

October 2025 Edition

M.L. DAHANUKAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (Autonomous) presents

THE BAF TIMES

- Finance is the art of making it speak profit!!

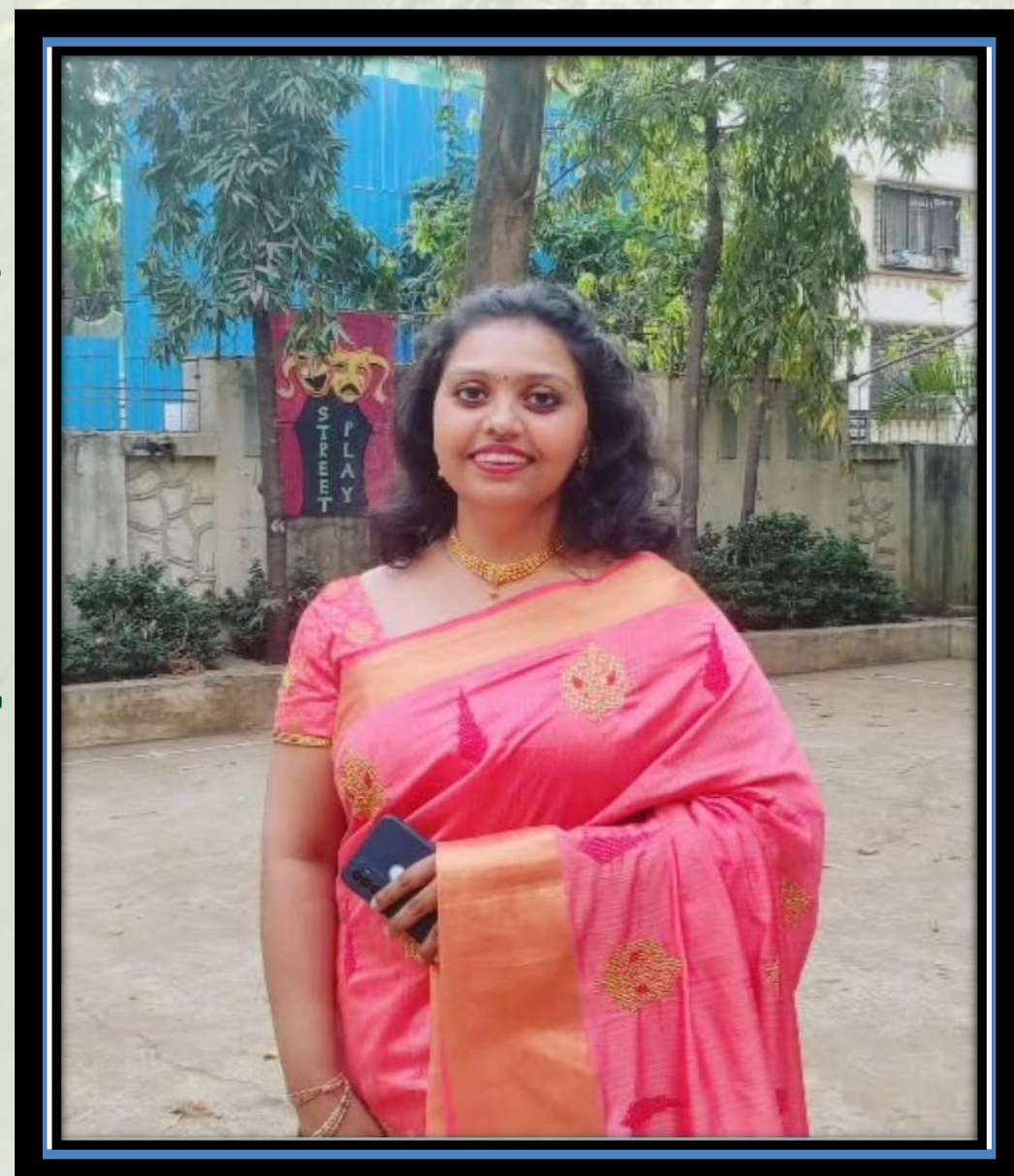
VOLUME VII
ISSUE V



INTERVIEW : Ms. Sneha Chavan

- By Interview Team

1.Sneha ma'am, you've had a long association with the college. Can you share your thoughts on how the college's values or mission have evolved since your time as a student?



