

AEROCITY SHOWCASING FUTURISTIC DESIGNS

Enabling collaborative work,
wellbeing and work-life balance
through well-thought-out
designs

PERSPECTIVES



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Andaz Delhi



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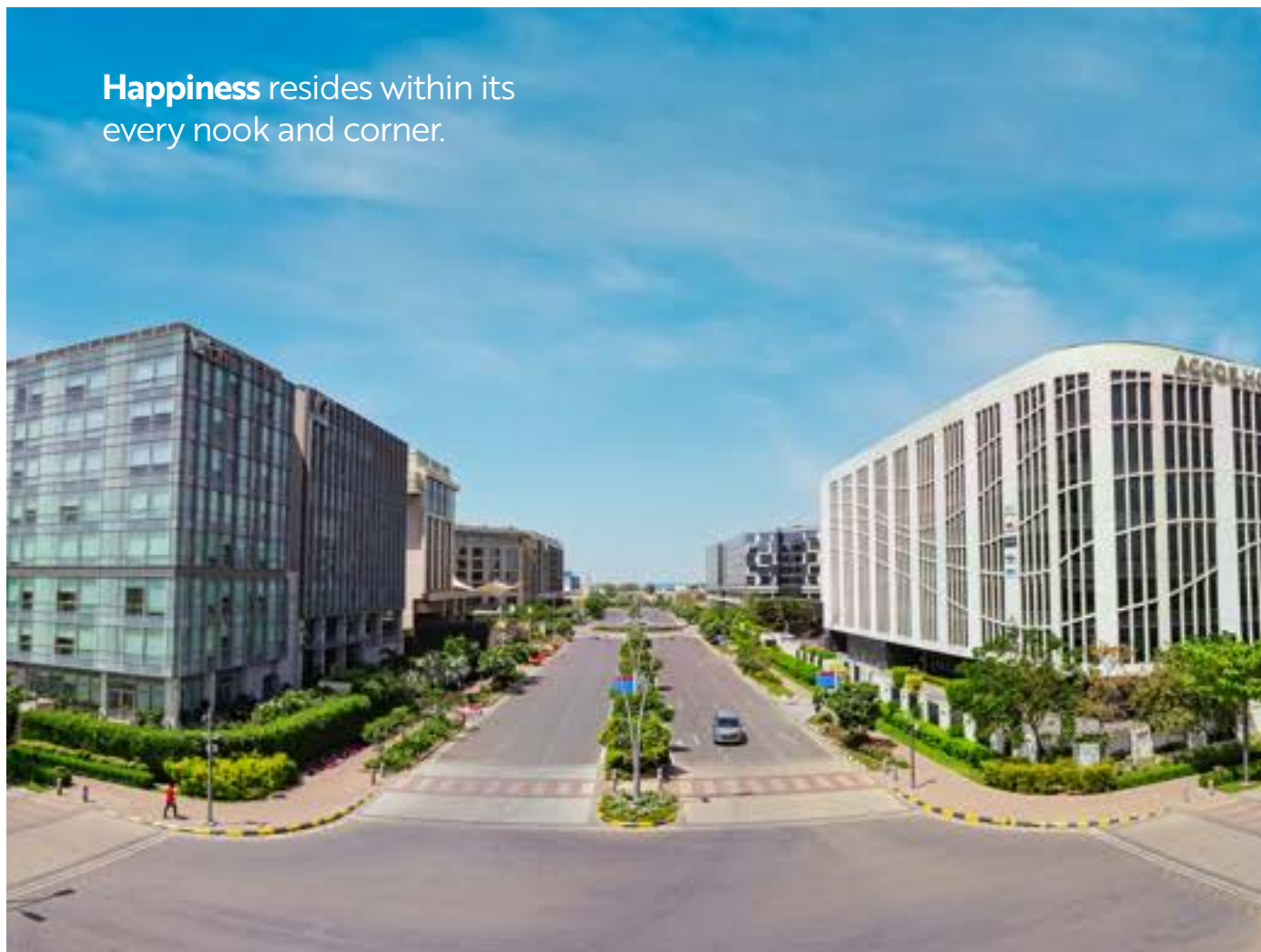


GMR Aerocity is a place where you will never run out of things to do, a place where you will always be happy.

Welcome to



Happiness resides within its every nook and corner.



A ballroom, a book vending machine, an express ritual at the salon, a bowl of chicken wings, a watermelon mint margarita, coffee with croissants, and luxurious suites – that’s just a small representative sample of the things you can indulge in, at this destination.

SO, HEAD TO GMR AEROCITY, NEW DELHI. IT’S A DESTINATION LIKE NO OTHER.

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Beauty And Purpose

Ever since the team of Aerocity Live started planning for this issue on 'Futuristic Designs', there was much discussion on what is important in the design of a space, furniture or other objects. With design as a discipline becoming much sought after across the globe and design experts redefining what constitutes a good design, a consensus is emerging that function is more important than form, ie usage takes precedence over beauty. A highly ornate home or furniture piece might not lend itself well to regular cleaning. A three-legged chair, perhaps a great piece of art, is hardly a comfortable seat.

Having said that, various species attempt to make their abode a work of harmony. A bird weaving a beautiful nest is a case of functional need but one that is naturally aesthetic. The web that a spider weaves is marvellously harmonious.

Among humans, depending upon one's sensibilities, one's abode can be spartan, a green paradise, an ornate façade (yes we have those decorations in this era too) and imposing buildings meant as statements in power. But whatever your sensibilities, designs must not be jarring to the surroundings for after all we are part of larger ecosystem.

Equally importantly, buildings should not take a toll on environment. How we live has a deep impact on the planet. Thus, houses, offices and public spaces that can draw from natural sources of energy, that give a sense of peace and wellbeing to its occupants and which enable individuals and communities to realise their goals and provide avenues for creative expressions, are the requirements of the 21st Century. And if they can be elegantly designed, all the better. After all, we go to popular tourism spots of the world to see spectacular pieces of architecture, not structures that are an eyesore.

The entire ecosystem of Aerocity emerges as a model worth emulating in this regard. With planning that takes into consideration the needs of today and future generations, the Hospitality District and the upcoming Gateway and Downtown Districts, showcase an entire landscape of Futuristic Designs.

In this issue, we also bring to you some other destinations within the country that had remarkable designs in their unique ways.

Happy Reading.

Designs For Today & Tomorrow



AMAN KAPOOR

CEO, Airports Land Development, GMR Group

Dear Readers,

Delhi NCR showcases a dynamic tableau of evolving societal needs and corresponding changes in architecture, design and urban planning. From the historic lanes and grand havelis of Shahjahanabad to the expansive bungalows and verdant avenues and later to the functional flats for government officials in post-independent Delhi, the city has witnessed numerous transformations.

The Asian Games of 1982 and the Commonwealth Games of 2010 left lasting imprints on the cityscape, while the G20 Summit in 2023 spurred the enhancement of Delhi's MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) infrastructure, exemplified by Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi. The liberalisation of the economy and the IT revolution injected new vitality, spawning new sectors and elevating aspirations, influencing housing designs and public spaces for education, entertainment and work.

GMR Aerocity shines as a vibrant hospitality hub, combining diverse amenities within easy reach. Boasting mixed land usage, it caters to a spectrum of visitor needs including large conferences, weddings, family gatherings and individual travel. Choose from a variety of dining options to suit every palate and budget, indulge in shopping, immerse yourself in art and culture and join local festivities — all conveniently within walking distance. Excellently connected via Delhi's metro network and positioned near the airport, GMR Aerocity serves as a bustling nexus for both Delhi residents and visitors from across the NCR region and beyond.

Addressing today's imperative of sustainable design, Aerocity adheres to visionary guidelines. **In the words of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi "Urban planning will determine the fate of our cities in 'Amrit Kaal' and it is only well-planned cities that will determine the fate of India. When planning is better, our cities will become climate resilient and water secure."** Aerocity exemplifies this vision by prioritising energy efficiency through effective use of sunlight, creating green spaces, optimising water management with advanced fixtures and implementing robust waste segregation systems and carbon sequestration initiatives.

Flexibility is crucial for sustainability. Frequent modifications to structures in response to changing needs could often change their appearance and modify the overall characteristic of the place. In Aerocity, a dedicated design review board is responsible for review and inspection of architectural design over time to ensure design and aesthetics.

In this issue, we highlight GMR Aerocity's pioneering features, that could serve as a blueprint for other cities. We also bring to you unique designs of some other Indian cities and new designs in Paris, the host city of 2024 Olympics.

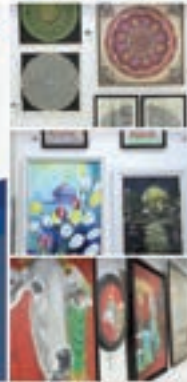
Happy reading

BUZZ ON SOCIAL MEDIA

GMR Aerocity's Utsav has transformed into a vibrant hub for art and culture, hosting engaging discussions, performances, and workshops. Situated in the heart of Delhi, it enriches the cultural landscape by showcasing diverse talents and fostering community interaction. This dynamic venue offers a platform for artists, authors, and experts to share their expertise, making it a pivotal space for cultural exchange and exploration in the city.

#gmr #aerocity #aerocitydelhi #utsav #exhibitions #workshops #discussions #performance

AEROCITY'S UTSAV SHOWCASES VIBRANT ART AND CULTURE SCENE



GMR Aerocity New Delhi

8,385 followers
22h · 🌐

Desh culminated a month of enriching dialogues and immersive workshops, spanning from the vision of transforming Bharat into a \$55 trillion ...see more



1,883 posts

91.9K followers

88 following

GMR Aerocity New Delhi

Official page of GMR Aerocity, New Delhi. The epicenter of business & leisure. Find @gmraerocity on Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn.

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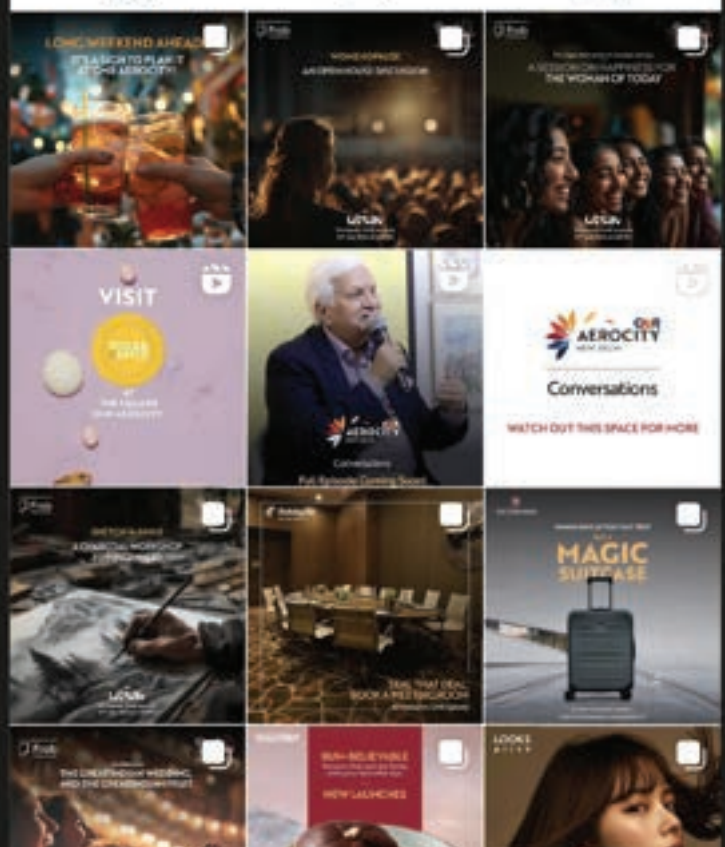
All activity

GMR Aerocity New Delhi

8,361 followers
1mo · 🌐

The first edition of Aerocity Conversation was an evening to remember. D. Subbarao's endearing tales of youth, his mistakes and his aspirations adorned the forum greatly. Watch out the space to catch the full episode on our YouTube Channel!

#gmr #gmraerocity #aerocitydelhi #aerocityconversation #discussion #staytuned



CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2024 - ISSUE 15

10 Event Calendar

- What to watch out for in Aerocity and Delhi NCR

12 In Focus

- Aerocity – Designs For Sustainability

14 News

- Flavours Of Georgian Cuisine At JW Marriott New Delhi
- National Highway Food Festival At Café Pride, Pride Plaza Hotel
- Lebanese Food Fest At Roseate House

18 Events in Aerocity

- Aerocity Celebrates Nature In Various Hues
- Cricket Ka Capital – Aerocity
- A Celebration Of Life
- Leading From The Back
- Celebrating Desh
- Creative Expressions At Utsav

26 Cover Feature

- **Design & Architecture In Delhi, Amalgam Of 'Form & Function'**
- Aerocity: Architecture & Design For India Of 21st Century
- Designing Spaces For Fun & Work
- Insight Into A Futuristic Design
- Aerocity Delhi: A Beacon Of Sustainable & Responsive Urban Design
- We Are Breaking New Ground In Sustainability



56 Aerocity Partners

- **Shanu Ghai**, Rooms Director, Andaz Delhi, channelled her people and problem-solving skills to make a mark in the front office in hospitality industry



58 Chef's Interview

- How **Shamim Ahamad** of Pullman & Novotel New Delhi Aerocity revolutionised coffee and redefined F&B experience





- Proud Image Of A Rapidly Growing Modern India
- Aerocity Represents Ideal Integration Of Multiple Elements
- Delhi's Architectural Evolution
- The Square – the Chowk reimagined
- Transition To More Adaptable Zoning Approach
- Niyamat Mehta Finds Aerocity a hub of creativity and inspiration
- Worldmark 2.0: Catalysing India's Finest Global Business District

62 Restaurant Review
Union Artisan Coffee at The Square, Aerocity



64 Dishes in Aerocity
A global platter for the workforce at Aerocity

68 Dishes in Delhi
Eating options close to business districts in Delhi

74 Destinations

- India's Urban Planning Heritage: From Ancient Hampi To Modern Chandigarh
- Rediscovering Paris

70 GMR Network

- Delhi International Airport Launches E-gates For International Travellers
- GMR Aerocity Hyderabad: A Beacon Of Futuristic Design & Sustainability
- Elevated Connectivity: The New Highway Linking Manohar International Airport
- Sowing Seeds Of Change: GMRVF's Mission To Empower Wheat Farmers

84 Pick of the Month

88 Wellbeing: Space – A Reflection Of Our Psyche

90 Quiz: This time on workplaces and industry

THE SQUARE



Art by Cartist

A unique festival showcasing installations made from waste, featuring displays, workshops, and a gathering of artists, designers, auto experts, students, and the public to celebrate inspirational art.

September 20-22

The Light Path Navratri

A market affair that carries all things Diwali from Indian fashion & jewellery to Diwali home & office décor, quirky festive accessories and so much more.

October 4 - 6

Sampoorna Ramayana Festival

Experience the captivating 'Theatre of the Mind'—a fusion of dramatized storytelling, melodious music, immersive sound effects, and enchanting Kathak dance performances. Narrators Jaishree Sethi and Shamir bring the Sampoorna Ramayana to life in collaboration with Story Char.

October 11-12

The City of Puppetry

A tribute to one of the oldest tradition of making Kathputli, with story-telling and showcasing various styles of puppets with prestigious National Award Winner Vicky Bhatt.

October 12-13

Diwali Festivities

Illuminate the Square with mesmerizing Diwali decor! The enchanting lights and vibrant decorations across the hospitality district will enhance its beauty, creating a stunning visual spectacle during the festive season.

October 15 - November 15

Home Chef – Baker's Edition Market

GMR invites you to discover talented home cooks and indulge in the taste of Diwali festivities while supporting small businesses.

October 18-19

Craft City 2.0 Diwali

GMR presents CRAFT CITY 2.0, an expanded celebration of India's cultural heritage, featuring National Award-winning artists at GMR Aerocity. This edition showcases diverse Indian traditional crafts and art forms—including Bhil, miniature, stone art, and Rogan Art—through live demonstrations, offering a unique glimpse into the dedication and skill of artisans who keep these traditions alive.

October 25-26



UTSAV



Harmony of Music

Theme Inaugural and celebratory meet

September 14

AI and it's usage

With Shashi Shekhar - AI For Good founder and former CEO Prasar Bharti

September 18

Bringing Harmony to India - The Story of Operation Polo

Marking the 75th anniversary of Operation Polo, the military action launched by the Indian Army on September 13, 1948, to integrate the princely state of Hyderabad.

September 20

Getting Mindfulness Right

With Swati Desai, in collaboration with ISB - Harmony of Mind

September 21

Healing with Ragas

A workshop on healing with ragas with music therapist Vidushi Rajam Shanker.

September 25

Book Launch & Echoes of Life

A journey of self-discovery and inner transformation building on the 'Harmony of Self'.

September 28

Philosophy Workshop

Inauguration and workshop on understanding various philosophies for children and parents with Roopa Pai.

October 3

ELSEWHERE IN DELHI

MUSIC

Satinder Sartaaj Live

Where: Gymkhana Club, Sector-29 Gurugram

When: September 14, Saturday, 7 pm

Nearest Metro Station: IFFCO Chowk, Yellow Line

Distance from Aerocity: 13.4 km



ZAMNA Festival

Where: Gymkhana Club, Sector-29 Gurugram

When: September 29, 3:30 pm

Nearest Metro Station: IFFCO Chowk, Yellow Line

Distance from Aerocity: 13.4 km

EVENTS

Grand Trunk Food Fest 2024

Where: NSIC Exhibition Ground Gate 6, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi

When: September 14

Nearest Metro Station: Govind Puri Metro Station

Distance from Aerocity: 18.7 km

World Food India 2024

Where: Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

When: September 19-22

Nearest Metro Station: Supreme Court (Pragati Maidan) and Indraprastha on Blue line

Distance from Aerocity: 19.9 km



AEROCITY – DESIGNS FOR **SUSTAINABILITY**

The three districts of Aerocity, i.e. Hospitality District and upcoming Gateway and Downtown Districts, have set new benchmarks in architecture and planning, by incorporating sustainability, flexibility, accessibility and walkability in the entire design paradigm





regardless of age, gender or disability. The design aims to empower every individual and usher in a new era of commercial space layout and design in India.

Enhancing sustainability with green practices

One of Aerocity's core principles is sustainability, which is evident in its approach to green building practices. The development incorporates extensive green roofs that not only enhance the aesthetic appeal but also improve air quality and reduce the urban heat island effect. These green spaces act as natural insulators, helping to regulate building temperatures and reducing the need for artificial heating and cooling.

Water management and conservation is another critical component of Aerocity's sustainability plan and environmental efforts. The district features zero liquid discharge sewage treatment plants, advanced rainwater harvesting systems, greywater recycling facilities and water efficient fixtures, ensuring that water is used efficiently and sustainably. These systems significantly reduce the demand on municipal water supplies and promote a more sustainable water management practice.

If we look at energy efficiency, it is maximised through the integration of renewable energy sources. Solar panels are strategically placed to harness the abundant sunlight, providing a significant portion of the district's energy needs. This commitment to renewable energy reduces Aerocity's carbon footprint and promotes a more sustainable energy model for urban developments.

Community engagement and inclusivity

Aerocity's design is not just about buildings and infrastructure; it is about creating a thriving community. The development places a strong emphasis on inclusivity and social engagement. Community centres and public plazas are integral to the design, offering spaces where residents and visitors can come together for cultural events, educational programmes and social activities. These spaces foster a sense of community and belonging, enhancing the overall quality of life.

