural regions. Rural areas, often neglected, need special attention. Bringing awareness and education to these regions not only empowers individuals but also bridges urban-rural disparities. Universal literacy, including financial literacy, should be a priority, fostering informed decision-making and breaking the cycle of poverty. saying no to corruption is essential. Funds allocated for education must be utilized efficiently, ensuring that quality reaches every student. This change guarantees overall development, enabling people to prosper in an atmosphere of rapid growth.

Danish Hallari



According to me, the new India is an India with more conducive business environment and more empowered citizenry and a better infrastructure among many other interesting initiatives that the government has been planning and implementing surely and steadily.

There have been various visions and perspectives on the future of India. It is obvious to have various perspectives as our Indian family consists of 140 crore people. There can be many views or perspectives on issues like sustainable development, global power, inclusive growth, digital India, skill development, cultural heritage, clean energy, health and well-being, etc.

Also, the new India is the dream of 140 crore Indians, which is unfolding right before our eyes. This new India is driven by innovation, hard work and creativity characterized by peace, unity and brotherhood and free from corruption, terrorism, black money and garbage. I hope that on this Independence Day, may we be reminded of the importance of freedom, education and nurturing young minds. As a professor I will definitely give my 100% to inspire my students to become responsible citizens and contribute positively to the progress of our great nation.

(Compiled by : Ketaki Raut and Mruda Zarekar)

Riteeka Kamble



Girls can roam freely at any time and anywhere in a world where there is no such thing as fear. Cost-free flow of knowledge is possible. Every religion is treated equally, which promotes harmony. Unrestricted by fear, the ability to communicate is inherent. Interactions are enhanced by mutual regard. Women are liberated from exploitation in this new culture. This ideal picture depicts a peaceful world where people live in harmony and enjoy unrestricted acceptance, equal rights, and respect for one another. We advance toward the reality of a society that values uniqueness, strengthens voices, and defends the dignity of everyone as we work toward such a world. The ideal world is one where the mind is free from fear, girls can roam freely, knowledge is a birthright, and religions are treated equally. Time is respected, and women's intellect, skills, and potential are celebrated. By working towards these ideals, we can work towards a society where minds are liberated from fear, equality and respect thrive, and individual rights are safeguarded. Building a foundation that reflects these values fosters an environment where everyone can flourish without constraints.

## Jay Kholhatkar: Climbing Mt Everest was dream come true

**Jay Bijutkar**

Meet Jay Kholhatkar, one of our own ex-student of BMM and one of the few people in India who can boast of climbing Mount Everest. He gets candid about his experience of climbing the tallest mountain peak in the world and how he prepared for it. Excerpts...

**How was your Mount Everest expedition? When did you start the climb? Which route did you take to reach the summit?**

I was planning for this expedition for 4 years as it is a huge task planning mentally, physically as well as financially for this expedition. The most commonly known conventional route was planned which is the southeast ridge.

**Climbing Mount Everest is a significant achievement. What challenges you faced and how you overcame them?**

Climbing this massive mountain requires tremendous dedication, patience and hard work. The total length of this expedition can go upto 2 months. And 2 months without our friends and family and our comfort food is itself a big challenge. The challenges begin before the actual climb starts. The base camp of Everest is at a higher altitude of 17500 feet. To maintain your motivation and energy at this altitude is a task. Again, climbing the mountain and coming back safely is the final goal.

Preparing mentally for that is one important thing. During the ascent, tremendous change in temperature is a big task. The temperature range is -40°C to +40°C.

**How did you manage the health risks, acclimatisation and altitude sickness during your ascent?**

High altitude expeditions possess a great health risk including high altitude sickness, cerebral oedema, pulmonary oedema. To prevent these sicknesses and have a smoother expedition, climbers have to acclimatise to the weather and oxygen levels at high altitudes. The expedition lasts upto 2 months, climbers trek till the base camp and stay there for a month or so. This helps the body to get used to the low oxygen levels at such altitudes. To make the climb a success, the body has to be in its best condition. Following strict climbing regime helps in acclimatising.

**How did you adhere to ethical and sustainable practices during the expedition?**

Everest being one of the most popular peaks, there are climbers representing their countries from all over the world. Nepal government has

initiated this cleanup drive every year and that includes all the expedition members depositing waste in a common trash bin. That collection of trash is then airlifted by helicopters directly to Kathmandu and is disposed.

**How did you manage fear and uncertainty?**

From the base camp till the summit, there are 4 camps. Usually oxygen cylinders are needed above camp 2. None of the living creatures can survive that altitude. The tension of oxygen depletion and reaching the summit eats your mental energy. I remember when me and my sherpa were descending to camp 4 from the summit, my sherpa told me that my oxygen cylinder is going to be empty soon. We still had a long way to go down. Only and only my mental strength and calmness helped me in that situation.

**What would you advise aspiring trekkers?**

Those who aspire to climb such a massive moun-

tain, there are courses in Himalayas where they teach you the ABC of mountaineering right from scratch and should you be in a risky position up the mountain, how to negotiate with those risks and come down safely. Start with smaller mountains before jumping to bigger and glamorous mountains. Lastly, be humble and be down to earth. You gain nothing out of arrogance.

