



THE NEW  
INDIAN  
EXPRESS

# INDULGE

## Buy

Check out our  
last-minute  
gift guide  
for Valentine's  
Day | P4

Ahead of  
Valentine's Day,  
actor Siddhant  
Chaturvedi talks  
about his thoughts  
on romance, and  
his latest film  
*Gehraiyaan*, which  
explores the  
nuances of complex  
relationships | P8

## DECODING MODERN LOVE WITH SIDDHANT



things  
to do

## pick of the week

INDULGE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 | HYDERABAD

Catch us online @  
indulgexpress.com

### Dance therapy

February 15 | Online

Weekday blues? Then register for this beginner-level contemporary dance class hosted by Attakalari Connect. The one-hour workshop will teach you the basics of the dance form and how to improvise the steps. ₹200 upwards. Details: Online.



### Comic timing

February 13 | Gachibowli

Comedians Rajasekhar Mamidanna, Vivek Muralidharan, and Rohit Swain are coming together for a special show, *Comedy Live & Recording*. The three will talk about everything from hair fall to couples, and social media. ₹299 upwards. At Rangbhoomi Spaces. Details: 9700074079.



### It's a date!

February 14 | Madhapur

Can't make up your mind about where to go this Valentine's Day? Then head to Amnesia as they are hosting a special candle-lit dinner for couples. Their menu offers everything from vegan options to Italian delights. They also have a special live music show. ₹1,000 upwards. At Amnesia Sky Bar. Details: 773101997.

### Tune in

February 13 | Jubilee Hills

Ring in your weekend with energetic music as Band Moksha will be performing this Sunday. The popular outfit will sing a few of the best tunes from Telugu and Hindi cinema. ₹249 upwards. At Grease Monkey, 8 pm. Details: 7330785555.

#### DISCLAIMER

The New Indian Express group publishes the advertisements in this supplement in good faith, but does not hold itself responsible for the representations or claims made for the products and services, in respect of which readers are advised to make their own assessment.

### Love on canvas

February 13 | Banjara Hills

Check out this couple painting workshop where you will learn to turn your favourite picture into a painting. The 150-minute session will teach you easy ways to draw a portrait. ₹1,499 upwards. At Octo Spaces. Details: 9885150673.

#### GET IN TOUCH

Send your queries and feedback to: Indulge, The New Indian Express, H.No.6-3-1113/1, B.S.Makta Lane, Somajiguda, Near Grand Kakatiya Hotel, Punjagutta, Hyderabad - 500 016. Ph: 040 23413909 Email: indulge-hyd@newindianexpress.com

INDULGE

Editor: G S Vasu

Indulge Editor: Edison Thomas

Editorial: Suchitra Behara, Reshmi Chakravorty

Design Editor: Nitin Tuse; Designers: B Guru Swamy, S Chengalvarayan, A Rajkumar

Photo Editor: Shiba Prasad Sahu

\*\*\*

To advertise: B Ramakrishna Rao ) 9246391021; E-mail: b\_ramakrishna@newindianexpress.com For subscription: ) 8143010212; E-mail: cre.hyd@newindianexpress.com  
Office address: Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited., H.No.6-3-1113/1, B.S.Makta Lane, Somajiguda, Near Grand Kakatiya Hotel, Punjagutta, Hyderabad - 500 016. ) 040 23413908-11  
Registered & Corporate Office: Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited., Express Gardens, 29, Second Main Road, Ambattur Industrial Estate, Chennai - 600 058. ) 044 23457601-07





# FOR SUPREME BEINGS.



Experience the pure exhilarating rush of the advanced 5th Generation City. Crafted immaculately for Supreme Beings.

Honda Cars India Limited is proud to complete 25 years of its presence in India. Log on to [www.hondacarindia.com](http://www.hondacarindia.com) for more details.



BENEFITS UP TO  
**₹15 596\***

**CITY**  
RUSH OF SUPREMACY

LONGEST SEDAN IN THE SEGMENT\* | 9 LED ARRAY HEADLAMPS, LED DRL & TURN SIGNAL  
CONNECTED CAR WITH ALEXA REMOTE CAPABILITY & WORKS WITH OK GOOGLE^  
NEXT GEN HONDA CONNECT+ WITH 5 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION

**LOW INTEREST RATE OF 7.25%<sup>o</sup> | EMI STARTS AT ₹1 188<sup>o</sup> PER LAKH | LONGEST TENURE UP TO 10 YEARS<sup>o</sup>**

Exclusive benefits for Teachers, Farmers, Doctors, Lawyers, Architects, Finance Professionals, Pensioners, Government Employees and Select Corporates. Select models available through GeM & CSD. T&C apply.