Accessibility is a cornerstone of Aerocity's design philosophy. The district is designed to be fully accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Wide, well-maintained sidewalks, ramps and tactile pathways ensure that everyone can navigate the area comfortably and safely. Public transportation options are seamlessly integrated, providing convenient and eco-friendly mobility solutions.

Future prospects

As Aerocity continues to develop, its principles of sustainability, community engagement and inclusivity will serve as a model for future urban developments in India and beyond. The upcoming Gateway and Downtown districts will build on these foundations, incorporating even more advanced technologies and innovative designs to meet the evolving needs of urban populations.

Aerocity is more than just a commercial hub; it is a blueprint for the future of urban living. By prioritising sustainability and community, it offers a vision of how modern developments can create thriving, resilient and inclusive environments that benefit both present and future generations.

By Ruhail Amin

The success of any development plan hinges on its relevance not only for today but for future generations. Aerocity has been conceptualised with this long-term vision in mind. Frequent demolitions and construction projects often weaken structures, strain resources and generate excess debris. The design of Aerocity anticipates and addresses these issues.

The offices, retail outlets, restaurants and hotels in Aerocity are designed to be spacious, airy and inviting, creating environments where employees enjoy spending 8 to 10 hours of their day and where customers are drawn to visit. To reduce energy consumption, the glass panels allow natural sunlight to brighten the interiors, making the spaces more pleasant. The design also incorporates flexibility, enabling new uses with minor adjustments without disrupting the structural integrity.

A key aspect of Aerocity's design is the equal emphasis on public areas. These spaces are designed to accommodate diverse needs, offering dining options, recreational activities and convenient shopping for groceries, gifts and other occasions. The unique feature of Aerocity is that all modern-day necessities are within comfortable walking distance, reflecting a modern interpretation of India's traditional community living with easy mobility for everyone,

Flavours Of Georgian Cuisine At JW Marriott New Delhi



JW Marriott New Delhi showcased the culinary prowess of celebrated Chef Guram Baghdoshvili from 5 to 6 July. The event, held at K3 – The Food Theatre of New Delhi, provided guests at Marriott the chance to savour Georgian flavours and indulge in centuries-old recipes with bold spices.

The food was meticulously prepared by the celebrated Chef Guram Baghdoshvili, a true artisan of his craft, ensuring an unforgettable dining experience for all the guests. Each dish served showcased his dedication to perfection and passion for Georgian cuisine. From traditional succulent dishes including Imeretian Pkhali, Tiger Shrimp in Bazhe Sauce and Mango Confiture to sweet treats like Sharazi Dessert, every bite told a story of Georgian culture and tradition. The dishes were prepared using only the freshest ingredients and finest spices.

Nestled between Europe and Asia, Georgian cuisine seamlessly blends the flavours of European and Asian food cultures. Whether you are a discerning epicurean or simply curious to explore new culinary horizons, Georgian food is a true delight to the palate.

National Highway Food Festival At Café Pride, Pride Plaza Hotel



Pride Plaza Hotel will host the National Highway Food Festival from August 30 to September 8. This festival celebrates the diverse flavours found along NH44, India's longest highway, which spans 11 states from Jammu and Kashmir to Tamil Nadu. Indulge in an array of regional delicacies that capture the essence of each region's unique culinary traditions. For reservations: +91 9899343771.

The hotel has planned a series of other events in August and September, including Teacher's Day and Daughter's Day. See further details in Offers Section in this issue.

Lebanese Food Fest At Roseate House

Roseate House showcased Lebanese cuisine from 5 to 7 July. The event was curated by Chef Jameela Ghani, an expert at the legendary art of Arabic gastronomy. Signature dishes like smoky Baba Ghanoush, succulent Shawarma and the delicate balance of spices in Tabbouleh were served, celebrating the authentic culinary traditions of the Middle East.

The hotel also celebrated World Chocolate Day on 7 July, over an indulgent Sunday brunch at its world cuisine bistro. Signature dishes like French Opera, Belgian Dark Chocolate Mousse, Trio Chocolate Slice, Chocolate Coffee Dome, Mississippi Mud Pie, Chocolate Nougat Pastry and more delighted the guests.





AEROCITY CELEBRATES NATURE IN VARIOUS HUES

By Team Aerocity Live

GMR Aerocity commemorated World Environment Day, paid tribute to the forces of nature that created life, through a series of events at Utsav in the month of June

To commemorate June 5, the World Environment Day, GMR Aerocity, in association with Friends of Books (FROB), organised a number of events, including talks with wildlife experts and environmentalists and workshops imparting skills in recycling of material, in order to bring people closer to nature. Various dimensions of nature conservation and sustainable way of life were explored.

Ramveer Tanwar, the Pond Man of the country, talking about books that bring us close to nature, paid ode to environmentalist Anupam Mishra whose work 'Aaj Bhi Khare Hain Talab' brought to the fore, the traditional water harvesting and preservation systems of India.

Adit Jain, Chairman and Editorial Director, IMA India, in a talk session titled 'Jungle Odyssey', shared stories from his book



Mayur Chaturvedi, Regional Director, Human Resources, APAC, Zimmer Biomet and Sharmila Thakur, HR Leader, Bureau Veritas in conversation on Experiential Code of Human Nature



Adit Jain, Chairman and Editorial Director, IMA India, in a talk session

'Wildlife Chronicles'. Atul Karwal, the first civil servant to conquer Mt Everest, shared 'Insights from Dr Everest'. At the other end of the spectrum, author Charudutta Panigrahi, described the mysteries of oceans in 'Deep Dive: Minding the Seascapes'.

Human life is intrinsically linked to nature and our harmonious existence and wellbeing depends on it. In the discussion on the theme 'Experiential Code of Human Nature', Mayur Chaturvedi, Regional Director, Human Resources, APAC, Zimmer Biomet and Sharmila Thakur, HR Leader, Bureau Veritas, talked about human nature and its extremes at play in every walk of life. Bijoylaxmi Hota, yoga therapist and author, engaged the gathering with her insights during the session 'Yoga: The Nature's Way of Life'. There was also a 'Mandala to Mindfulness' workshop.

Each one of us has the responsibility to reduce, reuse & recycle and what better way to reuse than express our creativity in that process. Inspired by Arvind Gupta's book 'Toys from Trash', Aerocity organised a 'Trash to Art' workshop in which the attendees learnt great tips to create useful and artistic objects. The resource person for the event was Madhumita Puri, Founder, Trash to Cash.

The thoughtfully planned and curated discussions, workshops and artworks displayed helped people understand how we can live in a more ecologically conscious manner.



CRICKET KA CAPITAL – AEROCITY

The month-long T-20 World Cup 2024, held in the US and West Indies, had Indian cricket fans in thralls. At Aerocity, the 'Cricket Ka Capital' event saw massive numbers through the venue where the matches were screened. The final match between India and South Africa in particular was watched by a humongous audience. Comfortable bean bag seating, an array of food options, a number of sports activities and fun games for the audience made for a wholesome entertainment experience.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

GMR Aerocity organised the 'Pursuit of Happiness' at Utsav in July, where discussions on food, marriage and work-life balance, coupled with workshops gave the audience a reason to smile

By Team Aerocity Live



Environmentalist and author Sopan Joshi

Think mango, think happiness. The very mention of Dussehri, Chausa, Langra and other varieties of mango brings a smile to one's face, irrespective of age. Imagine then an entire talk being dedicated to this king of fruits. Sopan Joshi, environmentalist and author of 'Mangifera indica: A Biography of the Mango', delved into the history of the delectable fruit. The book discussion on the theme 'Mango and Marriages' was organised at Utsav, as part of the month-long 'Pursuit of Happiness'.

Speaking on the occasion, he also likened the Utsav gallery to a 'Chaupal' of old times. He said, "As we develop new cityscapes, it is important to give space to old symbols too. Therefore, I was happy to see Utsav, which is similar to a chaupal, where we can enjoy and invite people to enjoy cultural activities."

Kiran Chadha, author of the book 'Magic



Workshop on charcoal art by Ashima Anand



Author Kiran Chadha



"Utsav provides that much-needed space where discussions on art, literature, management and philosophy beautifully amalgamate. I am so thankful to GMR for creating this space"

Gaurav Bakshi, Co Founder and Managing Partner, Strat-Board Services

of Indian Weddings', spoke on yet another favourite subject in India, weddings, something that brings cheers to all families and gives everyone an occasion for celebration. With a deep sociological insight into institution and understanding of cultural practices of various regions, the author called marriage a "wonderful institution that saves our society from decline". Other events included Food Tales narrated by historian Pushpesh and Joyful Tiffins with food blogger Uma Raghuraman.

Modern-day concerns

As happiness takes centre-stage in 21st Century society, some common concerns that are topmost on everyone's mind also need to be addressed. During the month-long event, there were sessions focussed on these issues, like 'happy parenting' with Sushant Kalra and Ananda, 'work life balance' and 'mantras of happiness' by India's top Combat Chopper Pilot Maj Gen Anand Saxena. Women achievers Rashmi Mohanty, Kamini Kusum and Shreya Saxena inspired the gathering at the discussion titled 'FemmeHappy - Inspiring Women and Their Contribution in Creating Joyful Society'. There was an open house discussion on the theme 'The Joyful Menopause'. And mountaineer Arjun Vajpai, during the discussion on the theme 'Finding My Everest', was scheduled to talk about conquering fears and life-lessons in challenging oneself on 2 August.

There were also creative workshops, like the charcoal art workshop by Ashima Anand and photo workshop for corporates of Aerocity. At the Khushnuma Kavayatein - A Mélange of Poets and Wordsmiths by Kavyakutumbam, the audience was transported back to the days of 'kavi sammelan'. The event was slated to be concluded with 'Beyond 9 to 6: Life with Bollywood Geetmala - a trivia-based narration and singing guest Ajay Mankotia, Former Income Tax Commissioner' on 3 August.



"This is the first time I was visiting Utsav and the vibe, including the decoration, was very good. The book shelf was very much on top. I keep having conversations about my problems and he suggests solutions"

Shreya Saxena, Community Manager, Womenovator



"This is the second time I am visiting Utsav, where the organisers come up with very well-curated events. The authors are very knowledgeable and engage with the audience. This is very helpful for the society"

Ashish Anand, Angel Investor



Participants demonstrating their artworks

LEADING FROM THE BACK

Aerocity organised the third in the series of Aerocity Conversations at Utsav, with authors of the book 'Leading from the Back: To Achieve The Impossible' talking about the importance of building trust



A panel discussion on the book 'Leading from the Back: To Achieve The Impossible'



A captivating discussion on the theme 'Delving into the Leadership Traits for Sustainability'

By Mayank Badhwar

Aerocity Conversations, organised by GMR Aerocity in association with Friends of Books (Frob), is a monthly discussion series engaging authors and discerning audience on a host of contemporary issues. Now in its third month, it is growing in traction and becoming a much-awaited event. The series had commenced in May with a riveting conversation on the book 'Just a Mercenary' penned by D Subbarao, the distinguished former RBI governor. He had discussed frankly dilemmas faced by individuals in positions of authority.

As the third session in the Aerocity Conversations, a panel discussion on the book 'Leading from the Back: To Achieve The Impossible' by Harry Paul, Ravi Kant and Ross Reck was held at Utsav. The event featured distinguished speakers Ravi Kant, Former CEO and Managing Director, Tata Motors; Ashish Singhal, Head of Customer Support - South Asia, Airbus and Sanjeev Kumar, CEO, GMR Infrastructure. Panel discussion was moderated by Mohit Gupta, Co Founder, Frob.

Kant emphasised the need for adaptive leadership, tracing its evolution from traditional top-down models to more collective styles. He highlighted the importance of building trust and maintaining an open mind to foster successful leadership.

Kumar shared insights on relational leadership, stressing the shift from 'me' to 'we' to harness collective strength. He recounted a personal experience where rebranding vendors as

partners transformed a stalled project into a success, illustrating the power of collaboration and shared purpose.

Singhal discussed the collaborative nature of the book's creation, noting how differing viewpoints among the authors were managed through consensus, reflecting the broader leadership principle of effective teamwork.

The discussion centred around the book's protagonist Shiv Kundra, explored how leaders can evolve by embracing feedback and fostering trust. The event provided valuable insights into contemporary leadership challenges, emphasising the need for adaptability and continuous learning in today's complex environments.

Nature and ESG readiness

Aerocity Conversations 2, that happened in June, the month that Aerocity celebrated nature, saw a captivating discussion on the theme 'Delving into the Leadership Traits for Sustainability'. The discussion featured Thomas Mathew, former additional secretary to the President of India, biographer of Ratan Tata & nature photographer and Manoj Kumar, a conservationist and wildlife photographer and additional secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice & Wildlife. The discussion aimed to sensitise top corporate leadership towards their role in adapting ESG to create a better future for the stakeholders.



Inauguration & Exhibition - Discussion on 1965 Indo Pak War - Aug 10th

CELEBRATING DESH



Workshop on Safety & Freedom for Women - Aug 13th

GMR Aerocity observed August as a month to celebrate India's freedom and independence by organising a host of events on the theme 'Desh'

By Upasana Sharan

GMR Aerocity celebrated August 2024 with the theme 'Desh' with Independence Day as an anchor theme which enabled to cement the vision of serving Aerocity Utsav in New Delhi as a location that resonates with freedom and culture.

August is a month of celebrating the nation's freedom and independence, evoking a sense of



Water Color Workshop with Shashank Shukla -Using Three Colors of Nation - Aug 8th



Guest of Honor - Gen Ian Cardozo - Book Launch and Discussion on 1965 Indo Pak War - Aug 10th



Swaroop Sampath Rawal at Book Launch - Life Skills Through Drama - 2nd Sept



Workshop on Safety & Freedom for Women - Aug 13th

pride in every citizen. It is also a time when corporations and their teams embrace the responsibility of nation-building. At Utsav, this spirit was shared with the humans of Aerocity by aligning 7 pillars of GMR Aerocity: location, multimodal connectivity, public realm - pedestrian friendly, mixed-use ecosystem, safety and security, experience - workforce & life beyond work and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance).

Tricolour Jubilation at Aerocity

Independence Day festivities saw The Square being decorated in tricolour installations. Visitors to the district shared in the joy that the tricolour evokes. The auspicious day also instilled a sense of patriotism and celebrated the spirit of unity with diversity that defines our country.

The celebrations at Utsav, The Square, Aerocity, New Delhi, kicked-off from 10 August and concluded on 7 September 2024. A wide range of programmes were organised which kept the audience engaged and enthralled through out the month of August; all revolving around the theme 'Desh'. These included: power packed conversation on the theme 'Nation Builders of



Kavi Sammelan & Poets meet up - Aug 31st

India' which took place on 23 August; artworks' and photographs' exhibition; book talks by senior corporate professionals; performance art in the form of plays, recitals, poetries etc.

Quizzes, workshops and other fun-filled activities were also hosted which painted people in the colourful spirit of festivities.

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS AT UTSAV

Aerocity and Kiran Nadar Museum of Art conduct workshops for school students and others, inspired by artist Subodh Gupta's 'Gandhi's Three Monkeys'

By Team Aerocity Live

Aerocity and Kiran Nadar Museum of Art are jointly fostering art & culture in the capital, and nurturing an acumen for various forms of art, by giving people from different walks of life the chance to not just observe world-class art works closely, but take inspiration from these and express their own creativity through different mediums.

This artistic fervour came to the fore in full gusto at Utsav gallery in July. Several art workshops were organised by GMR Aerocity

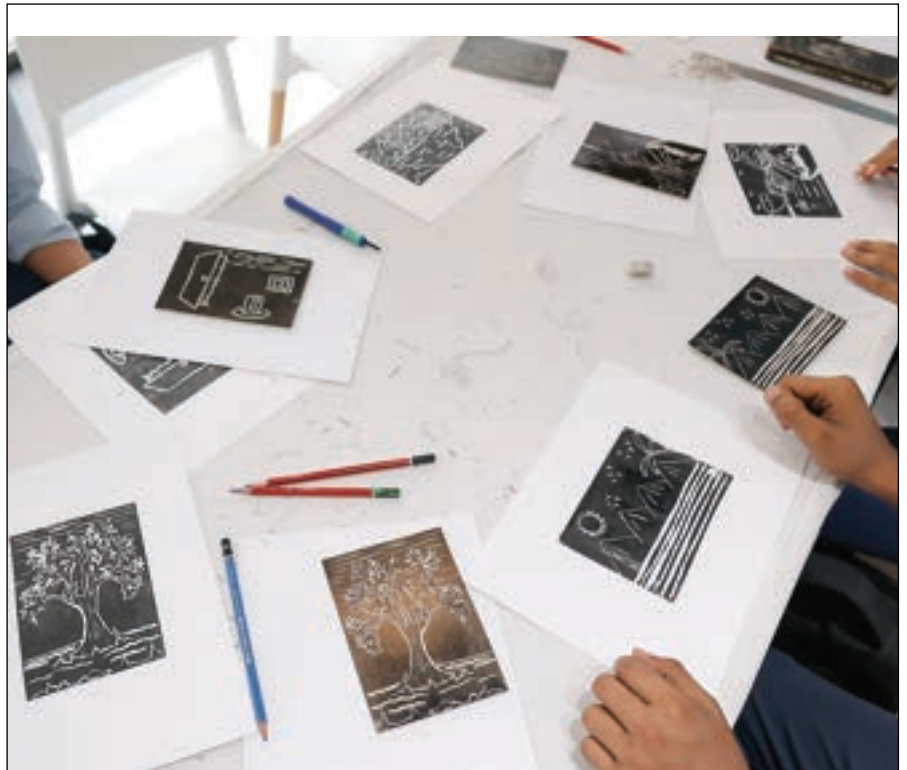


and Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), taking inspiration from artist Subodh Gupta's 'Gandhi's Three Monkeys' that had been showcased in Aerocity in June.

Students of Vidya School Gurgaon and Green Wood School Delhi, among others, got the opportunity to participate, learn new techniques and express their creativity.

During the Sculpture Creation Workshop, artist Manveer Singh Gautam demonstrated how to create art objects using recycled materials like plastic bags and chocolate and toffee wrappers. Thereafter, the participants created their own mini sculptures inspired by Subodh Gupta's materials using recycled materials. This workshop provided insights into the artistic process of sculpting.

During the Printmaking Workshop, participants learnt the techniques of printmaking to create artworks inspired by Gupta's work. This workshop on linocut printing, allowed participants to produce prints that explore the themes of the sculptures. They also experimented with textures and layers to create unique representations of the 'see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil' motif.



DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE IN DELHI,

Like any other city in the world, Delhi evolved its own design idiom that was a response to its climate and that progressed with new architectural tools that successive rulers brought with them



AMALGAM OF 'FORM & FUNCTION'

By Meha Mathur

Delhi, a seat of power for many ruling dynasties in North India and a cultural melting point over centuries, has witnessed a study evolution of architectural forms over centuries. The varied buildings that have withstood the test of time showcase the understanding of scientific principles and understanding of building materials that the expert builders of those times possessed. It could be a vast amphitheatre-like water reservoir Suraj Kund with a series of steps leading down to the water stored; it could be the Qutb Minar soaring high in the sky with ornate craftsmanship evident right till the top; Humayun's Tomb, an epitome of a harmonious garden that impresses the visitors even today or the Havelis of Shahjahanabad.