**Did college help you in achieving this goal?**

M. L. Dahanukar, my college helped me a lot in this process. I had enrolled myself for the Advance Mountaineering Course which was in Manali. But my college dates and the course dates were clashing. The course duration was a month long and I was sceptical if I would be able to attend the course. The then Principal, Pethe mam backed me and gave me permission to join the course even if I was absent for 21 days. All my teachers helped me deal with all my lost classes. This helped me take a big leap in my mountaineering career.



## India's sports arena: clenching new heights everyday

**Mrudula Sawant**

India is an undisputed powerhouse in both traditional and outdoor sports. The country boasts a rich sports history, with countless iconic moments and achievements. India has made impressive progress in the sports realm, with the emergence of top-notch athletes who compete for the country on a global scale. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in India acknowledged e-sports as a form of multi-sport event in late 2022. The introduction of battle royal games has led to an increase in the popularity of e-sports. Despite being an underdeveloped field, India has given tough competition to 'powerhouse' countries like Japan, South Korea, and the United States.

India is getting ready to participate in e-sports at the 2023 Asian Games by sending a 15-member team to compete in four out of seven titles. These titles include Street Fighter V, DOTA 2, FIFA, and League of Legends. India had a successful start to their football campaign in 2023 by winning both the 2023 Tri-Nation

Series and the 2023 Intercontinental Cup in June. In addition, they won their third title by claiming victory at the 2023 SAFF championship in June. Sunil Chhetri was the standout player, scoring five goals, including a hat-trick against Pakistan. He also became the second-highest international scorer in Asia and the fourth-highest goal scorer in international football history.

India achieved outstanding results at the Para Athletics Championships in Paris, winning a total of three gold, four silver, and three bronze medals. Sumit Antil, Sachin Sarjerao Khilari, and Ajeet Singh won the gold medals, and also qualified for the 2024 Paralympics. India believes it can maintain its dominance and success in the field of athletics.

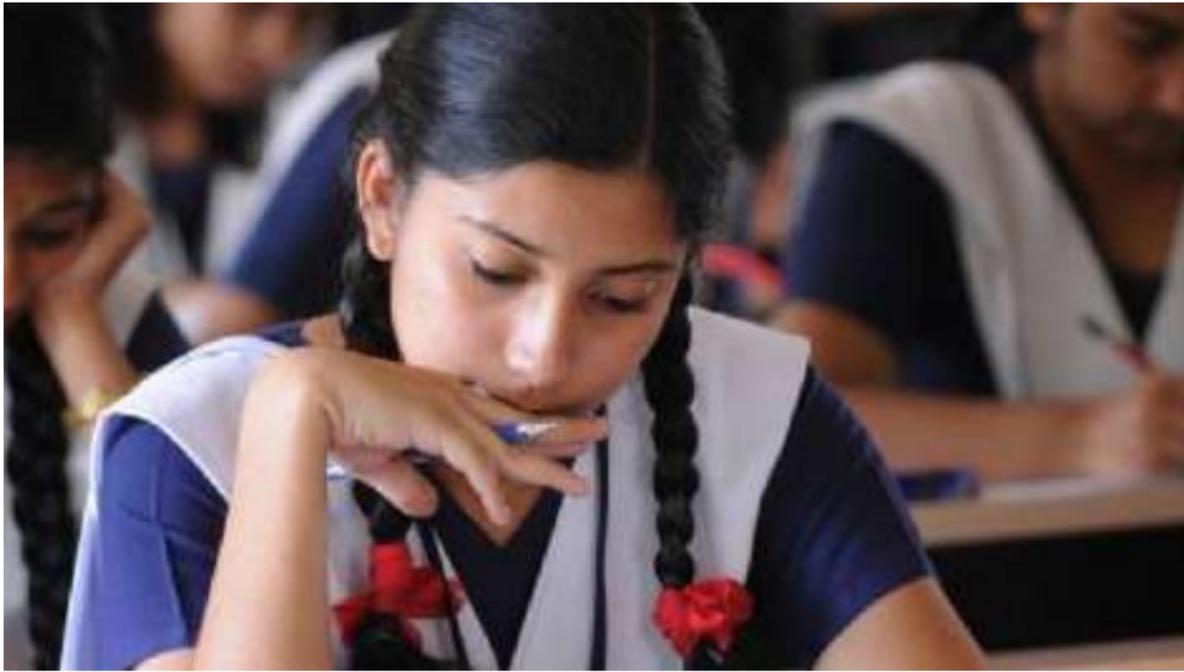
Cricket brings Indians together as they support their country as a unified group. Although the sport is predominantly played by men, the Indian Women's Cricket Team has had its fair share of victories and has made history over the years. Mithali Raj has made an immeasurable

impact on the progress of women's cricket. Her role was crucial in the Indian national team, leading them to compete in two World Championships at the same time.

India is proud of its athletes and will continue to strive for excellence on the world stage.