OUR DEALERSHIPS AND SERVICE CENTRES ARE FOLLOWING ALL PRECAUTIONS AGAINST COVID-19.



Scan now to  
Book or Buy  
Honda From Home



\*Scheme on select variants/models. <sup>o</sup>Loan at the sole discretion of financier/bank partner. Offers and features are model, fuel type and variant specific. Offers include loyalty, exchange and consumer benefits. For Corporate Sales enquiries, write to [corporatesales@hondacarindia.com](mailto:corporatesales@hondacarindia.com). Images used are computer generated/enhanced for creative representation purposes and may vary from actual product due to printing constraints. Specifications and features are subject to change without prior notice. <sup>o</sup>Warranty of unlimited kilometres in a 3-year period from date of sale of new vehicle comes as part of standard purchase. <sup>o</sup>Segment is defined by midsize sedans with length usually up to 4 500 mm and engine size up to 1.5 litres. <sup>^</sup>Amazon, Alexa, and all related logos are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc., or its affiliates. Please refer to [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) for more details. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. <sup>o</sup>Connect Application is compatible with Apple iOS 11.0 and above, Android 7.0 and above. Connected services are subject to network availability, facility/transmission limitations as per government regulation and permissions in specific regions/locations. Terms and conditions apply.

**Sundaram Honda**  
Ranigunj  
98879 96677

**Green Honda**  
LB Nagar  
92251 00999

**Metro Honda**  
Bowenpally  
95814 56800

**Pride Honda**  
Madhapur  
80999 38844

**Pride Honda**  
Miyapur  
90141 05450

**Pride Honda**  
Banjara Hills  
76718 11445



# Valentine's Day/ gifting

**INDULGE**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 | HYDERABAD

**buy**

## Silver lining

Select handcrafted 925 hallmark pure sterling silver jewellery from Giva's personalised collection for this season of love. Go for necklaces, engraved pendants, initial jewellery, earrings, rings, bracelets or the couple pendants to express love. Price ₹2,000 upwards. Available online.

him & her



## Pop of colour

Heart-shaped chocolates and roses are cliché. Instead, treat your lady to a Bonny Satin bag from Jimmy Choo. Crafted in Italy with a soft twisted handle, look out for colours that suit her every mood. Price ₹85,000. Available online.

# STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

Let's explore our last-minute gift guide for Valentine's Day

THE DAY OF love, Valentine's Day is just around the corner. And if you are still at a loss about what to gift your significant other, then worry no more. Whether it's a pair of luxury shoes or personalised eyewear, our gifting guide is sure to bring joy. We have curated a list of exquisite gifting options that your beloved will adore for sure.

— Reshmi Chakravorty

reshmichakravorty@newindianexpress.com  
@reshmi190488



## Cowboy love

An Indian luxury footwear brand, Escaro Royale's new collection — Santiago Cowboy Boots — will be a perfect gift for your man this season. The handcrafted boots are fashionable yet comfortable and is sure to turn heads on your date night. Price ₹14,999. Available online.



## In her shoes

With the right mood for a tinge of love in the air, Aldo's Scarlett chain red ankle-strap platforms is a must-have for this Valentine's Day to surprise your loved one. The heels will add to the glamour to your special night out. Price ₹10,999. Available online.



## Scent of romance

Bold and charismatic, yet steeped in heritage, the Versace fragrances are a perfect choice for your man. The woody notes of the perfume packed in a blood red bottle are sure to work wonders for your date night. Price ₹6,000. Available online.



## Jet, set, go

For those looking to get away during the Valentine's Day weekend, TUMI has the perfect gift for you. This personalised duffel with a monogram of your initials is perfect for a couple on the go. Price ₹98,000. Available online.

## Lady in red

Gifting a red dress on Valentine's Day to your lady love never goes out of fashion. This cherry-coloured sari dress in chiffon from Saaksha & Kinni is our pick for the day. Price ₹25,000. Available online.



## Eye candy

Whether it's eco-friendly wood, ethically-sourced buffalo horn and bamboo, Italian acetate and more, designer eyewear brand Coco Leni has it all. Gift a pair of customised sunglasses to your man this day of love. Price ₹8,400 upwards. Available online.