The architecture and design ethos evolved as a result of the climatic conditions of the city, its requirement for water and protection against the extreme heat and cold and also as a consequence of architectural

elements absorbed as a result of interactions with the outside world. Delhi was not just at the receiving end of invading armies, it also played host to traders, medics, artists, artisans and others who came to the land to make it their home. The Turkish rulers, the Mughals and later, the British, all brought with them new elements of architecture, like the arch, the dome, the Charbagh pattern of garden and Indo-Gothic buildings.

In Delhi, the function (ie the usage of the building) and form (i.e. the aesthetics) fused seamlessly, complimenting each other. The blend of aesthetics and usage of structure manifested in buildings over and over again, in the seven or more cities of Delhi.

Take the example of Red Fort, where the design aimed to mitigate the harshness of summer heat. The court and the residential quarters were kept cool by integrating water channels throughout

Buildings of public importance, especially Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi (facing page), make a statement of India's place in the comity of nations



the complex. Water would flow down intricately carved slides in the pavilions and then flow along the channels in the gardens, to provide a cooling and soothing effect. And the location of Red Fort along the Yamuna had multiple functions – providing a channel of transport, water supply and views of the river – combining benefit with beauty. When the British shifted the capital from Kolkata to Delhi, they brought in new idiom of town planning and architecture. While the majestic Viceroy's House, which later became Rashtrapati Bhavan, made a statement in power from the high elevation of Raisina Hills. The front façade combined the western ethos as reflected in the massive pillars on the lines of Greek structures with eastern ethos, as reflected in the stupa-like dome. The North and South Block also made ample use of eastern design elements like the jaali work.

In designing the bungalow zone, they took cognizance of the heat and dust in Delhi and made tree-lined avenues important component of planning, to the point of deciding which street will be dominated by which tree species. Today, the greens of Delhi have become a defining feature of the capital and a matter of pride for its inhabitants. The central shopping district of Connaught Place was a clear departure from the market places of India, with its three concentric circles, pillared corridors and large showrooms.

Designs for a new nation

Post-Independence, new constructions like government staff living quarters, dedicated market places and offices were reflective of the Socialist bend of government of the day. In the 1950s, the government offices and public buildings, as well as the residential quarters for manpower running the government machinery exuded the Socialist

ethos and were highly utilitarian. Prominent landmarks like Udyog Bhawan, Krishi Bhawan, Shastri Bhawan and colonies like Lodi Colony are cases in point.

The resettlement colonies like Lajpat Nagar, Patel Nagar and Rajendra Nagar have their own ethos – each a vibrant ecosystem. The traditional wealth in South Delhi, the success of professionals and the DDA housing colonies, each have their distinct design element emanating from their lifestyle and day-to-day requirement.

In public realm, a mega project that captured the capital's imagination was the development of Pragati Maidan with state pavilions – the first location to host large-scale exhibitions. The Asian Games of 1982 became a watershed moment for the public realm of Delhi as a number of stadia were constructed and flyovers came up to connect various locations. This was the harbinger of new designs that the city would witness in the ensuing decades.

New age economy and designs

Delhi NCR, as it is developing now, is in response to aspirations of the 21st Century economy and society. Significant transformations have occurred in Delhi's demographics over decades. According to the Delhi Government website (<https://delhiplanning.delhi.gov.in>) that cites the Census 2011 figures, the population of Delhi had increased from 17.44 lakh in 1951 to 167.88 lakh (ie 1.67 crore) in 2011. The population is also highly literate – in 2011 there was 86.2 per cent literacy as compared to 81.67 per cent in 2001.

There is also a shift towards urbanisation. In 2011, 97 per cent population was living in urban areas compared to 53 per cent in 1901 (the percentage of urban population in Delhi was 82.40 per cent in



1951 and 93.18 per cent in 2001). The number of villages in Delhi has come down from 300 in 1961 to 165 in 2001 and 112 in 2011.

Crucially, it is the service sector that dominates Delhi's economy. Being the capital of the country, it not only houses vast government machinery but also has a thriving media, infotainment, arts & culture, education, healthcare, tourism and now IT industry. According to the Delhi Economic Survey 2023-24, "Delhi's economy has a predominant service sector with its share of contribution to Gross State Value Added (at current prices) at 85.40 per cent during 2023-24 followed by contribution of Secondary Sector (13.02 per cent) and Primary Sector (1.58 per cent)."

The information age powered by telecommunications and internet has fanned the imagination of young India and given each one a new sense of confidence. Representative of changing aspirations of young India are new-age buildings, including educational institutes, corporate offices, recreation centres and residential units which are a clear departure from old designs. These also include buildings of public importance, especially Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi, making a statement of India's place in the comity of nations. The vast Metro network is in itself a significant marker of transformation of the city. While the network above and below the ground connects the entire city, the Metro Stations dotting the Delhi landscape are often also places combining recreation and artistic expression with their core function.

At the same time, the designs today are also a response to changing needs of the society. Town planning today has to address the need to reduce carbon footprint, by way of better transport, maximum use of solar energy, proximity between workplace, place of living and recreational areas, walkability, among other aspects.

These concerns are at the forefront of design of Aerocity Hospitality

District and the upcoming Gateway and Downtown districts. The buildings and open spaces here express global ethos while caring for local ecosystem and environment. Through usage of materials, rationalising water and electricity through design intervention and providing creative open spaces, Aerocity is a beacon of new-age design, aimed at providing solutions to 21st Century needs.

Aerocity means different things to different people. Experts and eminent Delhiites interviewed in the ensuing pages share their impressions about Aerocity. Historian Swapna Liddle compares The Square at Aerocity to the chowk of Indian habitations. "The chowk plays a vital part in urban living, as a public place where people can slow down during their busy working day, indulging in rest and recreation. I am reminded of Delhi's most famous historic square – Chandni Chowk, built by the princess Jahanara, the daughter of the emperor Shahjahan." She adds that when she visited Aerocity recently for an event at Utsav, "People came in, sat down in a place surrounded by art, and participated in an animated discussion. For me, the spirit of Chandni Chowk came alive. Such places of interaction are a vital component of city life." Environmentalist Sopan Joshi also believes the same. "As we develop new cityscapes, it is important to give space to old symbols too. Therefore, I was happy to see Utsav, which is similar to a chaupal, where we can enjoy and invite people to enjoy cultural activities."

Hitesh Vaidya, member of the Kerala Urban Planning Commission and a board member of the Global Buildings Performance Network, says, "By promoting mixed use development and incorporating green building practices, these new districts will contribute to a more vibrant and sustainable urban environment, stimulating economic growth through job creation in the hospitality, retail, and service sectors." Well-planned districts like Aerocity enable all the above aspects of a city life to be realised.





AEROCITY: ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN FOR INDIA OF 21ST CENTURY

The hospitality district demonstrates how to give voice to aspirations of people through its inclusive design



By Team Aerocity Live

Effective designs enable individuals to lead meaningful life, help in fulfilling day-to-day needs and larger life goals, provide an arena for creative expression and mental and physical wellbeing, foster social cohesiveness while being ecologically light on the land. The hospitality district of Aerocity and the upcoming Gateway and Downtown districts, are templates on these parameters.

In designing the entire ecosystem of Aerocity, much thought has been given to creating a place where individuals of diverse background can have wholesome experience and that takes care of their wellbeing in every sense of the term. This is a design that is visually appealing, functional and inclusive. Be it working in the well-designed office spaces, dining at one of the many restaurants, hanging out with friends, simple walking down quiet lanes, sitting in the open with a book or laptop, shopping for daily grocery need or for a special occasion, spending time with parents or enjoying a cultural evening, Aerocity's design has assimilated these lifestyle needs of 21st Century society and proffered unique and effective solutions.

At the same time, the district, well connected with the rest of Delhi NCR through Metro, has high degree when it comes to water and energy usage, an solid waste management system, district cooling system contributing to significant reductions in operational and capital costs for individual businesses, smart traffic management and high security standards. Some key hallmarks of the district in terms of design are:

- It has achieved global benchmarks at local address
- It has created a sustainable mixed-use office and lifestyle offering with robust multi-modal connectivity
- It incorporates international design principles like street grid and city block, promoting accessibility and walkability
- It encouraging walkability through optimal block sizes and block pedestrian streets
- It offers enhanced street life with landscaped streets and ground floor retail and parking access
- It offers better development flexibility with a street grid system
- It offers better work-life balance with a healthy balance of office, social infra and leisure formats
- The district is marked by vast open stretches marked by greenery that play an important role in community participation.

On all these accounts, the district is in the league of Global Business Districts across the world, like Canary Wharf in London, Mission Bay in San Francisco and DIFC, Dubai. Because of its scale and its aspiration, it is also a rightful claimant to be called the 9th city of Delhi, after the historical cities that came up in Delhi.

THE FOUNTAIN

The stone fountain at the roundabout has water flowing down creating soothing effect. It is also the site for creative installations to commemorate festivals and occasions like the Cricket World Cup, FIFA World Cup and G20 Summit. It transformed into open air art gallery in June when Subodh Gupta's sculptures were displayed there. It is flanked by JW Marriott, Pullman & Novotel and Pride Plaza.

THE SQUARE

The Square at Aerocity is an exciting amalgamation of futuristic design principles and sustainability. It provides the widest array of options for leisure and culinary choices. The landscape transforms from dawn to dusk to celebrate life. During the day the square is buzzing with an influx of visitors, shoppers and business travellers. Come evening, locals and tourists alike meander through the squares of glittering shopfronts and restaurants. The location is ideal for hosting entertainment and festive activities, as well as for leisurely walks.



F&B OPTIONS

As you walk further from the open-air screen, you find petal shaped showroom, flanked by elevators leading you down to the shopping arcade. But on both sides of the escalators are the magnificently designed Worldmark buildings with their metallic roofs reaching out to the sky. On the ground floor of the Worldmark buildings are new-age restaurants like Delhi Heights, Daryaganj, Bizou Bizou and One8 Commune. Outwardly subtle, each one makes a distinct design statement once you step inside.



While entry to the Worldmark buildings, that house global and Indian corporates, is restricted. On the inside, they have thoughtfully created and spacious interiors, wide lobbies and elevators and view of the surroundings.

COMMERCIAL & OFFICE SPACES



SHOPPING ARCADE

At the lower level is the Shopping Arcade. An array of shops along an open walkway house showrooms of apparel, life style and gifts products, besides some prominent eateries like Chai Point, Blue Tokai, Sugar & Spice and now Union Artisan Coffee. The design of these showrooms is simple with glass front, meant to make the purpose of the outlet obvious. The central corridor has comfortable seating and greenery for shade.



AMAZON AREA

Under the road between Worldmark 1 and 2 is a unique feature. The shaded area, including the pillars supporting the road above, have been transformed into a exhibition and events space. The huge space enabling display of large montages and art installations and seating capacity of even above 100 people lends itself well to holding of cultural and other events. A fountain with water cascading down a wall, a large mural of a jungle covering an entire wall, are big attractions and selfie points for visitors.

FOOD COURT

Stepping into the Food Court from the Amazon area, you will find an array of food outlets of known brands like Sagar Ratna, Wengers and Haldirams. Then there are restaurants like Daryaganj, Monsoon and Qawwali. A fountain and an irregular-shaped pond provide a cool touch to the whole area, which is as such covered, being in the basement. An elevator at the Food Court takes you up to the open area outside Worldmark 1, which is shaded thanks to overhead metal grill and a large canopy.



DESIGNING SPACES FOR FUN & WORK

Hotels, restaurants and offices in Aerocity have ushered in new design sensibilities. Here's a peek into a few spaces and insights from architects, design teams and users of these spaces



By Team Aerocity Live

The Aerocity Hospitality district has 11 hotels, with massive MICE facilities and over 5,000 room inventories. Catering to a diverse clientele, from corporates to large social gatherings to individual guests, these hotels are designed to provide real value for money to each guest. As you step into Aerocity, you observe that outwardly these hotels conform to height specifications and colours in earthy tones – nothing jarring. Step into the hotel and each property makes a statement in design in common spaces and rooms. Same is the case with restaurants and offices spaces. Here are some unique design elements in some of the properties:

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ALOFT NEW DELHI AEROCITY

Forward-thinking, modern design awaits you at Aloft New Delhi Aerocity. Modern and connected, the design fosters a soft buzz that acts as the perfect backdrop for work or socialisation. The hotel is equipped with a picturesque lobby that provides the property with a refreshing dash of colour. It is naturally lit and adorned by artifacts and vibrant artwork.

The hotel's public spaces transform from open, collaborative workspaces and lounges by day to a vibrant social places by night. Aloft's personality comes to life in its public spaces, with elements of quirk, boldness and energy. Digital artwork is displayed on the video wall in the lobby of the hotel by Niio Art, to provide a captivating guest experience.

The rooms are designed loft-like. Space, style, comfort and connectivity are there to welcome you after a day or night out. Tactic meeting spaces are connective and offer lively meeting experience.

Aloft New Delhi Aerocity is modern in space and eclectic in spirit, with vibrant and artful interiors designed to bring people together. The stunning aesthetics of the hotel illustrates the ideal culmination of the contemporary and futuristic infrastructure.

ANDAZ DELHI

T rue to its name, the hotel has its own andaz of design. At Andaz, one of the core brand pillars is 'barrier-free' living, a philosophy that transcends design and touches every aspect of guest experience. The lobby is a testament to this ethos, seamlessly blending Juniper Bar and Annamaya Restaurant into an open, inviting space where walls do not separate, but rather invite easy access and exploration. From a coffee lounge at one end of the lobby where unique art exhibits capture your attention and where you can help yourselves to cookies, to a uniquely designed open library, the lobby offers so much by way of relaxation.

The ambiance continues as you step into the garden, where you will surely not miss a brick artwork showcasing prominent monuments of India.

Each room of the hotel celebrates Delhi through '401 Reasons To Fall In Love With Delhi' – a book that is on display in each room and where each room has a photograph corresponding to the page that is kept open in that room for the incoming guest.



ROSEATE HOUSE NEW DELHI



Spanning 1.6 acres, the hotel seamlessly blends tradition and innovation in its design and services, catering to the discerning tastes of cosmopolitan guests. Conceived as a book, each floor is a 'story,' and each room category, a 'chapter,' reflecting a harmonious blend of modern design and functionality. The walls are like pages, with living characters. Windows serve as illustrations, and doors are viewfinders bridging different chapters. A day unfolds as a paragraph, or sometimes a realization. Here, the protagonist is both the reader and the writer. Roseate House is a timeless book of modern classic luxury, where every moment is a narrative woven into its niche interiors and exteriors.

From DEL, inspired by the international flight code for the city and serving guests around the clock, with its specialty of offering breakfast 24/7 to accommodate travelers from all time zones, to Kheer, a grand Indian specialty restaurant seating over 250 guests, each space embodies the hotel's design philosophy while having its own unique character. Chidya Ghar Bar, a distinctive old-school bar led by an all-female team from bartenders to service staff, overlooks a beautiful courtyard with pristine water bodies. Roasted by Roseate is the perfect luxury cafe for enjoying coffee and meeting catch-ups, providing an ideal place to unwind throughout the day. Tara, the hotel's open-to-the-sky rooftop lounge by the infinity pool, offers dining under the stars with a breathtaking view of the runway. Each venue contributes to the hotel's unique narrative, creating an exceptional experience for guests.

HOTEL PULLMAN NEW DELHI AEROCITY

This hotel exudes stately grandeur that is befitting 21st Century hospitality ethos. A spacious and bright lobby leads down to the central green courtyard and the adjoining Honk restaurant with splendid view of the garden. The highlight of the hotel is the Peacock Ballroom, which is among the largest pillarless convention spaces in Delhi NCR. Another highlight is the hotel's differently-abled room equipped with specially designed facilities, where guests can have the same level of experience as others. Café Pluck, located adjacent to the central green courtyard of the hotel and furnished with soothing earthy fabrics, is an ideal space for conducting small meetings and enjoying an array of brewed coffee and tea blends.

Besides the Peacock Ballroom, the hotel has 13 co meeting rooms which represent a great mix of inventory for large-scale events as well as intimate gatherings.



PRIDE PLAZA HOTEL, NEW DELHI



This busy hotel has an inviting lobby with Indian-architecture themed paintings complementing the ambiance. An inviting coffee outlet – Mr Confectioner - at the entrance and seating areas for networking allow one to spend time at leisure or engage with clients. Similarly, the restaurants – Café Pride, Oriental Spice and Stallion Bar & Restaurants - are bright and well-laid-out spaces for spending quality time. The rooms, with artwork based on Indian architecture, also have great views.



DARYAGANJ

Daryaganj restaurant has been conceptualised with the idea of celebrating the legacy of Kundan Lal Jaggi, who was one of the great inventive pioneers of Tandoori cuisine. The interiors aim at transporting the patrons to a space that is a fusion between traditional Indian motives and inventive modernism. The space unfolds to create a carefully curated narrative about the rich legacy of the brand. The story of Kundan Lal Jaggi is narrated through typography, memorabilia and audio visuals. Framed pictures and artefacts from his illustrious journey adorn the walls of the restaurant, celebrating the various milestones of his career. The design of the walls create a sense of nostalgia about these good old days. The ambiance is aimed to be epic in scale with a fusion of Indian art deco made to fit in a contemporary restaurant format. The design uses brass and wood to create a rich tonality while laser cut metal latticework on mirrors create dimension and dept. Exposed brick cladding creates warmth and comfort. Printed floor tiles contrast with faux marble flooring to create interesting zones and passages.

BIZOU BIZOU

Bizou Bizou is a fusion of rustic elegance and vintage chic. The core elements of cave-like rock textures, warm wood ceilings and tin tiles in the plafond establish a rustic, yet inviting atmosphere. The burnt wood planks on the bar back evoke a sense of raw authenticity. The walls, adorned with animal skins and distressed rust paint reminiscent of old London brick masonry, exude a historic charm, transporting diners to a bygone era. The bar shelves, designed as copper tubular structures resembling a brewery installation, pay homage to the industrial steam punk aesthetic. The furniture is a derivative of bistros and pubs. Copper metal industrial-style lighting fixtures cast a warm glow, adding to the cozy and inviting atmosphere. A highlight of the design is the large wooden logs suspended from the ceiling, adorned with exposed cords and Edison bulbs. This feature infuses a sense of nostalgia and industrial chic, becoming a focal point that captures the essence of the space.





CAFÉ DELHI HEIGHTS

Cafe Delhi Heights at Worldmark Aerocity showcases a harmonious blend of contemporary and rustic elements, resulting in a warm and inviting atmosphere. The open-plan layout promotes a seamless flow of movement, while the high ceilings and large windows allow an abundance of natural light to fill the space. The exposed brick walls and wooden accents add a cozy, earthy feel that is both modern and timeless. The eclectic decor, featuring a mix of vintage and modern furniture along with unique artwork, brings charm to the space.

The architecture and design of Cafe Delhi Heights are meticulously crafted to enhance productivity and wellbeing for the staff while elevating the overall customer experience. The ample natural light creates a pleasant dining environment and boosts the mood and productivity of the staff. The incorporation of plants and greenery within the decor helps reduce stress levels, creating a serene atmosphere for both staff and customers. Comfortable seating options cater to diverse customer preferences, ensuring a relaxed dining experience.