Being an alumna of the college, I've had the unique opportunity to watch its journey from both sides—first as a student and now as a faculty member. What stands out to me most is that while the core values of the college have remained beautifully consistent—discipline, academic excellence, and holistic development—the way these values are implemented has evolved with time. When I was a student, the college was already known for its strong academic foundation and supportive environment. Today, I see a far more dynamic, student-centered approach. There is greater emphasis on critical thinking, creativity, and experiential learning. The institution has also embraced technology and modern pedagogies, opening up more avenues for students to explore their interests. But what makes me proud is that despite all the progress and modernization, the heart of the college remains unchanged. The same warmth, sense of community, and commitment to nurturing responsible individuals still defines our culture. As an alumna, it feels wonderful to witness the institution growing with the times while staying true to its roots.

2.Can you describe any specific experiences or professors from your time as a student here that have influenced your teaching philosophy?

There are several experiences from my time as a student here that have shaped the teacher I am today. I was fortunate to learn under professors who were not only experts in their subjects but were also deeply invested in their students' growth. One thing that stayed with me was how they balanced discipline with empathy. They pushed us to aim higher, but they also understood our struggles. Today I work under them as their team which helps me see how flawlessly they carry the weight of balancing work and their personal life. I am still learning a lot from them.

I vividly remember professors who made their classrooms feel welcoming—where questions were encouraged, mistakes were part of learning, and every student felt seen. Their passion for teaching and their ability to connect theory with real-life applications inspired me immensely. These experiences taught me that education is not just about delivering content; it's about building confidence, nurturing curiosity, and creating an environment where students feel motivated to explore their potential. Today, when I step into my own classroom, I often find myself drawing from those memories—approaching students with patience, encouraging open dialogue, and trying to make learning meaningful just as my teachers did for me.

3.As the former Faculty Head of NSS, what key skills do you believe students can develop through their participation in the program, and how can these skills contribute to their overall personal and professional growth?

Having served as one of the faculty heads of NSS, I've seen firsthand how the programme transforms students—not just as volunteers, but as individuals and future professionals. NSS offers a unique space where students learn by doing, and most importantly, by serving. On a personal level, students develop empathy, discipline, and a strong sense of social responsibility. Working in communities teaches them patience, adaptability, and the ability to understand different perspectives. NSS also helps build resilience—students learn to handle challenges, manage time efficiently, and work outside their comfort zones, which contributes greatly to their emotional maturity. "On a professional level, NSS nurtures skills that employers value deeply. Teamwork, leadership, communication, and project management become part of their real-life experience as they plan activities, coordinate with others, and take initiative during events or camps. Students also learn problem-solving and decision-making while handling unexpected situations in the field. These experiences build confidence and give them an edge in interviews and workplaces. NSS shapes students into socially conscious, confident, and capable individuals. It teaches them that leadership is not just about directing others—it's about serving with humility, understanding collective needs, and taking purposeful action. These qualities stay with them long after college and enrich both their personal journeys and professional careers.

4.Can you share some examples of successful NSS projects or initiatives that have made a positive impact on the community?

As one of the NSS teacher-in-charge, I have witnessed how meaningful community engagement can shape students into more responsible, aware, and compassionate individuals. Each initiative we undertook not only created a positive impact on society but also taught students valuable lessons that stay with them for life. 'Our 'Aam Khaas Hai' mango seed donation drive was one such initiative that helped students understand how small, mindful actions can contribute to long-term environmental well-being. By collecting and donating seeds, students learned the importance of sustainability and resourcefulness. The Eco Modak activity, where students created seed bombs covered in mud, was a wonderful blend of creativity and environmental consciousness. It made them realize that solving ecological challenges often requires simple, innovative ideas. Planting a sapling and nurturing it taught them responsibility, continuity, and care. Our beach and mangrove cleaning activities were particularly impactful. Beyond the joy of working together, students understood the seriousness of pollution, coastal degradation, and the importance of maintaining ecosystems. These activities built teamwork, perseverance, and a deep respect for nature." Collectively, these initiatives have shaped our NSS volunteers into socially sensitive individuals. They learned leadership by leading drives, teamwork by coordinating efforts, and humility through service.