## Step up

Give the gift of athleisure this Valentine's Day. Whether you are shopping for your significant other or simply treating yourself, check out the sneakers from Vans available in both neutral shades and a vibrant hue of red. Price ₹5,499. Available online.



Kitkat and gems cake



Lovely red velvet heart shape cake



Magical moments

Exotic red roses basket



# Get Personal this Valentine's!!!

## CAKES

There's nothing that speaks love like the sweetness of a cake. Winni enables its users to send quality cakes in different flavours to their loved ones within two hours of placing an order. Imagine having a surprise delivered to your doorstep at midnight? Winni makes it possible with their midnight delivery option that indeed will make your partner feel special. From heart-shaped red velvet cakes to chocolate truffle, there are numerous options in different shapes and flavours including Black Forest, Butter Scotch, Pineapple, Vanilla, Strawberry, Fruit, KitKat, Oreo, etc available at Winni. To make it more special, one can also go for cakes with photos of you and your partner on the cakes.

[winni.in/digital-gifts](http://winni.in/digital-gifts)

With Valentine's day comes a great dilemma of what and how to gift your partner. Especially if you're in a long-distance relationship, delivering to the other city or country leaves us fretting. How about having a multi-gifting platform that can de-stress all our worries? Winni.in serves the purpose here. From affordable quality gifts like cakes, flowers, chocolate combos to personalized items, one can easily pick and choose from a variety of 5000+ products on the

Shower your loved ones with personalized gifts, cakes and bouquets from Winni on Valentine's Day

website. Winni delivers to across 6000+ pin codes within 2 hours of the request, while also having a capacity of delivering overseas in 40 countries in the USA, Canada, UK, Australia, South Africa and others. So, if you're in a long-distance you need not dwell on what and how to gift on Valentine's day. Just a few simple steps and your order is delivered to our partner sitting across continents.

So, make your partner feel special by adding personalised touch and let the love bloom this Valentine's day.

## FRESH FLOWERS

Let your love bloom like a bouquet of fresh flowers. You can send flowers to your loved ones all year round but Valentine's day seems incomplete without the misty aroma of fresh flowers. Winni offers a plethora of flower bouquet options ranging from 499 to above. From roses to lilies, orchids, gerberas one can choose and select multi-flowers coupled in a special arrangement basket, the scents of which will surely linger in your partner's heart for long. You can also go for some premium exotic flower arrangements for making him/her more special.

You and me mug



Toothsome chocolate cake



## PERSONALIZED OFFERINGS

Gifts manifest true emotions and personalisation makes them more memorable and thoughtful. On the most romantic day of the year, you can gift your loved ones personalized gifts ranging from chocolates, mugs, cushions, keychains, T-shirts, photo frames, handbags, headphones, LED clocks etc. Simply choose a photo of you and your partner and have it printed on the gift of your choice. Winni has also introduced personalised caricatures, handcrafted gifts, jewellery and accessories, T-shirts, etc. So, go and create your own gift to impress!

Heart flutter cushion



Best couple in the world frame



## DIGITAL OFFERINGS

Technology is bridging gaps every day and it is no different when it comes to making your partner feel extra special. One of the new additions that Winni has added this year is the concept of digital gifts on their platform. Now you can gift your partner special live music from Winni by requesting their favourite song sung by professional artists only for them. You can also organise a special comedy performance by renowned artists and add joy and fun to your relationship with these special arrangements.



Express love with mugs



Chocolaty love combo





food  
&  
drink

restaurant/round-up

INDULGE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 | HYDERABAD

review

# GET, SET, DATE NIGHT

Tranquil Bistro opens in Kavuri Hills, and offers an intimate dining experience



Mirapakaya Kodi Pakodi

**T**RANQUIL BISTRO IS the latest entrant to Madhapur's lounge and bar circuit. Situated right beside the State Art Gallery, the place is Hyderabad's first venue with a waterfall built inside it. The 300-seater has definitely caught our attention for its ambience, but also impresses with the array of Indian and Continental dishes it offers. We headed to the bistro on a weekday for lunch. Our first impression? A perfect spot for romantic nights thanks to the waterfall and seating arrangements. Here's what you can try at the restaurant.

We began our meal with the *Mirapakaya Kodi Pakodi*, a South Indian-style fried chicken. The dominant flavours of pepper and green chillies blended with *masalas* like *garam masala*, made this a finger-licking good dish. We then picked their *Murgh Malai Kebabs*. These were juicy, subtly flavoured, and grilled to perfection. Served with a mint *chutney* alongside, it gave the *kebabs* a fiery twist.