The design of Cafe Delhi Heights incorporates several features aimed at improving energy efficiency. The large windows and high ceilings maximise the



use of natural light, significantly reducing the need for artificial lighting during the day. Energy-efficient lighting fixtures, including LED pendant lights and recessed lighting, help lower energy consumption. The combination of exposed brick walls and wooden accents provides natural insulation, maintaining a comfortable indoor temperature and reducing the need for excessive heating or cooling.

DHABA



The cuisine from local dhabas is an all-time favourite for everyone; however, the opportunity to savour it usually arises only during road trips. Now, you can relive that experience in a more refined setting at the dhaba-themed restaurant in Aerocity, Delhi. This establishment combines the authenticity of dhaba food with the luxury of a high-end dining experience.

The restaurant's ambiance exudes rustic charm, featuring murals from popular culture, including a turbaned man and a rooster, alongside truck and dhaba-style utensils. This meticulous décor ensures you feel the complete dhaba vibes, all while enjoying your meal in an air-conditioned environment. - Inputs by Poonam Singh

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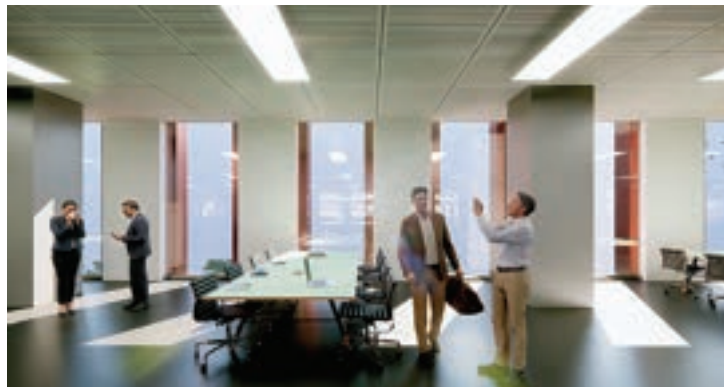
Aerocity One, a new office building project of GMR is meant to fulfil needs of modern-day workspaces but that also assimilates local influences

By Team Aerocity Live

The masterplan of Aerocity envisages the development of a global business district in the heart of Delhi NCR. At a premium address next to India's largest and busiest airport, Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, a world class commercial business district, redefining the ideal work-life landscape is creating buzz. From office spaces of yesteryear, which did not take into account holistic living and wellbeing needs of people or future needs, to new age commercial infrastructure that takes into account flexibility of use, sustainability and wellbeing - Aerocity's masterplan is a clear departure from commercial development that Delhi has seen in post-independent India. The hospitality district has already demonstrated the robustness of the plan. Now, the Gateway and Downtown districts are following the same masterplan. Reflective of this new design and planning philosophy is Aerocity One, a new office building project of GMR, that is set to set new benchmark in the areas of sustainability, wellbeing, life safety and security, smart building technology, tenant and public amenities. GMR has roped in PLP Architecture for this project.

It aims to be workplace of the futuristic workplace, aligned to changing nature of work, from repetitive assembly line production to knowledge economy. The design aims at wellbeing, work life integration, creating smart workplaces, providing opportunities for interactions and sustainability. Natural ventilation, extensive greenery both inside and outside the buildings, solar power and water harvesting and storage will be key sustainable features. These facets promise to enhance the quality of life and ecology of the local surroundings.

The building form and layout is articulated to respond to a mix of tenancies which includes: a major corporate user, multi-tenant



office spaces, Business Centres and an Exclusive Corporate Club, with opportunity for retail spaces at ground floor to activate street frontages and public realm.

The building's façade is composed of vertical metal fins of various sizes, with a colour palette ranging from red-earthy colour tones to beige/light grey colour tones, evoking the rich earth materials and colours found in Delhi and across India. The team did extensive study of the materials used in India, Delhi NCR and Aerocity, while arriving at the choice of colours – typically earthy tones. The atrium and the courtyard, are designed to maximise daylight while minimising heat.

The building is accessed from north and south through two grand internal atrium spaces and is organised around a central open-air courtyard that offers a great opportunity for amenity spaces to the benefit of the building users.

A strong diagonal cut through the massing to create atriums in the south and north of the building, a rectangular central courtyard space accessed through the atrium spaces, and a huge lobby spaces will create a spacious effect to the entire building, enhancing the sense of wellbeing. Strict rules regarding lighting within the interiors of office, arrangement of furniture and signages and logos to avoid visual clutter will help maintain the character of the building. The green stretch in the courtyard and outside the building will enhance the wellbeing of office-goers.



Robust thermal performance, flexible design layout, dedicated access points for exclusive experience for end users, distinctive architecture enhanced with public realm, all-encompassing amenities will be some key features

AEROCITY DELHI: A BEACON OF SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIVE URBAN DESIGN

This district is more than just a development; it is a model for future urban planning and development in India and beyond

By Mihir Misra

The master-planning and architecture of Aerocity Delhi stand as a testament to innovative and responsible urban design, marking a new era in sustainable development and walkable urban environments. Strategically located adjacent to Indira Gandhi International Airport, Aerocity Delhi is poised to become a global benchmark for smart and sustainable urban development. Aerocity Delhi has been meticulously planned with sustainability at its core. The development employs cutting-edge green building technologies and sustainable practices to minimise its environmental footprint.

The architecture of Aerocity Delhi exemplifies responsible and responsive design principles. The masterplan incorporates adaptive reuse of materials, climate-responsive building facades and water-sensitive urban design (WSUD) to create a resilient urban environment. By integrating green roofs, rain gardens and rooftop rainwater harvesting, Aerocity ensures effective stormwater management and enhances urban biodiversity.

Connectivity at core

Aerocity Delhi is designed with a strong emphasis on walkability and connectivity. The pedestrian-friendly streetscape, extensive network of footpaths and strategically placed public plazas encourage walking and social interaction. The development promotes the use of public transportation and non-motorised transport options, significantly reducing reliance on private vehicles and contributing to a cleaner, healthier urban atmosphere.

Aerocity Delhi incorporates several innovative urban design features that set it apart as a premier destination. The masterplan includes vibrant mixed-use developments, seamlessly blending commercial and recreational spaces. Public art installations, interactive green spaces, and cultural hubs enrich the urban experience, fostering a sense of community and place-making.



Mihir Misra,
Design &
Development
Control,
Airport Land
Development,
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Airport Limited

Inclusivity and accessibility

In line with its commitment to inclusivity, Aerocity Delhi ensures universal accessibility throughout the development. Barrier-free design, accessible public amenities and inclusive public spaces cater to people of all ages and abilities, promoting social equity and enhancing the quality of life for all residents and visitors.

Aerocity Delhi is more than just a development; it is a model for future urban planning and development in India and beyond. By prioritising sustainability, responsible design, walkability and connectivity, Aerocity sets a new standard for urban environments, demonstrating that economic growth and environmental responsibility can go hand in hand.

The author is Head - Design & Development Control, Airport Land Development, Delhi International Airport Limited

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"WE ARE BREAKING NEW GROUND IN SUSTAINABILITY"



Srinivas M Rao, Principal, K+R Design, who as architects gave shape to the vision that GMR had for the Aerocity 2.0, describes the foundational principles behind its design. Excerpts:

In India, we have not built too many large cities since Le Corbusier. Most post-Independence developments generally involved housing and not large mixed-use commercial developments. The cities that we live in today were extended by the Britishers. They built the railways at the edge of existence towns. Across these railway lines they built their own settlements, the Civil Lines. These were walled areas because the Britishers wanted to keep the natives out. We continue to build gated communities today that are destroying the fabric of our cities. But when we are designing new cities today, do we continue to replicate what the Britishers did or build cities that are truly Indian and inclusive? If you look at old traditional cities, they were very walkable and people oriented. Take Delhi, Bengaluru, Pune or Nagpur, they were all very pedestrian oriented with market streets, shade and were shaped by how people lived. After the Britishers left, we took over their walled civil lines, their clubs and amenities. These were low density areas where mature trees and green lawns made them deceptively beautiful. However, that was an exclusivist model, resource intensive and unfriendly to people. It is time we create cities to bring people together and create life. This is what we wanted to do on this 230 acres of land for Aerocity.

Incorporating sustainability

Sustainability is widely understood to be fulfilling the needs of the present generation without compromising on the needs of future generations. At Aerocity, it's not just about sustainability of natural resources, but also sustainability of economic and cultural vitality. We create urban development frameworks that can adapt to changing market conditions and create spaces that

are shaped by how people live.

This is perhaps the first major urban development that lays a lot of emphasis on urban design guidelines. Much of urban development today is shaped at two levels: a development plan that defines requirements such as zoning, density, setbacks, etc. at a regional level and architectural design that focusses on individual identity of a building or a cluster of buildings. The incoherent and disjointed city is the result of lack or inadequacy of specific plans for unique sections of the city. The Aerocity Urban Design Guidelines is a specific plan that ensures a consistent urban fabric while allowing variety in architectural design.

The Urban Design Guidelines use global best practices in terms of energy efficiency, water conservation, storm water management, native and naturalised landscaping and even quantifying carbon sequestration which is a fairly new concept. We are breaking new ground in sustainability. The systems we are implementing will not only be a new benchmark for India but the world.

Sustainability is also about people. India is a transient society that is coming out of a post-Colonial reality. There is a lot of aspiration and optimism in the people. When we create new urban developments, it's a canvas that we provide people to express themselves. As such, it is about civilisational sustainability as well.

Finally, Aerocity responds to how one leads daily life – going to work, grocery shopping, eating out, meeting a friend, taking the family out for a movie, going to a museum or simply going on an enjoyable walk. Mix of uses is the most fundamental idea of how we lead our lives and Aerocity offers a plethora of such opportunities. It facilitates life in all its dimensions.

GMR's vision

GMR had envisioned the project on three foundational pillars. The first pillar was listening to the land: understanding the soil, climate and the resources that people use in the region. We wanted to be mindful of the aspects that are being neglected, like the falling water table, desertification, emissions, groundwater contamination, etc. The second pillar was **listening to the people:** use the patterns of life that are unique to its people and embody the culture of the region in shaping urban space. The third pillar was **listening to**

the market: align land planning and uses to market forces of today while providing flexibility to adapt to changing conditions of the future. Balancing these three often competing forces was the starting point of our master plan.

Aerocity has an interesting location. Delhi and Gurugram are now seamless urban areas unlike a few decades ago. Soon to be served by three transit lines, Aerocity will become an extension of the urban fabric of the city and not a disconnected far-off place.

PROUD IMAGE OF A RAPIDLY GROWING MODERN INDIA

DC Kukreja, Managing Principal, CP Kukreja Architects and Honorary Consul General, Republic of Albania, on the vision behind JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity's design

By Meha Mathur

What was the vision behind the design of JW Marriott in Aerocity?

The vision behind the design of JW Marriott in Aerocity was to create a destination with an international ambiance that would not only attract visitors arriving at the airport but also serve as an iconic building welcoming visitors to Delhi. It aims to uphold the proud image of a rapidly growing modern India by providing world-class business and hospitality services, flawless details and architecture that is a true work of art amalgamated with technology.

What are the high points of the hotel's design?

The high points of the hotel's design include:

- An H-shaped configuration with a courtyard. The courtyard planning, which emerges as an element of surprise within the highly dense planning of Aerocity. This feature creates an experience of an oasis and tropical landscape and providing a refreshing contrast to the surrounding urban environment
- A visual and physical link to the central pedestrian plaza forming a major axis through the heart of the hospitality block
- Common public spaces such as the main lobby, ballroom, meeting rooms, business centre, F&B outlets, retail, gym and swimming pool located on the first three levels
- An entertainment centre in the first basement linked to a lobby by a grand staircase



DC Kukreja,
Managing
Principal,
CP Kukreja
Architects
and Honorary
Consul
General,
Republic of
Albania

- A design that balances the heaviness of the built mass with open courtyards that provide a sense of openness and psychological relief

Another unique aspect of the project is the courtyard planning, which emerges as an element of surprise within the highly dense planning of Aerocity.

What would you say about the Aerocity district as a whole in terms of design?

The Aerocity district, adjacent to IGI Airport, is a major functional urban complex that serves as a threshold between the airport and the city. The master plan of Aerocity portrays an urban system where a central spine connects public buildings to transit nodes like the metro station, expressway junction and bus terminal, effectively linking Delhi and adjacent urban centres. Aerocity is designed to cater to business, hospitality, tourism and transport, making it a vital and dynamic district that enjoys the opportunity to serve both the airport and the city. The presence of JW Marriott at a key node within Aerocity emphasises its significance as an economic and public architectural ensemble at the interface between the city and the airport.

AEROCITY REPRESENTS IDEAL INTEGRATION OF MULTIPLE ELEMENTS

Vishesh C Chandiook,
CEO, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP



Vishesh C Chandiook, CEO, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP, describes how the design of the office in Worldmark 2 in Aerocity enables seamless workflow with ease and access

By Meha Mathur

What is your own vision for great designs, as far as workspaces are concerned?

Great design is something that reflects the vision, purpose, values of the organisation that it represents. If it doesn't, then there is a misalignment. That was the purpose in the case of this office space too.

What were the essential requirements that you perceived that are being realised in this office space?

The design of the office is making the organisational culture real for our people. Our values were centred around collaboration, a flat organisation, breaking the stereotypical notion of hierarchical seating arrangements, flexibility to work in office or remotely. Instead of compartmentalisation there is network, constellation instead of pyramid. The physical workspace is our main tangible asset to align to those values. We don't have factories or products. So, we designed something that represents our past as well as future.

What are the highlights of the office space in Worldmark 2?

It's immensely flexible and modular. People can form groups based on their team size and needs. The same space can be a 100-people classroom arrangement or 5-people break-out area or a video conference room to connect over 10,000 people around the country. The flexibility allows people to break those silos and use the space in a way that is project-specific. There is no cabin or fixed seat. And there are a lot of cross hierarchies. The guard, office boy and the CEO, all eat in the same area. You don't come to office to sit in a cabin to do your work. You can do that at home. The office space is meant to enable you to connect with people and to fulfil your human need for connection.

The second highlight is the use of technology. Six years ago when we connected thousands of people around the country, it was futuristic. The air quality is very good. Worldmark itself contributes to that but we supplement it with our own efforts like plants. The plants are circulated regularly from the terrace to the inside to purify the air.

How would you describe the entire Aerocity ecosystem in terms of layout and architecture?

It is the ideal integration of multiple elements and represent global standards. It's also accessible from all parts of city, country and the world. When you combine all these elements you can't go wrong.

DELHI'S ARCHITECTURAL EVOLUTION

Theatre director, educationist and activist Feisal Alkazi discusses Delhi's architectural journey, balancing tradition with modernity and addressing urban planning challenges

By Mayank Badhwar

How has Delhi's architecture evolved since independence in terms of design and urban planning?

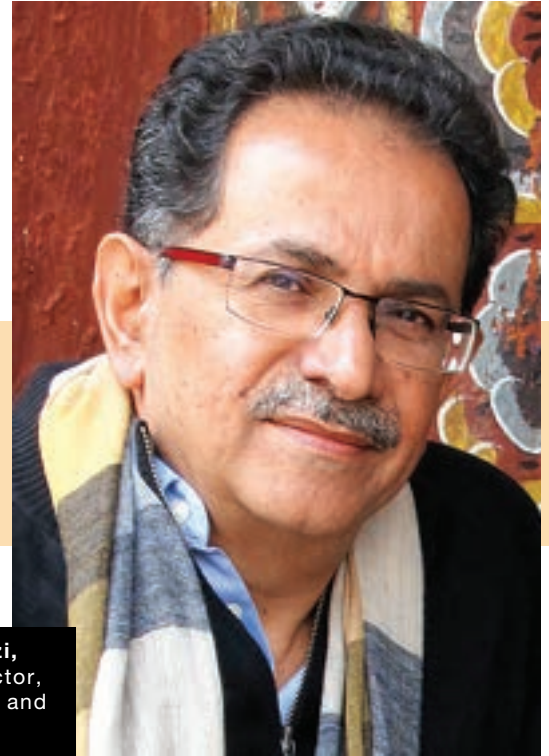
After independence, India grappled with defining its identity, a challenge spearheaded by Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, a fervent patron of arts, aimed to cultivate a distinct Indian aesthetic grounded in the nation's rich architectural heritage. Delhi, steeped in over a millennium of building traditions, emerged as the focal point for this transformation. The city boasts architectural marvels spanning dynasties - from the Qutb Minar of the Slave Dynasty to structures of the Khiljis, Tughlaqs, Lodis, Mughals and the British Raj, including the Houses of Parliament and Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Post-1947, Nehru embarked on modernising India's infrastructure, collaborating with renowned architects. Habib Rahman, drawing from Tughlaq influences, designed the Jawahar Bhavan in 1961, while Joseph Stein incorporated foliage and water features into structures like the India International Centre. International architects such as Le Corbusier added their own imprint, blending foreign influences with Indian traditions to suit the aspirations of the newly independent nation.

Urban planning in Delhi mirrored this fusion of tradition and modernity, adapting from radial layouts to squares and rectangles, influenced by the influx of refugees post-Partition, which shaped new colonies like Model Town and Nizamuddin. This era from 1947 to the mid-1960s marked a concerted effort to forge a modern Indian identity rooted in its architectural legacy while addressing urban planning and resettlement challenges.

What are some key challenges in integrating

Feisal Alkazi,
theatre director,
educationist and
activist



modern architectural designs with Delhi's historical and cultural heritage?

Integrating modern designs with Delhi's heritage has been tackled impressively by architects like Joseph Stein, Habib Rahman and Raj Rewal. For instance, the original Reserve Bank of India building blends traditional and modern influences, incorporating elements from traditional architecture. Architects utilised materials like stone and brick, creating innovative structures with features like intricate jali work, derived from Mughal architecture, which provides shade while allowing airflow.

How can architects balance modernisation with preserving Delhi's historical charm and green spaces?

Balancing modernisation with preservation is a significant challenge. Unlike Gurgaon, which often replicates foreign designs unsuitable for India's climate, Delhi's unique urban life relies heavily on public transportation and vibrant street activities. Designs should consider local challenges, like water scarcity, by rediscovering traditional water harvesting methods.

How has Aerocity contributed to Delhi's architectural and urban development goals?

Aerocity, developed as a hub with a variety of hotels, follows a global, uniform design approach. Architecture should respond to the local environment, incorporating elements that reflect local materials, climate and cultural elements.

THE SQUARE – THE CHOWK REIMAGINED

Eminent author and historian Swapna Liddle shares her impressions about the open-air ambiance of Aerocity

By Meha Mathur

I do not have occasion to visit Aerocity often, but was there recently for an event in one of its most vibrant hubs, The Square. The place was abuzz with officegoers from the neighbouring buildings, and other visitors, eating and drinking in the cafes, shopping in the stylish stores, enjoying an exhibition of photography and art that was on display, and generally enjoying the open-air ambiance.

I am interested in historic cities, and the name as well as the space reminded me of the squares, or chowks, that are an integral part of many great historic neighbourhoods, in India and around the world. The chowk plays a vital part in urban living, as a public place where people can slow down during their busy working day, indulging in rest and recreation. I am reminded of Delhi's most famous historic square – Chandni Chowk, built by the princess Jahanara, the daughter of the emperor Shahjahan. This chowk was at the centre of the city of Shahjahanabad, founded by her father. It was a space enclosed by shops selling exclusive goods, as well as coffee shops. To one side of it a gateway led to a luxury sarai – what in today's parlance one would call an upmarket hotel.