Most importantly, they discovered that real change begins with small acts of kindness and a willingness to step forward.

5. How can students develop leadership skills outside of the classroom?

Leadership isn't built only in classrooms—it grows through real-life experiences. When students take part in clubs, volunteer work, internships, or small entrepreneurial projects, they learn to communicate, take initiative, solve problems, and work with diverse teams. The more they step out of their comfort zone, the stronger their leadership skills become.

6. Management subjects are pretty dynamic. What are some challenges you face teaching them, and how do you stay current in your field?

Management subjects, especially Marketing, HR, and Entrepreneurship, are incredibly dynamic, and that brings its own set of challenges. In Marketing, trends shift rapidly with new digital platforms, consumer behaviour patterns, and data-driven strategies emerging all the time. HR has become equally fast-paced, with evolving workplace cultures, changing employee expectations, and the increasing role of technology and analytics in people management. Entrepreneurship, of course, thrives on innovation—so keeping up with start-up ecosystems, funding trends, and new business models is essential. The biggest challenge is ensuring that the examples and concepts we discuss in class remain relevant in an environment that changes almost overnight. Students today are

also very aware and tech-savvy, so the classroom has to go beyond textbooks and bring in fresh, real-world insights. In fields like Marketing, HR, and Entrepreneurship, staying updated isn't just beneficial—it's essential for preparing students to navigate the real business landscape with confidence.

7. How do you incorporate new developments in management into your teaching practices?

Management is a constantly evolving field, so it's important that my teaching also evolves with it. I make a conscious effort to bring new developments—whether in Marketing, HR, or Entrepreneurship—directly into the classroom. One way I do this is by integrating recent case studies, industry examples, and current business news into lectures. When students see how concepts are being applied right now, learning becomes far more engaging and relevant. I also update my teaching methods by incorporating digital tools, simulations, and hands-on activities. For example, we might analyze current marketing campaigns, study real HR dilemmas related to hybrid work or employee well-being, or break down the business models of emerging start-ups. These help students understand not just the theory but its practical implications. Additionally, I attend workshops, webinars, and faculty development programs that focus on new trends—like AI in marketing, HR analytics, or innovation frameworks in entrepreneurship. Whatever I learn, I try to translate into simpler, classroom-friendly formats. My aim is to ensure students aren't just learning concepts but are also prepared for the realities of today's business environment.

8.What do you see as the biggest reward of teaching at the college level?

For me, the biggest reward of teaching at the college level is the opportunity to witness students grow into confident, independent thinkers. College is a transformative stage—students are discovering their interests, building their identities, and exploring their futures. To play even a small role in that journey feels incredibly meaningful. There's a special joy in seeing students connect with a concept, ask deeper questions, and slowly develop their own perspectives. Moments when a student says a lesson inspired them, or when they apply something learned in class to real life, genuinely feel like the greatest achievements. Another rewarding aspect is staying constantly energized by the ideas, creativity, and curiosity that students bring. Their enthusiasm pushes me to keep learning and growing too. Teaching at this level becomes a two-way process—we learn from each other. Above all, the most fulfilling reward is seeing students evolve into capable professionals and responsible individuals, and knowing that, in some way, you've contributed to their journey.

9. How can students apply management principles to improve their study habits?

Management principles aren't just for businesses—they can be incredibly useful for students too. In fact, many of the challenges students face with time, motivation, and

organization can be improved by applying basic management techniques. For example, the principle of planning and goal setting helps students break down their academic tasks into achievable steps. Creating weekly study plans or setting SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) can make studies feel less overwhelming. Similarly, time management tools—like prioritizing tasks, using to-do lists, or following the Pareto principle (focusing on the 20% of tasks that give 80% of the results)—can make their efforts far more effective. HR concepts like understanding your own strengths and learning styles can help students study smarter rather than harder. Just as companies allocate resources wisely, students can allocate their energy by studying difficult topics when they are most alert and using short breaks to prevent burnout. Entrepreneurial principles also apply—being proactive, taking ownership, and learning from failures. When students approach their academics with an innovative and problem-solving mindset, they become more resilient and independent.