For the mains, we tried the Stuffed Grilled Chicken Breast with Orange Caper



The waterfall

Sauce. The chicken came stuffed with spinach and cheese. The zesty sauce provided an excellent accompaniment. The dish also came with mashed potatoes and vegetables like bell peppers, carrots, broccoli, and mushrooms gave the dish an added crunch.

We also sampled the *Laal Maas* from their Indian menu. The Rajasthani special mutton curry was cooked with yogurt and red chillies. The curry was tangy and the meat was succulent, easily falling off the bone.

To end our meal on the right note, we called in for their signature dessert called Ramesh & Suresh (from the 5-star advertisements). The dessert came with two deep-fried 5-star bars, seated on vanilla and butter-scotch ice creams. Drizzled with chocolate sauce, the flavours came together beautifully.

₹1,200 upwards.

At Madhapur:

— Suchitra Behara

bsuchitra@newindianexpress.com @SuPatnaik



Interiors



Stuffed Grilled Chicken Breast with Orange Caper Sauce



Ramesh & Suresh

Pics: S Senbagapandiyan

around town

## When cupid strikes

Celebrate Valentine's Day with these meal kits and gift hampers

VALENTINE'S DAY IS almost here! And, if you haven't planned anything yet, then we have just what you need. From gift hampers to decadent chocolates, here's what the hotels are whipping up this season of love.



### Macarons and more

What better than chocolate to gift on your special day. Fonce's gifting hampers offer decadent desserts such as *Framboisier* (a heart-shaped *entremet* with chocolate and raspberry filling), Valentine's Red Velvet Cake, and Valentine's Macarons Box. ₹350 upwards. Available at Fonce.



### Love in a box

Can't make up your mind on what to gift your special someone? Then ITC's range of gift boxes is a great choice. The range includes *Box Of Gratitude*, which offers handcrafted truffles in flavours like Matcha, Pistachio, and Yuzu, Coconut Butter and Caramel, and Cherry, Anise and Dark Chocolate. They also have a macaron box, *Box of Love*, which has Raspberry and Rose, and Orange Blossom and Pistachio-flavoured macarons. ₹999 upwards. Available at ITC Kakatiya and ITC Kohenur.

### Berry good!

Known for their French desserts menu in the city, Concu has curated a few gifting options. You can pick from their options like *Le Petit Hamper* which contains chocolate bars, brownies, crystal candles, and fresh flowers. What else? The *À Deux Hamper* is the right pick for a tea date and the box includes chocolate-dipped strawberries, flavoured tea, and a box of assorted desserts. ₹2,500 upwards. Available at all Concu outlets.



### Dinner for two

If a private dinner at the comfort of your home is on your mind, then look no further than Quickish's Valentine's Day meal kits. The ready-to-cook gift boxes offer dishes like *Kaju Pulao*, *Zafrani Murgh Tikka*, *Pasta Marinara*, and *Chicken Cordon Bleu*. The kits also come with scented candles, artisanal chocolates, and cocktail mixers. ₹1,249 upwards. Available online.



# OIL THERAPY

Oregano oil is an effective natural antibiotic and antifungal agent, and it may help you lose weight and lower your cholesterol levels



**M**OST OF US are aware of dried oregano seasoning, which is used to flavour food. However, oil extracted from the oregano leaves is also valued for its protective qualities as the presence of healing compound carvacrol is most potent for its healing properties. Oregano oil also has other compounds like thymol and rosmarinic acid which make it a potent antioxidant, antifungal and anti-inflammatory agent. Oregano oil is also a rich source of minerals including magnesium, calcium, zinc, iron, potassium, boron, copper and

manganese. Many scientific studies have found out that oregano oil helps in treating indigestion, diarrhea, insect bites, toothaches, and coughs or bronchitis. The presence of antibacterial, antiviral, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antifungal, anti-parasitic and numerous other medicinal properties in the oil help treat many health issues.

Oregano oil boosts the immune system and improves digestion by increasing the secretion of digestive juices. It balances hormones and therefore aids in the menstruation cycle as well. It acts as an emmenagogue (a substance that improves menstrual flow) and can help a woman reduce her symptoms of oncoming menopause, including mood imbalance and hormonal shifts.