Jahanara's chowk was destroyed by the British after the failed uprising of 1857, but the people of Delhi wanted to keep its memory alive, and therefore gave the name Chandni Chowk to the street on which it had stood. People familiar with Old Delhi will be familiar with the old Town Hall building; the chowk was on the main street in front of it.

The comparison with The Square does not end at the shops, cafes, and open area. Chandni Chowk was also a cultural hub. Chroniclers of Mughal times tell us that poets would meet in the coffee shops and recite their poetry, which would receive comment from listeners. There is just such a space in The Square too. When I went last to The Square, it was to give a talk on one of my recent books. The event was organised at a charming gallery-cum-event space called Utsav. People came in, sat down in a place surrounded by art, and participated in an animated discussion. For me, the spirit of Chandni Chowk came alive. Such places of interaction are a vital component of city life.



TRANSITION TO MORE **ADAPTABLE ZONING APPROACH**



Hitesh Vaidya, member of the Kerala Urban Planning Commission and as a board member of the Global Buildings Performance Network, describes the shift in town planning

Hitesh Vaidya, member of the Kerala Urban Planning Commission and board member of the Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN).

By Meha Mathur

Hitesh Vaidya, an eminent urban practitioner, is currently serving as a member of the Kerala Urban Planning Commission and as a board member of the Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN). Previously, he served as the Director of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). He has demonstrated leadership in urban strategy, governance, and development, as well as in policy and project formulation, implementation, infrastructure, and programme management. In an interview to Aerocity Live, he shares how Delhi is undergoing a transformation and how the town planning is helping its citizen lead a meaningful life. Excerpts:

How is the urban character of Delhi changing and how can urban plans help the population lead a meaningful life?

Delhi's urban character is rapidly evolving, driven by population growth, economic development and infrastructure expansion. However, Delhi's transformation is not just about adapting to modern challenges; it's also about rediscovering its rich mythological relevance and historical planning principles. The proposed Master Plan of Delhi (MPD) 2041 aims to guide this evolution towards a more sustainable, liveable, and vibrant city while also emerging as a knowledge hub and learning lab for emerging mega-cities in India and the global south.

A vital feature of this plan is the shift from a traditional, norm-based planning process to a more flexible, evidence-based strategic planning approach that incorporates lessons from global best practices, embraces technological advancements and engages with stakeholders. These stakeholders, including urban planners, policymakers, architects, environmentalists, and local communities, play a crucial role in shaping the future of Delhi's urban landscape.

The proposed plan also transitions from a rigid land-use approach to a more adaptable zoning/typology approach, focusing on desired development outcomes rather than strictly prescribing specific land uses. The six pillars of this new master plan—environmental sustainability, economic development, housing, social infrastructure, low-carbon mobility, and resilient infrastructure—reflect a holistic approach to urban planning, drawing inspiration from Delhi's historical emphasis on harmonious coexistence with nature and well-planned urban spaces. By prioritising mixed-use development, promoting decentralisation of workspaces and logistics, and emphasising the creation of ample public spaces, the plan aims to create a resilient city to future challenges while fostering a meaningful life for its diverse population. The plan not only addresses issues like migrant housing, density, and public health concerns but also seeks to showcase Delhi's unique blend of tradition and modernity, setting an example for other mega-cities in the region.

How do you see Delhi's urban plan evolving in the next two decades?

The following two decades will see Delhi's urban plan evolve into an outcome-based one with a clear focus on achieving tangible results rather than merely adhering to regulations. The major areas to work on are reducing pollution levels, improving public transportation, and increasing access to affordable housing. I see five critical transitions emerging in the planning process:

- Norm-based to Evidence-based Planning: Shift from relying on fixed norms and regulations to a more flexible, data-driven approach considering ground realities and outcomes. This allows for more tailored and practical solutions to Delhi's urban challenges.
- Exclusion to Inclusion: Shift towards a more inclusive planning process, ensuring that the needs of all stakeholders, including marginalised groups and communities, are considered, and Delhi becomes a lighthouse city and emerges as a just city for all.
- Regulatory to Outcome-Oriented: Transition from solely relying on compliance to an outcome-oriented approach, emphasising achieving specific goals like improved livability, reduced pollution, and enhanced sustainability.
- Static to Dynamic: Move towards a more spatial, strategic, and dynamic framework to create a flexible framework that can adapt to changing needs and remain relevant and effective in the face of evolving challenges.
- Mono-functional to Mixed-Use Development: Move away from traditional mono-functional land use planning and promote well-regulated mixed-use development. This means integrating residential, commercial, and recreational spaces within proximity, fostering vibrant and self-sufficient neighbourhoods. The plan will encourage the development of mixed-use zones, where residential and commercial spaces coexist.

What is your view about the Aerocity hospitality district and the new districts near the airport?

Aerocity and the new districts emerging near the airport are envisioned as integral components of Delhi's growth, offering a mix of commercial and recreational spaces. The city planning process aims to ensure these areas are well-connected to the rest of the city and prioritise environmental sustainability. By promoting mixed-use development and incorporating green building practices, these new districts will contribute to a more vibrant and sustainable urban environment, stimulating economic growth through job creation in the hospitality, retail, and service sectors. Moreover, the proximity to the airport is expected to boost tourism, further contributing to the region's economic development. While developing these areas, we must recognise the need to strengthen these districts' trilogy of inclusion, sustainability, and financial viability. This means ensuring that the benefits of economic prosperity are shared equitably across all segments of society, promoting sustainable practices that minimise environmental impact, and ensuring that economic development is financially viable in the long term.

NIYAMAT MEHTA FINDS AEROCITY A HUB OF CREATIVITY AND INSPIRATION

One of Mehta's most memorable experiences in Aerocity was attending an art exhibition that celebrated contemporary art



Niyamat Mehta,
an acclaimed artist
and sculptor

By Shruti Tripathi

Niyamat Mehta, an acclaimed artist and sculptor, shares her thoughts on Delhi and Aerocity, reflecting on her personal experiences and artistic perspective. Her insights reveal a deep connection to her hometown and a profound appreciation for its cultural and historical richness.

For Mehta, Delhi is not just a city; it's home. Having spent part of her childhood there, she feels a strong bond with the vibrant capital.

"Delhi is a vibrant city, rich in cultural diversity and colour, all unified by a strong sense of community," Mehta remarks. She particularly enjoys exploring Delhi's historic sites, with the Red Fort being her favourite.

She believes there is much to learn from the city's heritage, lessons she strives to incorporate into her sculptural practice whenever possible.

As an artist, Mehta views Aerocity through a unique lens, seeing it as a burgeoning hub of creativity and inspiration. "Its modern infrastructure, combined with an emerging scene of art and culture, provides a vibrant and dynamic environment," she said. A blend of contemporary design and artistic expression offers ample opportunities for exploration and collaboration, making it an exciting place for artists to find inspiration and contribute to the evolving cultural landscape.

One of Mehta's most memorable experiences in Aerocity was attending an art exhibition that celebrated contemporary art. "The event showcased works from both established and emerging artists.

The vibrant atmosphere, filled with creative energy and lively discussions, was truly inspiring," she recalled. After the exhibition, Mehta enjoyed a delightful evening at an Italian restaurant, where the ambiance and eclectic crowd added to the overall experience. "It was a perfect blend of art, culture, and community, making it a memorable and joyful day," she said.

Niyamat Mehta's reflections on Delhi and Aerocity highlight the unique blend of tradition and modernity that characterises these areas.

WORLD MARK 2.0: CATALYSING INDIA'S FINEST GLOBAL BUSINESS DISTRICT



Destination Worldmark isn't just about infrastructure; it embodies a philosophy of enhancing work-life balance and fostering a sense of community

By Team Aerocity Live

After setting a new benchmark for the commercial real estate industry, Worldmark is expanding its footprint at Aerocity, New Delhi, with the development of Worldmark 2.0 — a revolutionary mega-destination spanning approximately 6.5 million square feet. This ambitious project integrates cutting-edge workspaces, dynamic retail experiences and vibrant entertainment options, setting a new standard in urban development. Building on the success of Worldmark 1.0, Destination Worldmark is the culmination of extensive research into the evolving needs of corporations and multinational enterprises. This thorough understanding has shaped every aspect of the development, ensuring it meets the highest standards of functionality, sustainability and user experience.

Destination Worldmark isn't just about infrastructure; it embodies a philosophy of enhancing work-life balance and fostering a sense of community. The offices within this mega-destination prioritise ease of access, holistic wellness and next-generation connectivity, promoting a seamless integration of work and leisure. This ecosystem is designed to operate from 9 am to 9 pm, enriching the lives of its occupants through exclusive privileges and a celebration of art and culture.

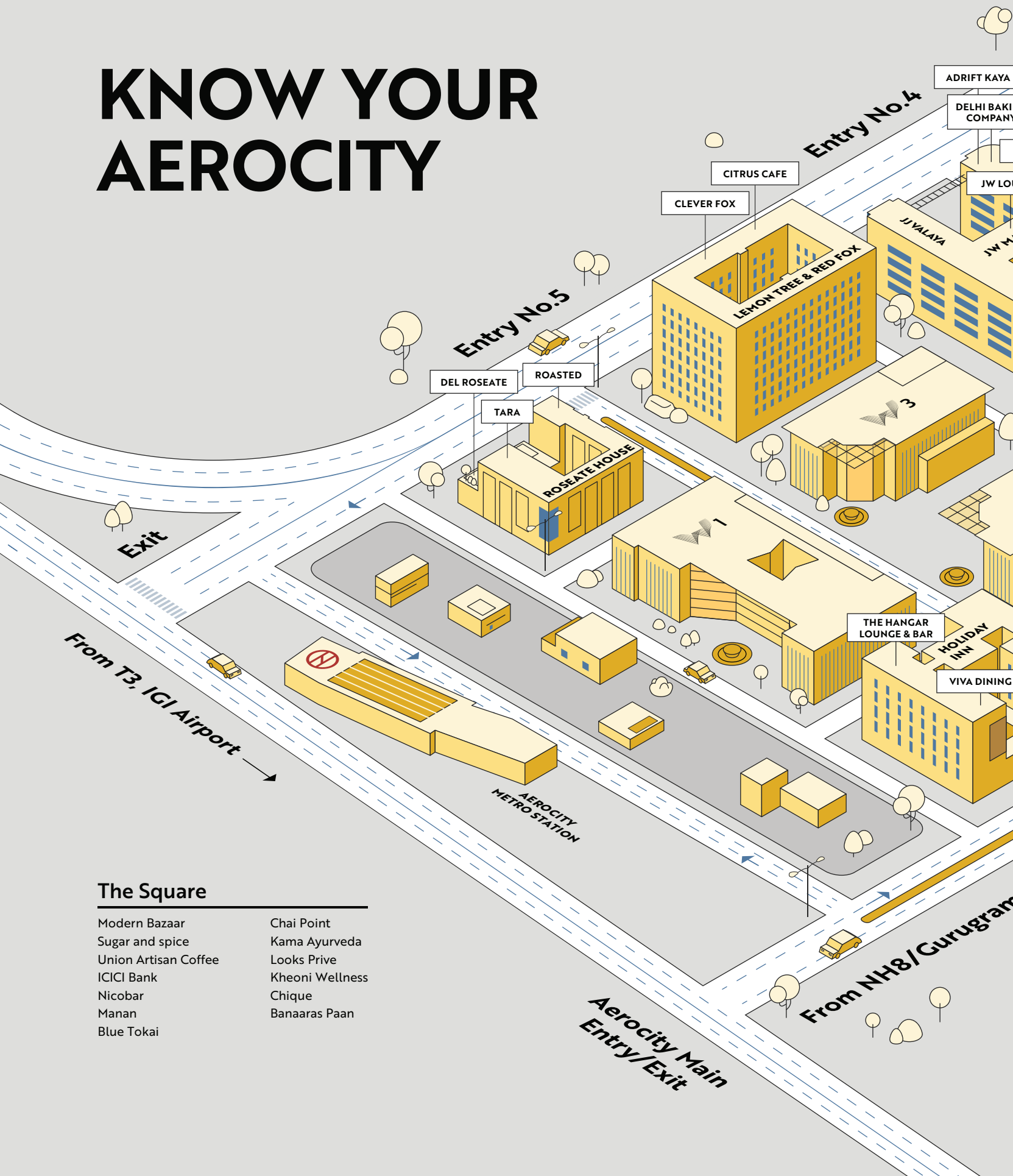
Scheduled for phased completion starting in 2025, Worldmark

2.0 comprises 4 Worldmark, 5 Worldmark, 6 Worldmark and 7 Worldmark — a stylish commercial precinct offering approximately 3.5 million square feet of prime office space. Complementing these offices is a sprawling 3 million square feet of entertainment-based retail, collectively shaping Worldmark 2.0 into a comprehensive destination for business, retail and leisure.

Dynamic destination

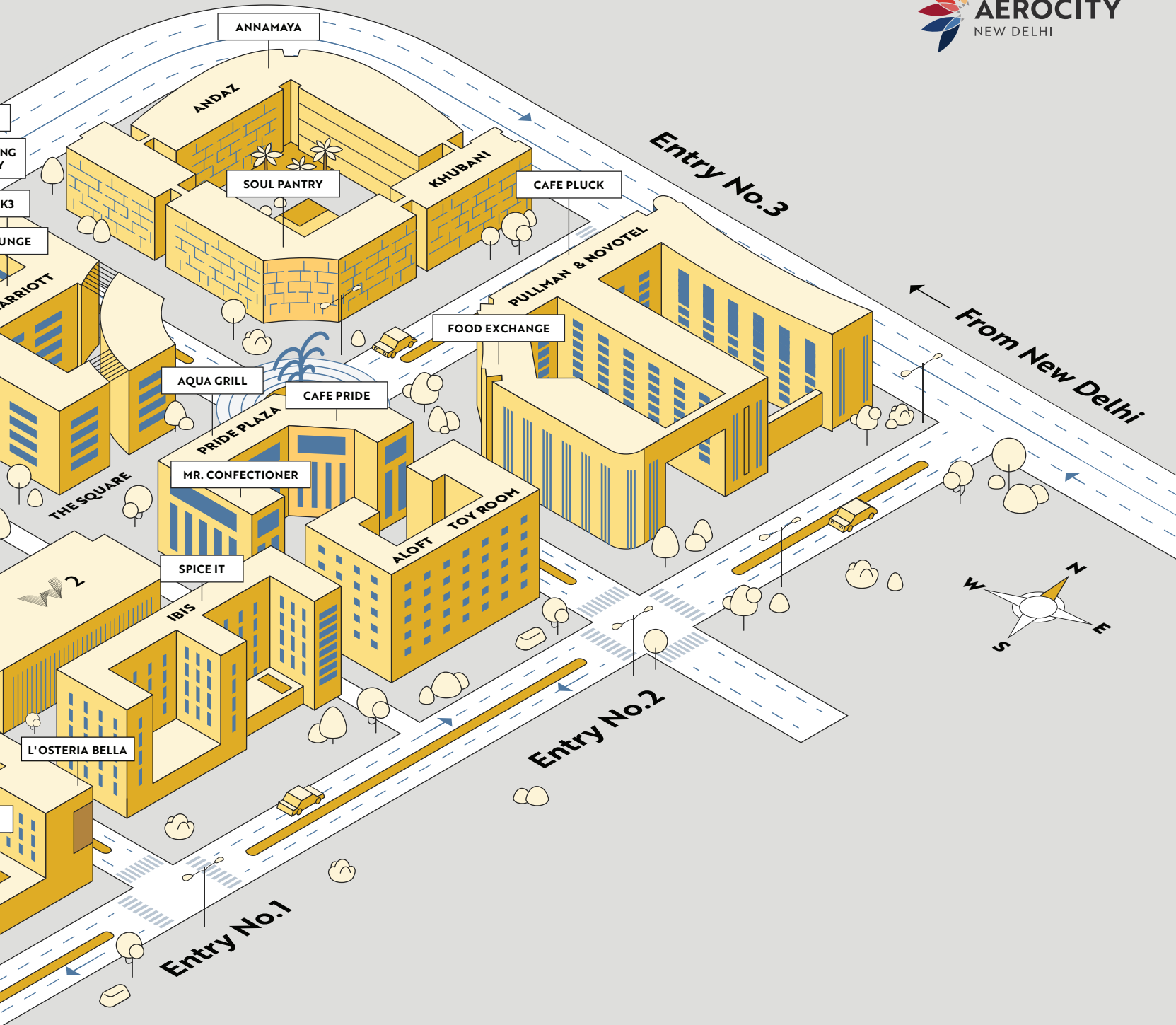
What distinguishes Destination Worldmark is its commitment to creating a cohesive and sustainable urban environment. As construction progresses, the development's magnitude is unmistakable from the NH-48 highway, offering a glimpse of its future impact on the region's landscape and economy. This expansion is poised to solidify Worldmark's position, catalysing India's premier Global Business District, with plans to add upto 17 million square feet of commercial real estate over next three to five years. Destination Worldmark offers a unique opportunity to thrive in a dynamic, interconnected environment where employee happiness, retail diversity and entertainment converge seamlessly. As construction progresses and anticipation builds, Worldmark 2.0 stands ready not only to shape the skyline of New Delhi but also to set a precedent for integrated urban development embodying a vision where commerce, culture and community intersect to create a vibrant and sustainable future.


KNOW YOUR AEROCITY



The Square

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Modern Bazaar | Chai Point |
| Sugar and spice | Kama Ayurveda |
| Union Artisan Coffee | Looks Prive |
| ICICI Bank | Kheoni Wellness |
| Nicobar | Chique |
| Manan | Banaaras Paan |
| Blue Tokai | |




 - 1, 2, 3

Looks Salon
Apronix
Starbucks
Da Milano
Forest Essentials
Food Capital
Reve Bistro Moderne
Daryaganj
Qavalli

Aerocity Social
Miniso
Punjab Grill
Kampai
98.4 Chemist
Chaayos
Dragonfly Experience
Monsoon
Liv Bar

The Beer Cafe
Kylin Experience
Dhaba Estd. 1986
One 8 Commune
24 Seven
Underdogs

The Farzi Cafe
NUA Cafe
Costa Coffee
Mesa Kitchen & Bar
Cafe Delhi Heights
Bizou Bizou

Note :  stands for Worldmark

A SMILE THAT WON THE DAY FOR FRONT OFFICE



Shanu Ghai, Rooms Director, Andaz Delhi, channelled her people and problem-solving skills to make a mark in the front office in hospitality industry

By Meha Mathur

As a school student, Noida-based Shanu Ghai was inclined towards sciences. But a visit to a hotel had a deep impact on her. The ambience of the hotel and the kind behaviour of the staff impressed her so much, that experience got etched in her mind.

When schooling was coming to a close, Ghai started contemplating which career to pursue. "I like meeting people and assisting them to make things better. Even as a child, I was very much into handling situations. So, I could picturise myself working in a hotel," she narrates.

Ghai pursued hotel management from IHM Jaipur. The course was split into F&B

service, kitchen, front office, house-keeping and a few other departments. Even there, she found the front office was definitely exciting, though she also enjoyed studying the process of the fermentation and observing how whiskeys are made.

Ghai got her career break with Crowne Plaza in 2009. She underwent a management training programme with the hotel, as part of which she performed a range of functions, including cleaning all the plants in the hotel. Her first role was as assistant manager at front office. The Crowne Plaza stint took her to Amritsar and Jaipur where she learned a lot, in terms of handling situations on the ground and holding the team together. She joined Hyatt in 2018 but took a break, first to care for her ailing father and then, for a stint in Maldives when Covid restrictions were ending. She rejoined Hyatt, at Andaz Delhi, in 2022.