10. What are the typical career paths for management graduates?

Management graduates have one of the widest career spectrums because the skills they develop—leadership, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making—are needed in almost every industry. The paths they choose often

depend on their specialization and interests. For those inclined toward Marketing, careers may include roles like brand manager, digital marketing executive, market research analyst, sales manager, product manager, or advertising strategist. The marketing field is especially fast-growing due to the digital boom. Students interested in Human Resources can build careers as HR executives, talent acquisition specialists, training and development coordinators, HR business partners, or even move into areas like HR analytics and employee engagement. Those with an entrepreneurial mindset often explore the start-up ecosystem—either launching their own ventures or joining early-stage companies where they can work closely with founders and gain hands-on experience. Roles in business development, operations, and innovation management are also popular. Apart from these, management graduates can enter finance, consulting, supply chain, retail, hospitality, banking, and corporate strategy roles. Many also pursue higher studies like MBA, specialized master's programs, or professional certifications depending on their interests. Overall, the flexibility of a management degree allows students to experiment, discover their strengths, and build a career that truly aligns with their goals

THANK YOU !!!

ALUMNI STORY : Mr. Rahul Pandey

My name is Rahul Pandey, and I am a proud alumnus of M.L. Dahanukar College, where I completed my BFM and later my M.Com in Management. My journey from being a student to becoming a teacher at the same college has been very special. While studying BFM, I started



giving lectures to HSC (Commerce) students at a private coaching centre. What began as a part-time job slowly became my passion. Teaching gave me happiness, confidence, and a strong sense of purpose. After completing my BFM, I got the opportunity to work at Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. Working in a leading multinational company was a proud moment, but my interest in teaching never faded. In 2018, while working at TCS, I took admission in M.Com. During my 3 years and 7 months at TCS, I completed my M.Com and also cleared the UGC-NET Examination in 2020, making me eligible to become an Assistant Professor. With God's grace, in January 2022, I began my teaching career as an Assistant Professor at Lords Universal College, Goregaon West. Moving from the corporate world back to college felt like a big change, but it was refreshing. I am truly thankful to Lords Universal College for giving me 2 years and 7 months of valuable experience. In 2023, another dream came true when I registered for my Ph.D. program. As I grew in my teaching

career, I started looking for better opportunities, and fortunately, I got a chance to teach at one of my dream institutions "The M.L. Dahanukar College of Commerce". Returning to the same place where I once studied was an unbelievable moment. My former teachers became my seniors and mentors, and it felt like I had come back home. Today, the field of education is changing very fast. Students face more competition and stress than before. As teachers, our role is not just to complete the syllabus but also to guide students with real-life knowledge and skills. I feel blessed that I found my true calling in teaching and that I could return to the place where my journey first began. I look forward to growing, learning, and giving my best in the years ahead.

THANK YOU !!!

Article : Unified Payment Interface (U.P.I) a game changer in the digital payments system in India

- By Aditi Mane, SYBAF B

Introduction

UPI is a single-window mobile payment system created by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). It makes sending money simpler as it removes the need to enter bank details and other personal information when making transactions.

UPI is also a real-time payment method which facilitates peer-to-peer and peer to merchant bank transfers between account holders from different banks. The interface is regulated by India's central bank RBI.

Background

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), which oversees the management of India's retail payment and settlement systems, was responsible for creating UPI. On April 11, 2016, Raghuram Rajan, the governor of the Reserve Bank of India at the time, gave it its official debut.

Launch of Beta (April 2016): UPI was launched gradually, with a small number of banks taking part in the first phase to evaluate the effectiveness of the system.

Public Release (August 2016): Users from many banks could now establish a single platform for smooth transactions thanks to the release of UPI.

How it works

It's simple to use UPI. First, go to the app store on your smartphone and download an app that supports UPI. Create a distinct Virtual Payment Address and register using your bank information (VPA). Enter the recipient's VPA and amount, then double-check using your UPI PIN to complete the transaction. The users get a hassle-free experience because the cash are transferred immediately, around-the-clock.