Carvacrol adds anti-inflammatory benefits to the body which not just works internally but also helps in reducing the redness and irritation on the skin. Oregano oil also helps in relieving pain associated with arthritis.

Due to the presence of thymol, this oil helps in relieving congestion and respiratory issues by removing the build-up of phlegm and mucous from the body. It acts as a soothing balm for a throat infection and also helps in controlling sinus issues. You can use two to four



drops of oregano essential oil in an oil diffuser for two hours or overnight to help with coughing, congestion and sinus inflammation.

The potent phenol carvacrol of the oil has anti-fungal, antibacterial and antimicrobial properties which help in keeping bacterial or candida infections away. Therefore UTI, stomach issues, food poisoning, skin infection

etc can be taken care of easily. Add around eight to 10 drops of oregano essential oil to a bottle of hand wash. This will strengthen the cleaning action and bacterial elimination when used regularly.

Apart from other infections, this oil can also protect one from viral infections and works on improving immunity by stimulating the production of white blood cells. All of these properties can keep our gut healthy. One can also add a few drops of oregano oil in cleaning agents to clean the house, kitchen top and other such surfaces.

Due to antioxidant properties present in phenols, oregano oil neutralises free radicals from our body which also slows down the aging process.



## HEALTHY LIVING DEEPIKA RATHOD

Chief Nutrition Officer,  
Luke Coutinho Holistic  
Healing Systems.  
The writer is a clinical  
nutritionist with  
a focus on healthy  
lifestyle choices.

An  
Te  
Ra  
KITCHEN  
AND BAR



TEMPERATURE AND SYMPTOM  
MONITORING OF OUR STAFFS



FOOD PREPARED UNDER  
CAREFUL OBSERVATIONS



STERILISATION OF  
COOKWARE AND CUTLERY



REGULAR SANITISATION AND  
DISINFECTION OF ALL  
CONTACT AREAS



ROAD NO. 10, JUBILEE HILLS | FOR RESERVATIONS: 7373734634



# THE BOY NEXT DOOR

In his latest movie, *Gehraiyaan*, Siddhant Chaturvedi portrays the role of a distracted lover. In the run-up to its release, we caught up with the actor who let us in on his take on relationships and why he believes in being a one-woman man  
By Ayesha Tabassum



Working still from the set of *Gehraiyaan*



Siddhant Chaturvedi & Deepika Padukone in a scene

IN AN INDUSTRY that's infamous for being nepotistic, here's a young man who is rising up the ranks without the help of a godfather or any sort of backing. It's purely his talent that has brought Siddhant Chaturvedi this far in Bollywood, and his strikingly handsome face has not hurt either. After he was first noticed in the web series, *Inside Edge*, Siddhant was cast in *Gully Boy* as MC Sher, and with his portrayal as Murad's mentor, he won the hearts of millions. *Gully Boy* turned out to be Siddhant's breakout film and put him in the spotlight overnight. Now, with the release of *Gehraiyaan*, in which he is cast opposite one of the biggest stars in Bollywood, Deepika Padukone, Siddhant is consolidating his position as one of the hottest and most dependable Bollywood lead actors in the making.

*Gehraiyaan*, which released today, explores the subject of modern-day relationships and Siddhant plays the role of Zain. With Valentine's Day just around the corner, this film about two young couples comes at the right time. Zain, an ambitious young man falls in love with his fiancée Tia's (played by Ananya Panday) cousin Alisha (portrayed by Deepika Padukone). Although it may seem like a typical love triangle, Siddhant reveals there's a lot more to it. "I didn't know how I was going to do it. This is the story of people my age but I haven't seen anything like this. Hindi cinema has always portrayed a heightened idea of love, but *Gehraiyaan* is the most human Indian film in recent times. When I say 'human,' I am talking about the real emotions that you tend to hide or ignore. The film questions choices. It's an urban love story. It's not another story about Raj and Simran running away. This narrative deals with what happens after that," says the actor. *Gehraiyaan* challenges the conventional and dated

## Dream project

His first film was with Ranveer Singh, and now his latest movie is with Deepika. When asked if he would want to work with them together, this is what the actor says, "Nobody will want to watch me if they are in the same film! They are two beautiful and talented people. They are great together. As a fan, like everyone else, I am rooting for them, so I am already losing the plot here. But if something like *Ae Dil Hai Mushkil* is made, I would definitely work with them!"

idea of love — one where one's first love is put on a pedestal. However, Siddhant reminisces about idolising the stereotypical Bollywood heroes while growing up. "We have all been conditioned with this idea. I have grown up watching films that portrayed it, particularly romcoms. I am a big fan of such movies — particularly of Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan films. But *Gehraiyaan* is different and when you know that you haven't seen anything like this, it's difficult to take it all in. When I heard the script, in the presence of Shakun (Batra, director) and Karan (Johar, producer), I said 'yes' to it. But I didn't know how I would do it. It is a very mature and nuanced story," he offers.