“The journey has been enriching. You have to have that fire burning inside you consistently. You have to self-fuel yourself. It requires a consistent push on your own self,” she says, talking about her experience.

Advantage Andaz

Ghai finds Andaz Delhi to be a hotel that has something to offer to everyone, including parents. “For them it is new and they want to come and experience that, since they are used to very traditional hospitality,” she explains.

Praising Aerocity as a location, she says, “It’s is a prime location with everything available in this ecosystem. For normal meals you can go to food court; if you wish to spend time with friends you can go to a coffee shop and if you want luxury there are luxury restaurants too. Having that much variety in walking distance is a big achievement in itself.”

Fun Facts

Idea of relaxation

I just like to drive outside Delhi - typically to Amritsar, Lucknow, Jaipur or Agra - or within Delhi with mom and indulge in food at these destinations.

One movie on hospitality that you can relate to

More than movies, it’s people whom I have met across my journey who have inspired me. My leaders who have been behind us to support us have been my inspiration. But for relaxation, I have watched 'Big Bang Theory' several times now.

Favourite food

I am a typical Punjabi and love rajma chawal with ghee, aaloo paratha with butter and daal-chawal – basically home-made food. I also love Lebanese food like pitta bread with humus, and falafels.

Ghai’s own favourite spot is Worldmark where she would like to hang out with friends or the open-air screen at The Square where she enjoys watching cricket matches, comfortably seated on a bean bag. And as she says, the art installations have added to the appeal of the place. Referring to the Three Monkeys of Subodh Gupta, that were installed in association with Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, she says, “I took five rounds of the place the day the art works were installed.”

A day in life

There is never a dull day, Ghai tells. “Something or the other is going on which keeps your mind active. And your job changes depending upon the psychology of the person in front of you, including your team members. So much is dependent upon the other person. That calls for leadership skills, common sense, agility and acumen for analysing situation. If I am listening to a conversation, my mind should be thinking at least 10 steps ahead. Then I will be able to come up with a solution.”

But when the closure happens, that gives the team a great deal of satisfaction. “We have to make sure the guests are feeling at home and make them feel cared for. So, a happy checkout gives us a sense of completeness.

To that effect, as Ghai describes, her team is also empowered to come up with creative inputs, like pampering a child with a toy, keeping seasonal fruits like jamun in each room or curate experiences for guests depending upon their special occasion, like honeymoon or babymoon.

So, behind the comforting and assuring smile of the front office team that first attracted Ghai to hospitality, is a lot of hard work, people management skills, ingenuity, creativity and quick thinking required for solving tricky situations.

MUSICIAN TURNED COFFEE MAESTRO

How Shamim Ahamad of Pullman
& Novotel New Delhi Aerocity
revolutionised coffee and redefined
F&B experience





My advice is to embrace challenges as opportunities for growth, prioritise effective communication methods, seek support from mentors and never lose sight of your passion



By Poonam Singh

From musician to coffee artisan, Shamim Ahamad's journey is one of resilience, dedication and passion for excellence. Despite losing his ability to speak and hear at a young age, Ahamad discovered his true calling in the world of hospitality.

Ahamad not only perfected the art of coffee making but also pursued advanced coffee programmes to deepen his expertise. His initiative to launch innovative ventures, such as the cold brew coffee programme, has significantly boosted the hotel's revenue. The GMR Aerocity team interviewed Shamim Ahamad of Pullman and Novotel New Delhi Aerocity to chronicle his remarkable journey. Excerpts:

Can you tell us about your journey from aspiring musician to becoming a leader in the hospitality industry?

My journey from aspiring musician to hospitality leader has been one of unexpected discovery and passion. Initially captivated by music, a twist of fate led me to the world of hospitality. Over the years, working in renowned establishments, I discovered a profound love for crafting unforgettable guest experiences. This path has allowed me to merge creativity and precision in ways that deeply resonate with me both personally and professionally.

How did you first get interested in coffee making and what drew you to this profession despite your initial dreams of music?

Despite my early dreams of music, coffee making captivated me with its blend of artistry and technical skill. Working in hospitality exposed me to the intricacies of coffee, from sourcing beans to perfecting brewing techniques. It became a medium through which I could express creativity and precision, much like music.

What were some of the biggest challenges you faced when starting your career in hospitality and how did you overcome them?

Starting in hospitality presented challenges, including mastering the art of communication despite my hearing impairment. Overcoming these challenges involved perseverance, adapting communication methods and demonstrating my dedication through consistent excellence in service.

How did you develop your skills as a barista and what are some of your favourite aspects of coffee making?

My skills as a barista developed through hands-on experience and a commitment to continuous learning. I love the sensory journey of coffee making - the aroma, the taste profiles and the ability to craft something that brings joy to others.

Can you share more about the advanced coffee programmes you have completed and how they have influenced your approach to making coffee?

Advanced coffee programmes have refined my understanding of coffee sourcing, brewing techniques and sensory analysis. They have elevated my approach, emphasising quality and innovation in every cup served.

What inspired you to introduce the cold brew coffee programme at the hotel and what impact did it have on the business?

The inspiration behind introducing the cold brew coffee programme was to offer guests a refreshing and distinct coffee experience. It enhanced our beverage offerings and significantly boosted customer satisfaction and loyalty.

What motivates you to keep pushing forward and striving for excellence in your career and personal life?

My motivation stems from a passion for creating meaningful experiences and continuously improving myself. Striving for excellence in both career and personal life fuels my drive to make a positive impact.

CHEF'S RECIPE

Sunshine



INGREDIENTS:

1 cup of brewed coffee, cooled, ice cubes, 60 ml orange juice and tonic water.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Brew a cup of coffee and let it cool to room temperature or refrigerate until cold.
2. Fill a glass with ice cubes.
3. Pour the cooled coffee over the ice and add orange juice.
4. Top with tonic water.

How has your story inspired those around you and what message do you hope others take away from your journey?

I hope my journey inspires others to embrace unexpected opportunities and pursue their passions wholeheartedly. My story underscores the power of resilience, passion and commitment in achieving professional and personal fulfilment.

What trends in the coffee industry excite you the most and how do you stay ahead of these trends in your work?

Trends like sustainability, speciality coffee and innovative brewing methods excite me. Staying ahead involves ongoing education, exploring new techniques and adapting to evolving consumer preferences.

How do you ensure the quality and consistency of the coffee you serve and what standards do you hold yourself to?

Quality and consistency are ensured through meticulous sourcing, rigorous training and adherence to precise brewing standards. I hold myself to the highest standards of excellence in every cup served.

What future innovations or projects in coffee making are you most excited about and how do you plan to implement them in your work?

I'm excited about advancements in sustainable coffee practices and exploring new flavour profiles. Implementing these innovations involves collaborating with growers, experimenting with new brewing technologies and enhancing guest education.

How have you managed to excel in your profession despite the challenges of losing your ability to speak and listen at a young age?

Excelling in my profession despite challenges involves leveraging strengths in visual communication, empathy and dedication to continuous improvement. Overcoming obstacles has reinforced my commitment to delivering exceptional hospitality experiences.

What advice would you give to others facing similar challenges in their careers or personal lives?

My advice is to embrace challenges as opportunities for growth, prioritise effective communication methods, seek support from mentors and never lose sight of your passion.

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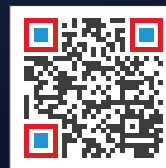
ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

44 LEADERS DRIVING INDIA INC'S VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT

44 OPPORTUNITIES TO WATCH OUT FOR

44 TRANSFORMATIVE IDEAS FOR NEXT DECADE

44 ECONOMIC MILESTONES FOR INDEPENDENT INDIA



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GREAT FOOD FOR GOOD MOOD AT ONE8 COMMUNE



By Deep Majumdar

I started this gastronomical journey with some of my all-time favourite dishes, the Korean Spicy Chicken Bao, Garlic Butter Prawns and Chicken and Chives dimsums. There's something about the seafood menu that I apparently cannot resist. **The dimsums and the baos** were a delight. They had the right about of flavour and the chef was able to dial in all the ingredients just perfectly. On the other hand, I found the Garlic Butter Prawns to be exquisite. The buttery sauce surrounding the prawns was marvellously made and went really well with the bread that came along with it. It was not overpowering so the taste of prawns was intact which is a big turn-off in most cases.





ITEMS TO TRY:

- Beirut-style Hummus Mutton
- Middle Eastern Pilaf Rice Lamb
- Korean Spicy Chicken Bao
- Chicken and Chives Dimsums
- Garlic Butter Prawns
- Prawns Tempura Sushi
- Virat Signature Dessert
- Rose 75 cocktail



This was followed by an adventure on uncharted territories as I proceeded further in the e-menu. I must say that holding a traditional menu in hand and selecting the dishes you want to eat has a different charm to it but moving on to e-menus is sort of inevitable as we move towards a smarter and more sustainable future. It is what it is.

As the chef was preparing the next batch of food items, I also got myself a Rose 75 cocktail which surprisingly did not contain any rose at all. Instead, it was a mix of Gin and Champagne. While I was indulging myself in the Champagne fizz, the **Beirut Style Hummus** and Mutton and the **Middle Eastern Pilaf Rice Lamb** made their way to me. As the waiter gently put the plates on the surface after trying to make space on the maze I had created on the table, I did notice that the portion size of the Hummus was quite considerable. The hummus was delicious and probably the best one I have ever had. The mutton chunks were soft and tender, just like they should be. The hummus was complemented by a hefty collection of bread sticks as well. On the other hand, the Pilaf Mutton Rice was even better. The rice had been cooked in ghee and the mutton was ground and served on skewers. It just clicked well together.

Eventually, my inner seafood aficionado urged me to order one final dish before I leapt onto the dessert section. I went ahead and got myself a Prawns Tempura Sushi because why

not. The chef knew the task and completed it in a spectacular fashion. The taste was spot-on and the prawns just made the overall experience better. The soy dipping sauce and wasabi played their roles and got the job done.

This flavourful joy ride came to an end with the **Virat Signature Dessert**, which essentially appeared to be a pie. It tasted like tiramisu as there was a strong hint of coffee. The large chunks of whole hazelnuts were hands-down the cherry on top. Along with this, there was a caricature of Virat Kohli made of chocolate right under the pie because that made perfect sense.

One8 Commune has definitely left me with a great dining experience. The food was amazing and didn't leave room for any complaints. It is a great spot if you appreciate well prepared food and visiting restaurants owned by famous cricketers. Cheers.

AEROCITY: WHERE CUISINE MEETS AMBIENCE

Popular for its fine dining, Aerocity in Delhi offers everything in one place, from captivating decor to creatively crafted and lip-smacking dishes

CAFÉ DELHI HEIGHTS



The Café Delhi Heights shines in Aerocity, offering a delightful fusion of diverse global cuisines with a distinct touch of Delhi's culinary charm. While waiting for their food, guests can enjoy reading the funny coasters on every table, like one that humorously combines sushi and Indian name Sushila with 'sushi-la' written on it. The quesadilla, served with a mango filling and sour cream, guacamole and salsa, offers a tasty combination with the sweet punch of mango, the tanginess of mint and the delightful cheese pull adding a super taste to it.

The café features an amalgamation of rustic interiors, with

exposed bricks and unpolished kota stones, uncovered wire-fitting and AC duct giving it a rough, old-school yet fancy design. This ambience complements dishes like the chicken fajita served with warm tortillas. This dish offers sizzling and savoury goodness with your choice of grilled vegetables or chicken. Whether you choose the vibrant medley of grilled vegetables or the flavourful grilled chicken, both variations taste amazing from the first bite to the last.

Price: Rs 500 to Rs 1,000

By Poonam Singh

Customers always return to places that serve the best food and offer memorable, unique and enjoyable experiences. The designs and interiors have become an essential part of the hospitality industry, ensuring they remain in guests' memories and conversations.

To be in the memories forever, restaurants feature captivating interiors with quirky and stylish designs, creating an inviting atmosphere perfect for enjoying delicious food and spending quality time.

Popular for its fine dining, Aerocity in Delhi offers everything in one place, from shopping and snacking to breakfast, lunch, evening tea and dinner. One can spend an entire day here, making the most of life.

SOUL PANTRY BY ANDAZ DELHI



Soul Pantry is Andaz Delhi's bespoke eatery, serving all-time favourite pizza on nutrition-dense flatbread and fresh salads specially curated by Chef Saumya Srivastava. As the name suggests, Soul Pantry embodies the concept of farm-to-table dining, beautifully captured in the paintings hung on the wooden panel walls.

To taste the freshness of farm-to-table cuisine, try the quinoa salad. It features rocket leaves, dried cranberries, roasted almond flakes and peanuts with a hint of lemon, making it the perfect complement to the restaurant's theme and design.

Enjoy fresh salads and juices along with a daily selection of desserts. The cold brews are a must-try for all coffee lovers.

Price starts from Rs 500



KHEER BY ROSEATE



Designed by Noriyoshi Muramatsu of Studio Glitt (Tokyo, Japan), Kheer, the fine dining Indian speciality restaurant at Roseate House New Delhi prides itself in offering the best Indian cuisine with a modern touch. It greets its guests with chairs and sofas in vivid colours, lights from beautiful metallic lanterns, bells and solid wood tables, all of which have handcrafted Indian design.

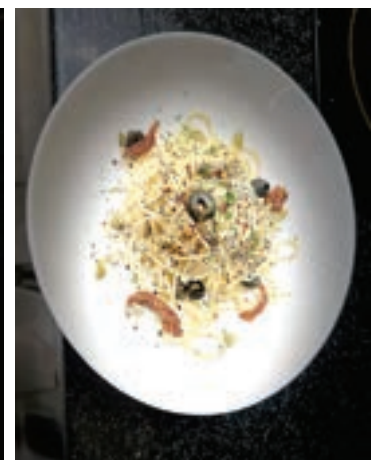
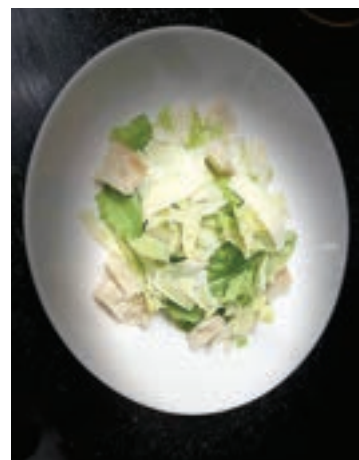
The restaurant features a live tandoor kitchen, a street food station, a spacious dining area, a mixology bar with an extensive whiskey shelf, a wine cellar, a beer counter, and a DJ deck in an exclusive lounge setting. Despite its Japanese-inspired design, the restaurant offers a variety of Indian delicacies, ranging from North Indian to Mughlai cuisine.

UNION ARTISAN COFFEE



Recently launched in Aerocity to compete shoulder-to-shoulder with other coffee makers, this café chose its inaugural location strategically to establish itself as a luxurious destination. The paintings on the walls depict dedication to sourcing the finest beans and showcase the artistry of coffee making, where each cup tells a story of passion and expertise.

But does this café only serve the best coffees? No, it also offers a culinary experience spanning from breakfast to dinner.



BIZOU-BIZOU



BIZOU-BIZOU is an upscale bar in Aerocity's Worldmark, blending industrial design with luxury and featuring a spacious outdoor area. Along with great food and ambiance, it offers lively live music. The space has a unique vibe where the food and interior complement each other, creating a perfect mix of sophistication and taste. With its Pan-Asian flavours, handcrafted cocktails and sultry ambiance, Bizou-Bizou is quickly becoming the top choice for the city's discerning diners.

Bizou-Bizou serves a range of authentic and delicious dishes, including Pho Noodles, Salmon Ceviche, Short Ribs with Jalapeno Salsa, Crispy Tamarind Calamari and Ban Hai Crispy Mushrooms. It caters to everyone, from vegetarians and meat lovers to seafood enthusiasts. The Pho Noodles, a Vietnamese classic, is a chef's special, featuring a flavourful broth, rice noodles and fresh herbs that will warm you from the inside out.



SUGAR & SPICE



For a happy and sugar-rushy mood, Aerocity has Sugar & Spice to give an extra kick and boost with its muffins and multigrain mozzarella-posto sandwich. The patties and pastries at patisserie boast one of the best tastes, perfect for indulging and forgetting the sinful days of life. If not, then why not try a sweet-cake day out while finishing up piled-up work? Yes, releasing good hormones by eating the best sweets is the way to go.

RE:FUEL BY ALOFT: DECADENT DESSERTS



Re:fuel by Aloft offers an exquisite selection of desserts paired perfectly with Baba's Beans coffee, available twenty-four seven. Whether you are craving a late-night sweet treat or an early morning grab and go, the dessert and coffee combinations will delight your senses.

A range of new innovative fruit-shaped desserts can be tried, which are not only visually stunning but also bursting with fresh, natural flavours. Each dessert is meticulously crafted to resemble your favorite fruits, providing a unique and delightful experience with every bite.



TRANSCEND BEYOND THE ORDINARY

COLLABORATE



CREATE



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DISCOVER DELHI'S UNIQUE DINING DESTINATIONS



Embark on a culinary journey through Delhi's most captivating dining spots, where thematic ambiance and exquisite cuisine converge to offer unforgettable experiences

By Poonam Singh

Tasty food is undoubtedly the best way to attract people of all ages. However, the presentation of food and the design aesthetics of restaurants have become increasingly important in the social media age. Theme-based restaurants offer a unique way to experience and immerse oneself in a particular atmosphere. Let's explore the food at a few aesthetically pleasing diners in Delhi to see if they pass the test in both taste and visual appeal. These places aim to attract people with a combination of beauty and delicious meals, offering a unique dining experience.

Capital Diner: The Feel

Since many of us frequently travel by plane, we often yearn for the experience of a train journey once in a while. Why wait? Capital Diner offers a train-themed dining experience where you can enjoy delicious food and spend hours in a unique, train-inspired space. It offers travellers and locals a unique blend of history, ambiance and exquisite cuisine. The first restaurant in a railway coach opens at New Delhi Railway Station in Delhi. It's an ideal spot for those seeking a quick yet delicious meal before or after their journey.

Café Lota: The Art Fusion

This place is a haven for art lovers. Nestled in the heart of the city, Café Lota, within the National Craft Museum, maintains its reputation for excellence amidst its stunning surroundings. The cultural aesthetics are reflected not only in the ambiance but also in the food offerings. Their curated menu includes dishes like ragi momos, palak-patta chaat, mini ragi idli, bajre ka chilla, quinoa upma, ragi vada pav, chicken stew with appam and many others. The bamboo décor promotes an eco-friendly atmosphere, complemented by a large pipal tree immediately to the left of the entrance. Each table features a 'lota,' as the café name suggests, to hold napkins and cutlery.

Bobachee: A Culinary Odyssey into Pre-partition Flavours

In a world where every bite weaves a narrative and each moment becomes a celebration of the diverse and delectable pre-partition cuisine, Bobachee emerges as a culinary haven, reviving flavours that transcend time. This culinary journey, shaped by a mosaic of influences from chefs around the globe, underscores Bobachee's unwavering commitment to presenting



Cafe Lota

the rich tapestry of pre-partition culinary wonders to discerning palates.

