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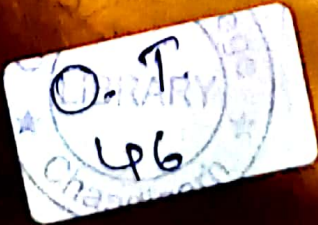
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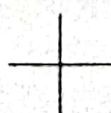
SPECIAL
SUMMER
FEATURE

THE BUDDHA TRAIL

WALKING IN THE
BUDDHA'S FOOTSTEPS
ACROSS SACRED
GEOGRAPHIES, ANCIENT
RUINS AND LIVING
MONASTERIES, TRACING
A TIMELESS JOURNEY
OF FAITH AND HISTORY



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JOURNEYS

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CONTRASTS**
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IN SIKKIM

CHECK-IN
THE QUIET
LUXURIES OF
THE PENINSULA

FROM THE HEARTH
THE INDIGENOUS
CUISINES OF
MEGHALAYA

IT'S NOT WHERE — IT'S HOW



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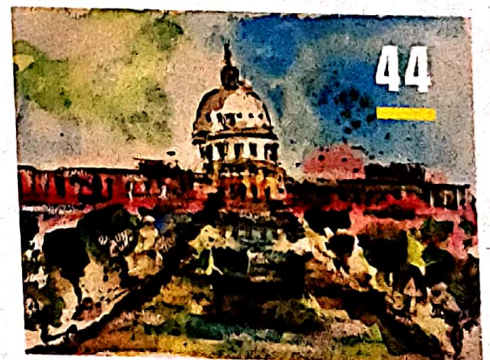
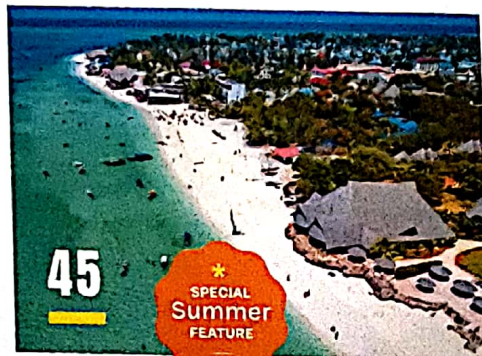
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On the cover: A 15m-high Maitreya Buddha statue at Thiksey Monastery in Ladakh
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Foreword

Delhi is often compared with Rome and Cairo for the depth of its heritage. From the Tomar Rajputs and Chauhans to the Delhi Sultanate, the Mughals and later the British, each dynasty left behind monuments, traditions and food cultures that continue to animate the capital. Today, the city has over 1,200 protected monuments, making it one of the richest heritage landscapes in the world.

This legacy continues to draw visitors in large numbers. According to the Ministry of Tourism, Delhi received 76.81 lakh domestic tourists at 47 key destinations between January and October 2024, and a total of 18.28 lakh foreign tourists over the same year. To build on this momentum, the Delhi government has significantly increased its allocation for tourism in the 2025–26 budget, marking a rise from the previous year.

The Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC), established in 1975, is at the centre of this effort. Its work ranges from running heritage walks and city sightseeing services to developing cultural infrastructure and promoting Delhi internationally. New initiatives now underway include scenic boat tours on the Yamuna, an international film festival, and a tourist circuit linking major landmarks, alongside expanded promotional campaigns. These measures aim to showcase not only Delhi's world-famous icons but also its lesser-known treasures.

Beyond the Red Fort, Qutub Minar and India Gate, places like Bijay Mandal, Bhuli Bhatiyari ka Mahal, Zafar Mahal and Sanjay Van evoke the city's older capitals. At the same time, neighbourhoods sustain living traditions—Durga Puja in Chittaranjan Park, Sufi gatherings in Nizamuddin, and the Phool Walon ki Sair in Mehrauli demonstrate how communities continue to shape Delhi's cultural life.

Food is equally central to the city's story. Old Delhi's kebabs and biryanis recall Mughal kitchens, while Afghan bakeries in Lajpat Nagar, Tibetan cafés in Majnu ka Tila and Bengali kitchens in CR Park reflect migrant influences. New-age cafés and experimental kitchens extend this blend, making Delhi one of India's most dynamic food destinations.

To experience Delhi is to walk through centuries of history, faith and migration. With DTTDC's vision and investment, visitors can now explore not just the capital's iconic monuments but also its hidden corners and cultural fabric.