## Director's cut

Shakun, who has made exceptional movies such as *Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu* and *Kapoor & Sons*, which have redefined the way audiences look at modern and urban characters, assured Siddhant that it will be a journey that will help him evolve and grow not only as an actor but also as a human being. The world that the director had created drew Siddhant into it completely. "I used to share notes, and then I drew an emotional chart of my character. I would share this experience with Shakun. He would keep tweaking my approach. It was all his genius. Zain's character is very different from what I have played before and he is unlike all the characters I have ever seen on screen. The irony is that the character is very real," says Siddhant.

All the characters in the film, from Zain to Alisha, Tia and Dhairya, seem like regular people who could be part of your friends' circle, at your workplace, or even on dating apps. What makes them appear all the more real is their emotions of guilt, anger, exasperation, helplessness and desire — all put together. "We all go through different phases in life. We make different choices — both good and bad. Sometimes we think that we have screwed up and we feel guilty but we also experience love and attraction. So, I think Zain is as human

as anyone else. As much as his character is different and new, because of the emotions he goes through. I think a lot of people in the audience will relate to him. It's up to them whether they hate him or love him. We are not portraying him as black or white, it's up to the audience how they perceive him," he explains.

The conversation around this movie will be incomplete without the mention of the chemistry between its leading stars. Whether it is Siddhant and Deepika's sensual scenes or Siddhant and Ananya's heated exchanges, and Deepika and Dhairya's arguments as a couple, each one of these pieces fit in like perfect blocks of a puzzle. The leading ladies are starkly different from each other, both in real life and on-screen, and that's one of the defining aspects of *Gehraiyaan*. Siddhant romances both of them but his chemistry with them is quite distinct. "On screen and in real life, my dynamic with both are quite different. We went through a lot of workshops and that helped us become really good friends, and we built a strong base. I felt intimidated with Deepika's stardom before I met her. Even during the workshops I was really nervous. However, from day one on the set, until we finished the shoot, I never felt any kind of pressure. She made me feel so comfortable and Shakun also helped us get

comfortable with each other. She completely submitted herself to the character, to the director and her co-actors. On the other hand, Ananya surprised all of us. We have seen her in the bubbly and glam avatar, but in this film, she has so many layers to her, and has done a great job," he shares.

## Heart and soul

While on-screen his character is unapologetic about his questionable choices, in real life Siddhant's principles are in complete contrast to that of Zain. Even though he has a huge female fan following, he says he believes in committing to one woman for life. A sucker for romance, he cites SRK-Preeti Zinta-starrer *Veer Zara* as one of his favourite films. When asked about second chances in love, he retorts, "Second chances in love and life... why only second? Why not third, fourth, fifth... tenth or even eleventh? It's all your choice. It depends on the person, and is different from one individual to another, and what you want to settle down for. I have an old-school point of view, I believe in one woman for life. That's why I felt it was difficult for me to understand Zain. Veer waiting in jail for life for Zara, that's my kind of love. But *Gehraiyaan* opened my eyes and helped me to remove the judgement. I have done this film and lived the character's life, so my perspective is different now. Whatever choices you make is all up to you," he signs off.

@ayeshatabassum  
@newindianexpress.com  
@aishatax

“

I used to share notes, and then I drew an emotional chart of my character. I would share this experience with Shakun. He would keep tweaking my approach. It was all his genius. Zain's character is very different from what I have played before and he is unlike all the characters I have ever seen on screen. The irony is that the character is very real



Siddhant Chaturvedi & Ananya Panday in a scene



culture

music/new release

INDULGE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 | HYDERABAD

# Heart beats

City-based outfit, Capricio released a new single, *Gundelo*, this Valentine's Day



Shravan Pakalpati

The band's favourite romantic songs:

*Kannulo Nee Roopame*  
from *Ninne Pelladatha*

*Vaalu Kanula Daana*  
from *Premikula Roju*

*Uppenantha Ee Prema Ki*  
from *Arya 2*

**F**ORMED IN THE year 2016, Capricio is a five-member outfit that needs no introduction in the city's live music circuit. Known for playing regional covers, the band brings their unique flavour to the popular melodies by adding a twist of their own. The band members Eknath Kiran Goparaju (vocals), Ayaan Khan (vocals), Sai Teja (percussions), Shravan Pakalpati (keyboard), and Nishanth Shekar (guitarist) are elated as their latest drop, *Gundelo* has already become the city's favourite tune right in time for Valentine's Day. We catch up with Shravan who composed the single.