Bobachee's thoughtfully curated menu and inviting ambiance stand as a testament to the establishment's dedication to elevating the art of dining with an international flair, particularly emphasising the enduring and significant pre-partition culinary heritage. From soul-warming soups like the Roasted Red Pepper and Pumpkin Soup to the sizzling delights of the Dum Ka Keema, each dish tells a tale of pre-partition heritage with a modern twist.

Jungle Jamboree

All the green and blue ambiance of this restaurant, located in Rajouri Garden, evokes a jungle and aquatic vibes, perfectly complementing its name. The atmosphere is meticulously designed to resemble a jungle, complete with the soothing sounds of chirping birds and flowing water in the aquatic-themed décor. The restaurant offers both *à la carte* and buffet dining options across two sections. The menu features a diverse range of dishes, ensuring there's something to satisfy every palate. From chicken tikka and fish fry to momos, soups, veg and non-veg kebabs, ice creams, pastries and more, this place is renowned for indulgent dining.

DELHI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LAUNCHES **E-GATES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS**



By Team Aerocity Live

Indian passport holders and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders will now enjoy the benefit experience. Inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah at Terminal 3 of Delhi Airport on 22 June 2024, the programme offers a world-class experience to all international passengers allowing them to utilise these e-gates and bypass regular emigration/immigration queues. This first-of-its-kind facility in India, equipped with eight electronic gates – four for arrivals and four for departures, significantly reduces congestion at airports by offering expedited emigration/immigration clearance for pre-verified travellers, both arriving and departing. This technology-driven initiative is designed to make the emigration/immigration clearance process faster and simpler. To join the programme, eligible individuals must apply online.

The registration process for FTI-TTP may take up to one month. Applicants must ensure their passport has at least six months of validity at the time of application. Membership in the programme will be coterminous with passport validity. The application process requires applicants to submit their biometrics (fingerprints and facial image) along with other required information as specified in the application form. Registration under FTI-TTP will be completed after necessary verifications and confirmation of eligibility. The Trusted Traveller Programme allows pre-approved, low-risk travellers to benefit from expedited emigration/immigration and security clearance upon arrival. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Bureau of Immigration, have developed the roadmap for the FTI-Trusted Traveller Programme. For more details visit - www.ftittp.mha.gov.in

GMR AEROCITY HYDERABAD: A BEACON OF FUTURISTIC DESIGN & SUSTAINABILITY

GMR Aerocity Hyderabad stands as a testament to visionary design, seamlessly blending functionality, aesthetics and sustainability. This integrated business ecosystem, sprawling across over 1500 acres, offers a unique combination of mixed-use assets, sustainability initiatives and lush greenery, making it an ideal destination for businesses and individuals alike.

Functionality at its best: Built-to-suit facilities

The GMR Aerocity Hyderabad offers built-to-suit facilities, allowing companies to customise their office spaces, manufacturing

units and warehouses to meet specific requirements. This flexibility has attracted a plethora of renowned brands, including Amazon and Schneider, to set up their operations here. With the addition of Regus within Business Park, the flexible office spaces have become the preferred choice for multinationals seeking functionality, aesthetics and convenience.

Key sustainability initiatives

The commitment to sustainability at GMR Aerocity Hyderabad is evident in its comprehensive initiatives:

Wastewater Management: Advanced systems treat and recycle wastewater, minimising environmental impact.

Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations: Ample charging stations promote the use of electric vehicles, reducing carbon emissions.

Renewable Energy: Extensive use of solar power and LED lighting conserves energy and promotes sustainability.

Recycling: Emphasis on waste reuse and recycling fosters a circular economy, minimising landfill waste.

Aesthetic excellence and green spaces

Beyond functionality, GMR Aerocity Hyderabad prioritises aesthetics and wellbeing. Lush greenery and landscaped areas create a serene environment that enhances productivity and quality of life. The expansive green belt provides a welcome escape from urban hustle, offering a balance of work and relaxation.

A destination for work, leisure and entertainment

More than a business hub, GMR Aerocity Hyderabad integrates work, leisure and entertainment seamlessly. The GMR Arena hosts diverse events year-round, ensuring a vibrant atmosphere. Adjacent to the international airport, the luxurious Novotel caters to travellers and residents alike. The Aerocity is also equipped with educational institutions, hospitals and co-living spaces, providing all the essential amenities for a luxurious and convenient lifestyle. And for those who enjoy shopping, dining and nightlife, the upcoming GMR Interchange promises a thrilling experience with its exquisite offerings. Explore the possibilities of GMR Aerocity Hyderabad and discover why it's more than just a business address. Visit <https://www.gmaerocityhyd.com/> to learn more and schedule a visit and experience innovation, sustainability, and luxury in one dynamic location.



ELEVATED CONNECTIVITY: THE NEW HIGHWAY LINKING MANOHAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



On 11 July 2024, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated a transformative six-lane elevated road that significantly enhances connectivity in Goa. This new route connects Manohar International Airport (MIA) directly to Dhargalim along National Highway (NH) 166S, providing a modern, efficient pathway for travellers.

Stretching 6.580 kilometres, the elevated project begins at Dhargalim, intersecting with NH-66, which extends from Mumbai. The road gracefully navigates the rolling hills and valleys of North Goa, featuring four road overbridges and a four-leg interchange to facilitate smooth traffic flow. Previously, access to MIA relied on an 8-kilometre two-lane road that wound through local villages. This route, with a steep 8 per cent gradient, posed significant challenges for heavy vehicles, often hampered by residential areas, schools and traffic signals, leading to slowdowns and increased transportation times for cargo.

The newly constructed elevated highway promises uninterrupted traffic flow, designed to maintain a height exceeding 12 metres at various points. It includes essential infrastructure such as cross-drainage systems every 500 metres for future utility needs and strategically placed CCTV cameras for continuous traffic monitoring. Emergency services, including a toll-free helpline (1033), ambulance services and highway patrol,

are available twenty-four seven to ensure traveller safety.

The six-lane, access-controlled Greenfield Highway (NH-166S) offers numerous benefits. With improved riding quality, it not only reduces travel times but also minimises the risk of accidents, thereby enhancing overall safety. The aesthetic appeal of the highway is further complemented by tree planting along its sides, while effective drainage systems manage rainwater efficiently. Enhanced road conditions are expected to lower transportation costs and vehicle maintenance expenses, making it a boon for local businesses.

Beyond immediate transportation improvements, this infrastructure project is poised to attract entrepreneurs and stimulate the surrounding areas into bustling commercial and industrial hubs. By boosting cargo movement and invigorating industrial, agricultural and tourism sectors, the new highway is set to drive robust economic growth throughout the region.

Direct access to Manohar International Airport will also enhance multi-modal connectivity, reducing logistics costs and facilitating smoother travel experiences. Such developments are essential for bolstering tourism and business opportunities in Goa. Overall, this project signifies a significant leap forward in socio-economic advancement, promising to enrich the local economy and improve the quality of life for residents in the area.

SOWING SEEDS OF CHANGE: GMRVF'S MISSION TO EMPOWER WHEAT FARMERS



GMR Varalakshmi Foundation (GMRVF), the CSR arm of GMR Group, aims to create a sustainable impact on human development in underserved communities through initiatives in education, health and livelihoods. The foundation operates in about 20 locations where GMR Group is present, focussing on enhancing incomes in rural communities through both farm and non-farm livelihood interventions.

In Maharashtra's Chandrapur district, the project villages surrounding GMR Warora Energy faced a decline in wheat cultivation. The average yield here is only 3-5 quintals per acre, significantly below the national average of 18 quintals. This disparity arises from a lack of awareness about advanced farming practices and improper use of pesticides and fertilizers.

To address this, GMRVF launched a project aimed at doubling wheat production using the System of Wheat Intensification (SWI) during the 2023-24 Rabi season. The initiative selected 350 wheat farmers from various villages, providing each with 10 kg of HI 1544 (SUJATA) wheat seeds and seed treatment materials. Farmers received comprehensive training on SWI methods, seed treatment, sowing techniques and integrated pest management.

Additionally, exposure visits were organised and information was disseminated via Radio Telecast from Aakashwani, Chandrapur. The GMRVF team, along with Government agriculture extension officers, closely monitored the fields, providing timely support.

For the first time in the area, an Android-based Mobile Motor Controller System was introduced in the fields of 50 farmers, leveraging the Internet of Things (IoT) in agriculture. As a result of these efforts, 78 per cent of participating farmers reported more than double their yield compared to traditional methods. The average cost of cultivation decreased from Rs 15,157 to Rs 12,009 per acre with SWI. Moreover, 77 per cent of farmers indicated their income per acre this year was three times higher than the previous year when using conventional practices.

The Vidarbha region, known for aggrieved farmers due to persistent crop failures, has seen renewed hope with the introduction of SWI and IoT in agriculture. This initiative not only empowers farmers in Warora but also holds promise for transforming agricultural practices across the region, fostering economic resilience and sustainability.



INDIA'S URBAN PLANNING HERITAGE: FROM ANCIENT HAMPI TO MODERN CHANDIGARH

From the ancient splendour of Hampi to the modernist elegance of Chandigarh, these cities exemplify India's rich heritage of urban planning

By Tarannum Manjul

India boasts a rich tapestry of urban planning that spans from ancient civilisations to modern cityscapes. Among the many cities that exemplify meticulous planning, Hampi and Chandigarh, stand out for their historical significance, architectural brilliance and forward-thinking design. These cities showcase the evolution of urban planning in India.

Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offers a glimpse into the grandeur of the Vijayanagara Empire with its well-planned layout, water management systems and majestic temples that blend seamlessly with the natural landscape. Chandigarh, designed by the renowned architect



Le Corbusier, is a marvel of modern urban planning, featuring a grid-like pattern, wide boulevards and ample green spaces, embodying the principles of functional and aesthetic urban design.

These cities collectively highlight the diversity and depth of India's urban planning legacy, illustrating how historical context, cultural influences and modern needs have shaped the country's urban landscapes over the centuries.

Hampi: The Ancient Metropolis

Hampi, located in the southern state of Karnataka, is a remarkable example of urban planning from ancient India. Founded in the 14th century, it was the capital of the **Vijayanagara Empire** and a major trading centre. The city was strategically designed with a network of roads, marketplaces, temples and palaces, showcasing a blend of practicality and grandeur that was ahead of its time.

The planners of Hampi paid great attention to the natural landscape, incorporating boulders, water bodies and fertile plains into the city's layout. This harmonious integration not only enhanced the city's beauty but also provided natural fortifications against invaders. The **Virupaksha Temple**, dedicated to Lord Shiva, stands as a testament to Hampi's spiritual significance and architectural brilliance, with its towering gopuram and intricate carvings. The Vittala Temple complex, renowned for its iconic stone chariot and musical pillars, exemplifies the city's sophisticated artistry and engineering prowess.

The Hampi Bazaar, a bustling marketplace in its heyday, stretched over a mile and was lined with pavilions where traders sold precious gems, silk and spices. This vibrant hub was a testament to Hampi's economic prosperity and its role as a major trading centre in South India.

The city's planning ensured **efficient water management** through an intricate system of aqueducts, canals and tanks. These structures not only provided a steady water supply for agriculture and daily use but also protected the city from droughts, highlighting the advanced engineering skills of the time. The Tungabhadra River, flowing alongside Hampi, was skillfully harnessed to support the city's water needs and agricultural activities.

Hampi's legacy as a well-planned and prosperous city continues to captivate historians, architects and tourists from around the world. Its ruins, spread over 4,100 hectares, offer a glimpse into the grandeur of an era where urban planning and architecture reached unparalleled heights. Today, Hampi is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, preserving the rich heritage and sophisticated urban design of ancient India for future generations to admire.



Flight Connection from Delhi:

- Delhi to Bengaluru flight and thereafter overnight train journey via Hampi Express
- Delhi-Hyderabad flight and thereafter train journey via Kolhapur Express



Chandigarh: The Modernist Vision

Chandigarh, the capital of both Punjab and Haryana, is a beacon of modernist urban planning in India. Designed by the Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier in the 1950s, Chandigarh is India's **first planned city post-independence**. The city is known for its grid layout, wide boulevards and green spaces, setting a precedent for

Flight connection from Delhi

- Air India, IndiGo, Vistara and Alliance Air have daily flights to Chandigarh



urban development across the nation.

Le Corbusier envisioned Chandigarh as a 'City Beautiful' with a focus on functionality, aesthetic appeal and harmony with nature. The city's sectors are self-contained units, each with its own residential, commercial and recreational facilities, promoting a sense of community and reducing the need for extensive travel within the city. This design fosters convenience and efficiency, ensuring that every sector meets the daily needs of its residents.

The Capitol Complex, comprising the Secretariat, the High Court and the Legislative Assembly, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and epitomises modernist architecture. These monumental buildings reflect Le Corbusier's philosophy of form following function, with their bold geometric shapes, extensive use of concrete and innovative structural designs. The Open Hand Monument, another iconic symbol of Chandigarh, represents the city's spirit of 'open to give, open to receive', embodying the democratic ethos of the new nation.

Chandigarh's planning also emphasises **green spaces**, with numerous parks and gardens that enhance the quality of

life for its residents. The city's most famous green space, the **Rock Garden**, is an artistic marvel created by Nek Chand from recycled materials, offering a unique blend of nature and creativity. Sukhna Lake, an artificial reservoir, provides a serene escape for residents and visitors, promoting outdoor activities and ecological awareness.

In addition to its parks and recreational areas, Chandigarh boasts a well-organised system of roundabouts and tree-lined avenues, which help manage traffic flow and reduce pollution. The city also integrates a thoughtful approach to public amenities, with educational institutions, healthcare facilities and cultural centres strategically distributed throughout its sectors.

Chandigarh's urban planning has been influential in shaping the development of other Indian cities, serving as a model for modern, sustainable living. Its blend of architectural innovation, environmental consciousness and community-oriented design continues to attract architects, planners and tourists from around the world, making it a living testament to the vision and foresight of its creators.

6TH EDITION



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IN ASSOCIATION WITH



NEW DELHI

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- ▶ Leader of The Year Creating Emerging Business
- ▶ Leader of The Year (under 40) Creating Emerging Business

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- ▶ Most Innovative Products by Emerging Enterprise
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- ▶ Best Emerging Enterprise Creating Social Impact
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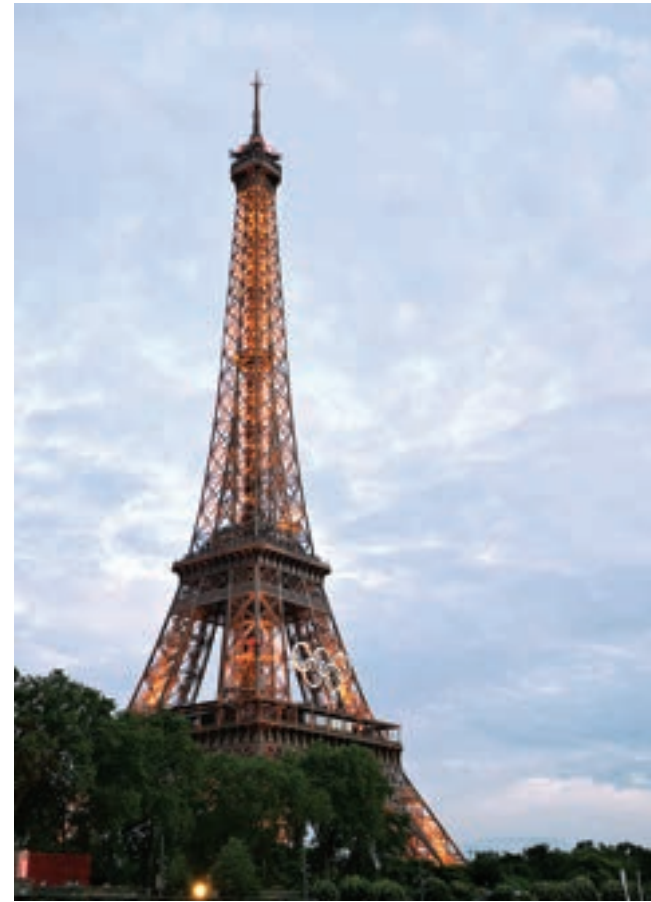
The historical city with a flavour of modern innovation, is hosting the 2024 Olympics.

By Deep Majumdar

Paris, also known as the City of Light, is a travel destination for many around the world. The city captivates visitors with its rich history, stunning architecture, delectable cuisine and culture. In the runup to the 2024 Olympics, it also underwent significant infrastructure developments, making it an even more attractive destination for global citizens.

Paris is without a doubt a **treasure trove of architectural wonders**. The iconic Eiffel Tower, designed by Gustave Eiffel, stands as a symbol of Parisian elegance and engineering excellence. The Louvre Museum, home to the Mona Lisa, blends historic grandeur with modern design through its glass pyramid entrance by IM Pei. For contemporary architecture enthusiasts, the Centre Pompidou offers a unique experience with its exposed structural elements and vibrant exterior. The La Défense district showcases Paris' modern architectural landscape, with the Grande Arche standing as a testament to forward-thinking design.

Paris is a paradise for food lovers.



Air Connectivity:



- Air France, Air India and Vistara have direct flight from Delhi to Paris.
- Lufthansa has one stoppage

The city's culinary scene is renowned for its diversity and quality. From charming bistros serving traditional French dishes like coq au vin and escargot, to the patisseries offering pastries such as croissants and macarons, Parisian cuisine is a feast for the senses. The food markets, like Marché d'Aligre, provide a glimpse into the daily life of Parisians and offer fresh produce and cheeses. Dining in Paris is not just about the food, it is about the experience of savouring each bite that in a way celebrates the art of eating.

Paris' cultural scene is as vibrant as its food and architecture. The city is home to **world-class museums, theaters and galleries**. The Musée d'Orsay, housed in a former Beaux-Arts train station, showcases Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces. The Paris Opera House or Palais Garnier, displays Parisian opulence with its lavish interiors and grand staircase. The city's numerous festivals, such as the Fête de la Musique and Paris Jazz Festival, highlight its diverse cultural offerings.

Infrastructure upgrade

To host the 2024 Olympics, the city witnessed significant infrastructure developments. The Olympic Village, spread across Saint-Denis, Saint-Ouen and L'Île-Saint-Denis, is designed to be a sustainable and lasting legacy for the city. These developments include new housing, improved transportation links and better public spaces. The focus on sustainability is clearly evident in the **construction of eco-friendly buildings** and the implementation of waste management solutions. These improvements not only cater to the needs of the Olympic games but also enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Whether you are exploring its architectural marvels, indulging in its culinary delights or immersing yourself in its rich history and culture, Paris promises an unforgettable experience. With the upcoming Olympics, the city's ongoing infrastructure developments are set to make it an even more exciting destination for travellers from around the globe.