## Youth of 21st century: My definition of successful India



### Sakshi Mahadik

We all grew up saying “I am proud of my country” The youth of the new generation are proudly saying the same sentence. A country becomes independent only when it is developing. In today’s world INDIA is the largest populated country. Approximately India has a 254 million youth population and increasing

daily. As we can also make this problem into a solution for success. Education and proper personality development is a dominant refinement inculcated in today’s generation.

Employment opportunities are a major issue in India. Most of the youth in our country get educated and proceed abroad for better employment opportunities. If the government will serve this better opportunity in our coun-

try, it will help the economic and employment sector to increase. By these means India can cultivate a generation of healthy, educated, and productive citizens. Investing these refunds in modern education, technology, and opportunities for rural youth could provide India with a great economic return. This return can make our India poverty free. A healthy society and a lesser population can lead to receiving a fair share of resources, while also ensuring that everyone has access to the basic necessities of existence.

Improvement in the educational system can help our country in developing through various ways. One of its important evaluations can be seen in youth through the addiction to hazardous things like alcohol consumption etc. A positive attitude and proper education can also help to decrease the crime rate in our country.

Human history is characterized by class struggles, where the dominant class exploits the rest, leading to inequity. This inequity can be addressed through resource distribution equality. A corruption-free India can be achieved through transparency in the public sector and by addressing dishonest practices.

Enhancing the education system can improve positive thinking, determination, focus, and consistency in the youth, leading to a better lifestyle and a successful India. No country can truly develop without its citizens being well educated.

## Global trailblazers: Today’s NRIs diaspora enriching world

### Vedha Kadam

The Indian Diaspora exerts a significant influence over India, contributing to its growth. As NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) continue to prove their mettle in different fields, we take a look at two individuals in particular who have brought recognition not only to themselves but also to their homeland, India.



### Against all odds

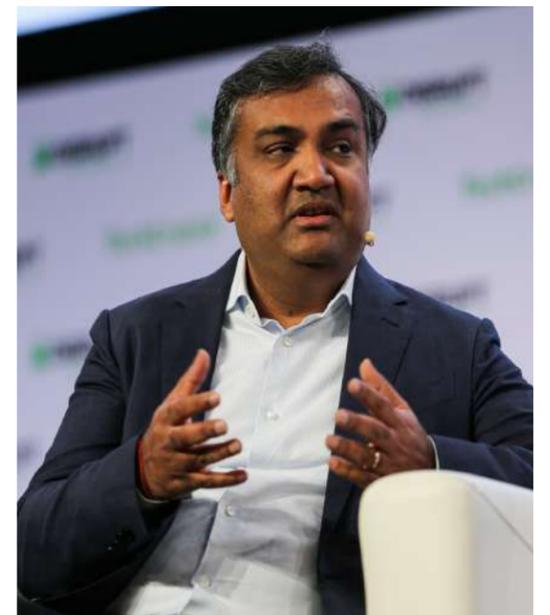
Aneesh Sheth shattered societal norms through her work when she played Lena Patel on *New Amsterdam*, becoming the first transgender woman to play a trans character on primetime television, paving the way for an increase in their representation. However, her journey was far from conventional. Facing prejudices and discrimination as a transgender woman made pursuing a career in acting a daunting task. What kept her going through it all was her passion for acting. Determined to make a difference in show business, she co-founded ‘Hi, I’m Trans’, a production company to bring to light stories representing transgender and

non-binary narratives. Through active social media engagement with fans, she promotes the importance of self-acceptance and resilience. Aneesh is truly a force to reckon with.

Her journey shows us how we can use storytelling to foster empathy and understanding and bring about social change. After all, talent knows no boundaries.

### Pioneering the Future

Pranav Mistry’s journey from a curious technology enthusiast to a pioneering inventor has been remarkable. Recognized for his groundbreaking work in human-computer interaction, the MIT Technology Review named him one of the ‘Innovators Under 35’. Setting new standards in the world of human-computer interaction are his innovative solutions for the seamless integration of technology into everyday lives. For aspiring technologists and inventors worldwide, his work serves as a guiding light. Breaking barriers between worlds is the ‘Sixth Sense’, his most renowned invention, where, using gestures or hand movements, users can manipulate and interact with data, access real-time information, make calls, take pictures, and much more. Mistry’s inventions have earned him numerous accolades and have been featured in prominent international media outlets.



### Redefining Video Advertising

In 2008, Neal Mohan an exceptional talent caught the attention of Google, and he made the pivotal move to join the search giant as Vice President of Product Management.

Mohan’s team implemented skip-able ads, creating a more user-friendly environment while still providing value to advertisers. Under his guidance, YouTube also rolled out TrueView, an ad format that only charged advertisers when users watched the ad for a specified duration, further optimizing ad spending and ROI.

From a young technology enthusiast to a transformative leader in the digital advertising industry is nothing short of awe-inspiring. His unwavering commitment to innovation, user experience, and ethical practices has revolutionized the digital world and set new standards for the entire industry.

# Media Vibes

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