**Can you tell us about your song?**

The track is all about first love. It is about the magical feeling, and the butterflies one gets when they see the person they like after a few years.

Initially, when the melody was playing in my head, I did not have a particular theme to work on. And, one day I was playing the tune on my piano when the songwriter interrupted me and told me that the tune can make for a good nostalgic love story.

**How would you describe its theme?**

Well, it is a journey — losing your first love — finding it again.

in conversation

**Which genre would you place *Gundelo* in?**

We, as a collective, usually play regional music but this time we tried pop music. We included elements like electronic beats, guitars, pianos, and synthesizers.

**Is there a personal experience attached to the song?**

There is nothing particular. But, we are sure that most people can connect with the lyrics.

**As one of the first bands to start playing Telugu music in the city, do you see any changes in the live music circuit today?**

Yes, the whole live music scene has drastically changed since we started our band. We are proud to see that city-based musicians are more fearless now. They are readily choosing music as a full-time career. At the end of the day, we all must pursue what we truly love.

**Can we expect more originals from you?**

Yes, we are actually working on a few original tunes. We also cannot wait to perform these tracks in our live gigs. It is overwhelming to see the kind of support that independent musicians are getting in the city. So, yes, we do have big plans for this year.

**Where are you performing next?**

We will play our usual gigs. But the big news is that we will be doing our first international show after the pandemic in the US for a two-month tour. We cannot wait to share more details with you all soon!

*Gundelo is streaming on all online platforms.*

— Suchitra Behara

bsuchitra@newindian  
express.com @SuPatnaik

hot picks

**Krishna Tejasvi, singer**

The lead singer of Jammers tells us that his favourite love song is *O Cheliya* from *Premikudu*. Composed by A R Rahman and sung by Unnikrishnan, this melody has made quite an impact on Tejasvi. "The way the lyrics are written and how beautifully the tune complements them has always fascinated me. Not just as a love song, but it has to be one of my favourite songs ever," the singer shares.



**Vaishak Menon, drummer**



The drummer of Niraval tells us that *Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua* from *Rehnaa Hai Tere Dil Mein* is his favourite love song to play on any given day. He adds, "The song is so melodious. How can one not enjoy it? The lyrics written by Sameer are poetic."

**Vidyadhar Raghavan, singer**

Sarvam's vocalist, Vidyadhar Raghavan, who is an ardent fan of Carnatic music says that the band's all-time favourite romantic tune is *Saathiya* from the movie *Saathiya*. "You see, every love story has a range of emotions and that is shown in this song with different colours. *Saathiya* is a beautiful journey that takes one through the moods of love," he explains. The band will perform a reprised version of the track on Valentine's Day at Ironhill, Kukatpally.



**Ram Manoj Patnaik, musician**

The vocalist of the band The Coastal Project, Ram Manoj Patnaik talks about his favourite song, *Swaasye*. "This song from *Ye Maya Chesave* is special in so many ways. The way it is placed in the movie and how Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Naga Chaitanya bring in a dose of romance is what makes it memorable even after all these years," he shares.



Members of the band



### Premiere: Tall Girl 2

In the first instalment of the movie, Jodi, 16 years old and six-foot-tall, struggles with the awkwardness and negative attention caused by her height, before finally accepting and embracing her uniqueness. In the new movie, she is basking in the confidence she has gained since but a series of unexpected events sees her facing new challenges. February 11. On Netflix



### New show: Inventing Anna

A few years ago, the Internet and New York society in particular, were abuzz with talk of Anna Sorokin / Delvey, who was arrested after successfully fooling the world into believing she was a German heiress. This mini-series by Shonda Rhimes sets out to tell her fascinating and shocking story from the perspective of journalist Vivian Kent (Anna Chlumsky) who is interested in interviewing Anna for a feature. February 11. On Netflix