Features

- 1.UPI payments are very fast, and typically, payment can be completed within seconds
- 2 .Almost every bank allows UPI transactions through mobile applications

3 .UPI Payment facility allows individuals to request money from some other individual, which is not an option with other payment methods like IMPS, NEFT

4 .These mobile payment applications also offer the facility of bill payments

5 .Payments can be made 24*7

6 .It's completely free

Market share

UPI accounts for over 75 percent of all retail digital transactions in India. It has around 330 million unique users. Over 70 million merchants actively utilise UPI, using 256 million QR codes.

As per a report U.P.I has seen over \$1.7 trillion worth transactions in fiscal year 2023

Challenges

UPI presents a number of difficulties, such as security risks like fraud and phishing, technological difficulties that impair transactions, problems with interoperability between various UPI apps, and sporadic UPI system outages that negatively effect user experience in general.

Furthermore obstacles pertaining to regulatory modifications and guaranteeing extensive implementation among diverse user groups could arise.

➤ 5 Major changes in U.P.I from 1st January 2024

1. Payment apps have been directed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to remove dormant UPI IDs after a year. In addition to making sure their UPI IDs are still active, users of services like Google Pay and PhonePe need to check the inactivity of the phone numbers linked to their accounts.

2. NPCI declared that 'UPI for Secondary Market' will soon enter its Beta stage of development. Important parties are working together to enable a small number of pilot customers to block money, which are deducted at settlement upon transaction confirmation and payouts are handled by Clearing Corporations on a T 1 basis.

3 The Reserve Bank of India has raised the UPI transaction limit for hospitals and educational institutions from ₹1,000 to ₹5 lakh. This change, following the meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee, will facilitate more online payments for education and health services.

4. RBI plans nationwide rollout of UPI ATMs, enabling cash withdrawal by scanning a QR code. Hitachi Payment Services has already introduced the country's first UPI ATM as White Label ATM (WLA).

5. RBI offers a 4-hour grace period for users making first payments above ₹2,000 to new payees. This window allows users to cancel or edit transactions started with someone they haven't done with before, adding an extra level of control and security

Conclusion

Unified Payments Interface has not only transformed the way transactions are conducted in India but has also set a global benchmark for efficient, secure, and inclusive digital payment systems. Its journey from inception to widespread adoption reflects the evolving landscape of financial technology, making UPI a cornerstone in India's digital payment revolution.

THANK YOU !!!