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How Hotels performed in Q2, '24

Hotel Momentum India -
Quarterly Hospitality Monitor
from JLL India

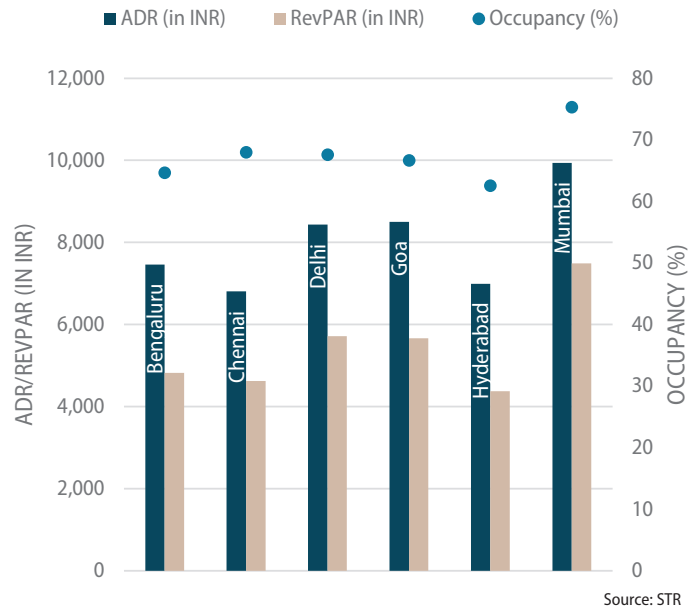
Key Hotel Market Performance

Cities	Q2 2024		
	Change over same period last year		
	RevPAR Change (%)	OCC Change (pp)	ADR Change (%)
Bengaluru	↑ 10.4	↑ 2.1	↑ 6.8
Chennai	↑ 10.2	↑ 1.0	↑ 8.6
Delhi	↑ 11.8	↑ 3.4	↑ 6.0
Goa	↓ -6.0	↑ 1.6	↓ -8.3
Hyderabad	↑ 11.9	↓ -1.7	↑ 15.0
Mumbai	↑ 2.9	↔ -0.6	↑ 3.7

Source: STR

RevPAR: ↑ Increase ↔ Stable ↓ Decrease

Q2 2024 Performance Trend Chart



Source: STR

Review Highlights

- Key markets, except for Goa, continued to witness a YoY growth in ADR & RevPAR performance in Q2 2024.
- Hyderabad saw the steepest RevPAR growth of 11.9% in Q2 2024, compared to the same period last year.
- Mumbai continued to be the RevPAR leader in absolute terms in Q2 2024 while maintaining stable occupancy levels.
- Total no. of signings in Q2 2024 stood at 82 hotels with 9,732 keys.
- 15 hotels were signed as a result of conversions of other hotels. This constituted 11% of the inventory signed in Q2 2024.

Industry News

- Marriott International and Whiteland Corporation signed an agreement for India's largest branded residences project, the Westin Residences (1,594 units), at a cost of INR 5,600 crores.
- IHG Hotels & Resorts launched its maiden voco hotel, voco Jim Corbett (70 keys), in India.
- The Trademark Collection by Wyndham debuted in India with the launch of The Earth Amritsar (57 keys)
- Royal Orchid Hotels acquired the operational rights for a 300-key property in proximity to Terminal 2, Mumbai International Airport, expected to commence operations by 2025.



**Supply & Demand
Growth for Six Cities**

Supply **0.9% ↑**

Demand **2.7% ↑**

Branded Hotel Openings

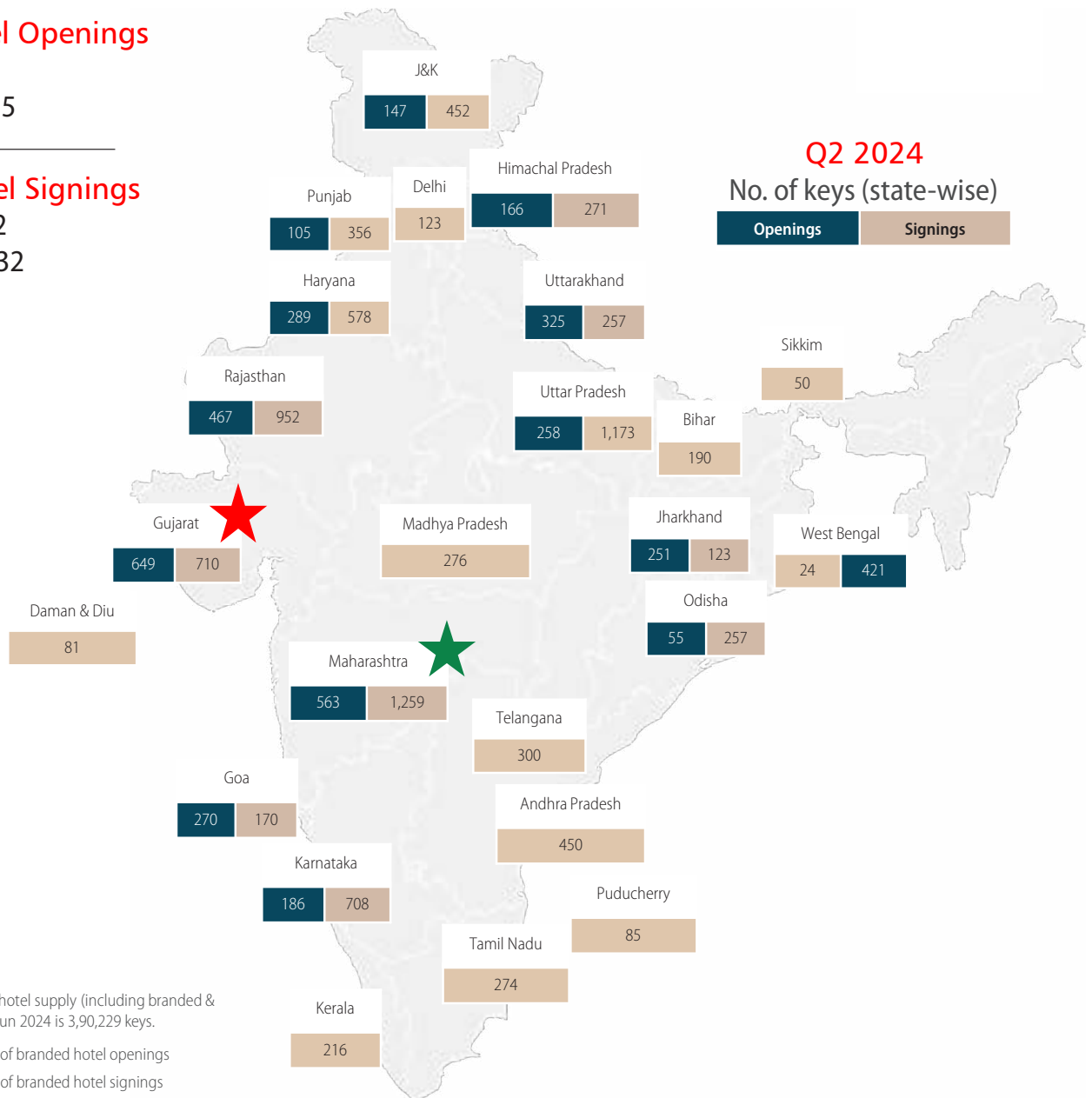
No. of hotels: 50

No. of keys: 3,752

Branded Hotel Signings

No. of hotels: 82

No. of Keys: 9,732



Operational existing quality hotel supply (including branded & independent) in India as of Jun 2024 is 3,90,229 keys.

- ★ State with highest no. of branded hotel openings
- ★ State with highest no. of branded hotel signings

Tier-wise break-up for Q2 2024

Tier	Branded - Hotel Openings		Branded - Hotel Signings	
	Hotels	Keys	Hotels	Keys
I	5	377	12	1,890
II	22	1,873	36	4,206
III	23	1,505	34	3,636

Classification-wise break-up for Q2 2024

Category	Branded - Hotel Openings		Branded - Hotel Signings	
	Hotels	Keys	Hotels	Keys
Luxury	2	114	10	2,006
Upper Upscale	9	710	11	2,069
Upscale	11	938	27	2,832
Midscale	26	1,816	32	2,524
Budget	2	177	2	301

By Shruti Tripathi



Nicobar

Crafted with ceramic curves and an eye-catching decal finish, this dainty glass decanter lends freshness, with a sensual base of its in-house favourite, Nerola, whether it's a special occasion or just because these diffusers make for a perfect gift. It comes in a gift box.

Price: Rs 2,275



Manan

Metallic handloom striped free-size linen kimono style shrug with a silk frill on the sleeves and a tie-up belt with intricate floral hand embroidery at the ends of the belt of bead & thread work. The pant has a princess line button stand with hand-crocheted buttons and an elasticated-back waistband. The outfit blends style and comfort soothingly.

Price: Rs 16,500

Chique

Elevate your summer wardrobe with an exquisite beaded tunic, designed for both style and comfort. The straight comfort fit ensures you stay cool and relaxed throughout the day, making it a must-have for the season. The tunic's solid plum colour adds a touch of elegance and sophistication to your ensemble.

Price: Rs 2,700



Kama Ayurveda

A complete ayurvedic age-defying face oil powered by saffron for youthful and radiant skin. It is also clinically proven to brighten & illuminate skin and delay signs of ageing. With the rich goodness of lotus, saffron and Indian madder, the oil leaves perfect radiance on the face.

Price: Rs 1,095





Kheoni

Kheoni's Kokum Crayon Pure Body Butter is a lavish and enriching skincare product that aims to provide the most luxurious pampering experience. It is a 100 per cent natural kokum seed butter made in a pristine environment by tribal communities of the Western Ghats, living for centuries between the thick forests of Goa and Karnataka. Kokum Crayon Pure Body Butter is made by extracting fresh kokum fruits.

Price: Rs 749



Chai Point

Thanda Taro Boba Chai from Chai Point is a delightful fusion of traditional chai and modern boba tea. This refreshing beverage combines the earthy flavours of taro with the creamy richness of chilled milk tea, all complemented by the chewy goodness of tapioca pearls. Perfect for a hot day, this drink offers a unique and satisfying blend of textures and tastes, making it a must-try for tea enthusiasts.

Price: Rs 219

Looks Salon

A hair spa is the need of modern days amidst hectic schedules and a deteriorating environment. Hair spa is a revitalising treatment designed to nourish and rejuvenate hair and scalp. It typically involves deep conditioning, scalp massage, steaming and hair masks.

Price: Rs 2,500-4,500



Sugar & Spice

The delightful treat combines the rich, nutty flavour of walnuts with the warm spices of cinnamon and nutmeg. Moist and fluffy, these muffins are perfect for breakfast or an afternoon snack. Topped with a sweet cinnamon-sugar crust, each bite offers a perfect blend of sweetness and spice. Enjoy a taste of homemade goodness with every bite.

Price: Rs 95-156

Paan Bhandar

The rich, velvety goodness of a chocolate pan, a delightful treat for chocolate lovers. This dessert features layers of creamy chocolate filling encased in a buttery, flaky pastry crust. Perfectly balanced in sweetness and texture, the chocolate pan melts in your mouth, offering a heavenly experience with every bite. Ideal for special occasions or a luxurious everyday treat, it's a must-try for anyone with a sweet tooth.

Price: Rs 60-80





OFFERS!

Pride Plaza Hotel, New Delhi

- The café will celebrate World Daughter Day on September 22 wherein you can get a special flat **25% discount** on lunch. **For reservations, call at +91 9899343771**
- The hotel is also offering Happy Hours throughout September at Mr. Confectioner. There will be a flat **25% discount** on all display items.
- Celebrate this Diwali with the exclusive gift hampers starting at just **₹999+ taxes**. **For more, please call at +91 9899343771.**



CHIQUE

Flat 30% off

- Additional **5% off** on purchases worth Rs 6,000.
- Additional **10% off** on purchases worth Rs 10,000

SUGAR & SPICE

30% discount on all type of breads and sandwiches between 7 pm to 11 pm every day.

KAMPAI

■ Weekend brunch

Vegeterian **@ 2,200++**

Non-vegeterian **@ 2500++**

■ Add ons

Beer & Wine **1,400 ++**

Cocktails & straight drinks **2,000++**

CHAI POINT

Bun-believable flavours that pair perfectly with your favourite sips.

- Bun & Boba chai at **299/-**
- Bun & Ginger chai at **199/-**

NEW BOBA RANGE:

- Bangkok Boba Chai
- Mast Melon Boba Chai
- Thanda Taro Boba Chai
- Real Mango Boba Chai
- Classic Boba Choco Boba
- Boba Coffee



KHEONI

- Upto **50% discount** on selected products.

Until the stock is available

Bizou - Bizou

Ladies Table

30% off on ladies table on Monday to Sunday (12 PM - 7 PM)



PULLMAN NEW DELHI AEROCITY

HONK

Asian Sunday Brunch

Every Sunday; 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Asian Sunday Brunch featuring signature dishes from eight vibrant regions. Enjoy the rich flavours of Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Malaysian, Indonesian, and Indian cuisines, all under one roof.

For reservations, please call: 99714 96999



NOVOTEL NEW DELHI AEROCITY

QUOIN BAR

US Open

(Special offers during match hours)

Till September 8

FOOD EXCHANGE

Sunday Brunch

Every Sunday; 12.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Enjoy themed brunches featuring a delightful spread of your favourite dishes, including dim sums, Asian and Indian specialties, and a dessert selection to end your meal on a sweet note.

For reservations, please call: 99714 96999

SPACE - A REFLECTION OF OUR PSYCHE

How space & design impact our mental & emotional wellbeing

"We shape our buildings, afterwards they shape us"

- Winston Churchill (1943)



By Anu Teotia

Space is always considered a representation of psyche of the person inhabiting that place. We design our space as per our needs, routine and priorities. Our home is a true representation of our way of life, giving a reflection of the personality of the residents. Labelling architecture as third skin is not incorrect, considering the significant role it plays in our lives. The field of environmental psychology has very clearly demonstrated the direct impact of built environment

on the emotional wellbeing, cognitive functioning, physiological states and social behaviour of human beings. In 2020, Joyce and colleagues conducted three researches to investigate the effect of exposure to natural environment on the feelings of materialism and impulsive buying. They found residents in proximity to natural habitat, showed less materialistic tendency and impulsive buying, same was found in the people who are more attentive and attracted to natural environments (demonstrated by

more frequent visit to natural habitats).

Relationship between space and mental-emotional wellbeing is reciprocal. They affect each other tremendously. A cluttered and unhygienic space indicates unhealthy lifestyle and can further increase the probability of various physical and mental health related challenges. In a research, by Schertz and colleagues, University of Chicago in 2022, the participants were found to be having more positive, creative and less impulsive thoughts during exploration of a nature conservatory as compared to walk through an indoor mall. They also showed an improvement in working memory and executive functioning like future-planning after exposure to natural environment.

In India, significant value has been provided to the physical aspects in designing and creating spaces, since time immemorial. Sense of wellbeing is created by following the concept of energy, time and effect, in Sanskrit it's called *urja*, *kaal* and *bhaav*. As per this concept Socio-geometric space is considered to have life-energy, which is the idea shared by various Asian cultures.

Today, we have much research evidence demonstrating cognitive mapping of the spaces in human mind. There are specialised cells in the hippocampus (part of the brain responsible for memory and learning) aligned to space we inhabit. Infrastructure specifically the shape, size of the building and colour theme are found to be impacting the person subconsciously. Internationally acclaimed interior designer Robin Siegerman believes that "Desing is all about making people happy, either functionally, aesthetically or emotionally."

As human mind appreciates symmetry, many buildings have square shape, since it brings comfort, tranquility and mood upliftment. Ellipse or circle shape infrastructure speak for unity and protection. With abstract shapes, human mind feels difficulty in relaxing. Media company named 'Insider' once found out that tight spaces without a ventilation can induce a panic attack. Also, people residing in small apartments are more prone to feel overwhelmed, concentration issues and distress.

Human mind craves for comfort, safety, warmth and happiness because that's our survival instinct. Functionally organised, clean and well-planned places have been found to be inducing relaxation, calmness by slowing down the brainwaves in the Thalamus. Being calm not only makes us feel better, but it also improves our health by activating the parasympathetic nervous system, helping us to sleep better and making healthier life choices. Healthy life choices in turn maintain optimum level of blood-pressure and reduce the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

Impact of different colours on mental health is very clearly shown by colour therapy in psychology. It has been taken care in architecture also, in a way which provides just not aesthetic appeal but much more, creating the space, which increases feeling of belongingness and life-satisfaction. Brighter colours like red emanates energy, so increases appetite, blue is considered good to increase productivity, pink and lavender are for calmness and warmth, so bring emotional comfort, green is for tranquility and health.



Anu Teotia

Infrastructure contributes to physical health, by ensuring safety, security, healthy lifestyle and hygiene. Understanding such a significant role of infrastructure on mental emotional wellbeing, a new field named 'neuro-architecture' is gaining acceptance now, which is focussing upon ensuring physical, economic, social and emotional wellbeing through architecture. A close collaboration between architects and psychologists can lead to a better built environment, which is healthier, happier and less stress-inducing.

Renzo Piano, an Italian Architect correctly emphasised the significance of space and design – "You can put down a bad book; you can avoid listening to bad music; but you cannot miss the ugly tower block opposite your house."

About the author

– The author is Senior Psychotherapist & Assistant Professor, Amity University, Noida



1. Which of these ancient Indian texts delves into principles of architecture and design?

- a. Sushruta Samhita
- b. Charaka Samhita
- c. Manasara
- d. Maha Siddhanta

2. Which of the following novels is a mirror to American understanding of architecture, with its thrust for towering buildings?

- a. Bridges of the Madison County
- b. The Fountainhead
- c. The Great Gatsby
- d. Invisible Man

3. De Architectura, a path-breaking architectural treatise from ancient times, was penned by....

- a. Vitruvius of Rome
- b. Aristobulus of Greece
- c. Imhotep of Egypt
- d. None of these

4. The Sun Temple at Modhera, Gujarat, built at Tropic of Cancer, was built in such a way that the first ray of morning sun fell on the forehead of the principal deity on the equinox day. Which Dynasty had built this unique temple complex in 11th Century?

- a. Paramars
- b. Chauhan Dynasty
- c. Chalukyas
- d. Vaghelas

5. Maharaja Jai Singh, with his scientific temperament, had the observatories called Jantar Mantar built in five Indian cities. Besides Jaipur, these were built in Delhi, Mathura, Varanasi and

- a. Indore
- b. Gwalior
- c. Jabalpur
- d. Ujjain

6. The iconic Hall of Nations in Pragati Maidan, built to commemorate silver jubilee of Indian Independence and which was later flattened, was designed by eminent architect

- a. AGK Menon
- b. KT Ravindran
- c. Raj Rewal
- d. Laurie Baker

7. With which iconic structure is architect Charles Correa not associated?

- a. Mahatma Gandhi Memorial, Ahmedabad
- b. Bharat Bhawan, Bhopal

- c. British Council, New Delhi
- d. IIM Ahmedabad

8. This architect, who worked closely with Le Corbusier in several projects, won the Agha Khan Award for Architecture for his low-cost housing design in Indore. He won the Padma Vibhushan (posthumous) in 2023. Name him.

- a. IM Kadri
- b. BV Doshi
- c. KT Ravindran
- d. AGK Menon

9. The Sanskar Kendra City Museum, designed by Le Corbusier, is located in which Indian city?

- a. Ahmedabad
- b. Vadorada
- c. Pune
- d. Chandigarh

10. The GIFT City, showcasing India's prowess in IT and financial services and that has evolved around walk-to-work concept, is located in....

- a. Ahmedabad
- b. Surat
- c. Bengaluru
- d. Hyderabad

Answer key

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 9. a. Ahmedabad | 5. d. Ujjain | 1. c. Manasara |
| 10. a. Ahmedabad | 6. c. Raj Rewal | 2. b. Fountainhead |
| | 7. d. IIM Ahmedabad | 3. a. Vitruvius |
| | 8. b. BV Doshi | 4. c. Chalukyas |

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