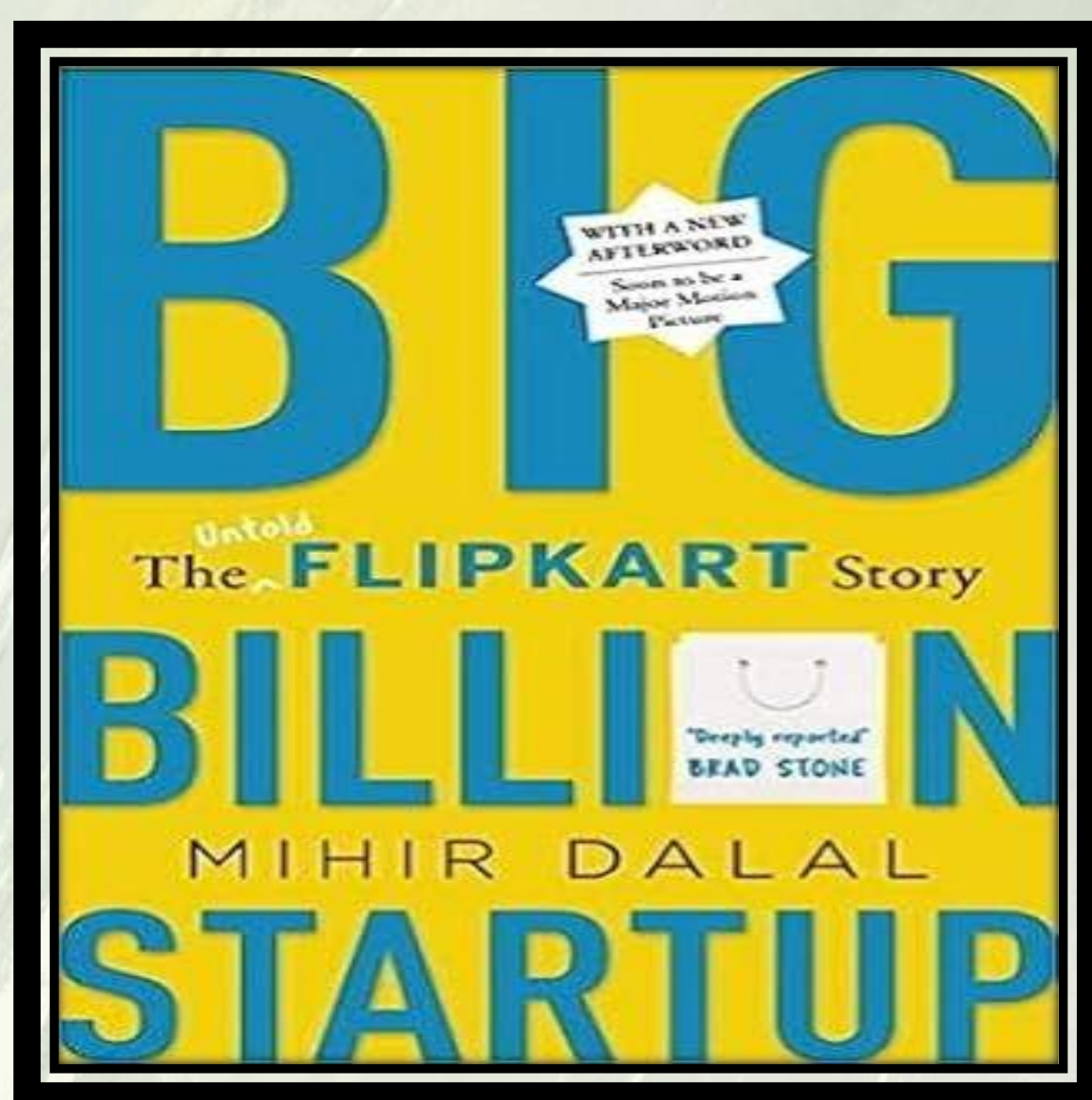
BOOK REVIEW : BIG BILLION STARTUP

- By Purva Patil, FYBAF - C

If you think startup stories are dry, boring, or filled with confusing business jargon, The Big Billion Startup will completely change your perception. As an undergraduate student, I honestly didn't expect to be so drawn into the story of Flipkart. But this book is far more than just the journey of two founders building an e-commerce website—it reads like a full-on Netflix series, except every twist is real. The narrative is packed with ambition, unexpected betrayals, giant dreams, ego clashes, last-minute decisions, and staggering amounts of money being invested and lost. Every few pages, I found myself pausing and thinking, “Wait... this actually happened?”

Mihir Dalal takes readers straight into the chaotic, high-pressure, and adrenaline-pumping world of India's biggest startup battle. From Flipkart's humble beginnings in a small Bangalore apartment to its rise as a company daring to take on Amazon, the book gives a front-row seat to everything—heated boardroom battles, clashes between founders and investors, moments of near collapse, and even a twist that feels like a corporate-level hostile takeover.

What makes it even better is Dalal's writing style: it's crystal clear, fast-paced, and nothing like a typical business textbook. Even readers with no business background can follow and enjoy every moment.



This book isn't just for entrepreneurs or business students—it's for anyone who dreams boldly, fails boldly, and still wants to build something extraordinary. It leaves you inspired, shocked, and motivated all at once. By the time I finished reading, I had only one thought in my mind: "Wow... I want to start something too." Whether you're a dreamer, a hustler, or simply someone who loves a gripping real-life story, The Big Billion Startup is guaranteed to keep you hooked from start to finish.

THANK YOU !!!

OUR TEAM

CO-ORDINATOR

Dr. SIDDHI ROY

Editor-in-Chief

DANISH HALLARI
SUPRIYA GUPTA

RITEEKA KAMBLE
URVASI BHAGAT

Interview Team

TANISHA KUMAWAT
ABHISHEK KAMATH
KARAN UPADHYAY

SAHIL KHANDARE
ANJALI YADAV
RIYA GAWAS

Editing

BHAGYALAXMI BELURE
ANJALI HARIGOL

PALAK YADAV
MANSI GAWDE