### New show: Everything's Gonna Be All White

This four-part docu-series explores the loaded topic of race relations in the USA. Told from the point of view of people of colour, it shares stories of the past and present. The series features noted historians, cultural commentators, actors, and artists talking on the subject. February 12. On Voot Select



### Must-watch: Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain

Filmmaker Morgan Neville takes a deep dive into the life of the late Anthony Bourdain. Through interviews with other celebrity chefs, and the crew of Bourdain's TV show *Parts Unknown*, it sheds light on his illustrious career. The documentary also uses artificial intelligence technology to reproduce Bourdain's voice. February 13. On BookMyShow Stream



### Premiere: Hot Mess Holiday

This romcom featuring Kal Penn, Lilly Singh, Punam Patel and others follows Melanie Chandra. When Melanie gets dumped by her boyfriend on Diwali, her best friend Surina is the only person who stands by her. The two girls head to Chicago for a girls' trip where they discover a valuable diamond by accident. This triggers a series of comical events. February 14, 1 pm. On Comedy Central



### Premiere: I Want You Back

From the writers of *Love, Simon* and *This Is Us* comes this new romantic drama. Charlie Day plays the role of Peter and Jenny Slate is cast as Emma. Peter and Emma bump into each other after they are dumped by their respective partners. An unusual friendship develops between the two, and the duo find they have a common goal — to make their exes breakup with their new partners. But will Peter and Emma be successful? February 11. On Amazon Prime Video





hot  
stuff

₹59 lakh

## Ulysse Nardin Blast Moonstruck

There are watches, and then there are Ulysse Nardin watches. Ulysse Nardin makes ultra luxurious watches with incredible complications. The Blast Moonstruck, apart from telling time, reproduces the moon's rotation and the movement of the sun around the globe in a visually outstanding display. The 45mm astronomical watch is forged in black ceramic and DLC-treated titanium with an alligator strap. [ulyссе-nardin.com](http://ulyссе-nardin.com)



### GADGET BOY

Is there a shiny  
new gadget  
you'd like to tell  
us about?  
[Mailashokpandian@  
gmail.com](mailto:Mailashokpandian@gmail.com)

## Qysea Finish V6 Expert

For all you drone lovers, here's a unique spin. The Fifiish V6 is a pro level underwater robot/multi-capable tool for enhancing your underwater adventures. The V6 Expert comes with a 166deg FOV lens and 4K UHD cam plus 6000 lumen LEDs to brighten up the Ocean. It can move at speeds upto 1.5metres/sec and take steady footage at the depths you require. [qysea.com](http://qysea.com)



₹2.24 lakh

# Gadget Review

## Flexnest Flexbike

Since 2020, I've been looking for indoor short duration physical activity to get my heart rate up and to elevate my mood. Flexnest was kind enough to lend me one of their high tech BT enabled indoor bikes to take for a spin. Firstly assembling the Flexbike was relatively easy and took about 45 minutes. Once set up, the bike looks sleek and occupies very little physical space. Connection via the Flexnest app to my iPad was quick and before you knew it I was riding away on a virtual trail along the coast of Ibiza. There are several downloadable ride sessions with expert instructors to get you on top in no time. In the two weeks I've used the Flexbike (20 mins/day), I can feel/see dramatic improvements to my leg and overall strength as well as measured substantial improvements in my VO2 max (indicator of cardiovascular fitness). Areas of improvement could include a more ergonomic seat and ease of assembly. Highly recommended. [theflexnest.com](http://theflexnest.com)



₹32,999

## Portronics Pico 10

Pico 10 is a Smart Music LED projector which can convert smaller spaces into larger entertainment zones. The compact and portable projector comes with stereo wireless music

capabilities. Powered by Android 9.0, Pico 10 has a 280 Lumens lamp and can project video and images upto 150 inches in size. With Android OS and Wi-Fi, you can take your OTT content with you wherever you go in large size. Options for connectivity include HDMI, Miracast, USB, Aux and BT. The in-built 5200 mah battery allows upto 160 minutes of non-stop viewing. [portronics.com](http://portronics.com)



₹29,990

## Soundcore Life Note 3

Soundcore by Anker has a fine range of audio speakers and TWS, its latest Life Note 3 packs quite a punch sonically. I test drove the black version and came away quite energised. Life Note 3 comes in a cool Carbon fibre finish and fits really well on the ears. The 11 mm composite drivers dish out some solid yet clear bass where music turns lively and enjoyable. Calls were sharp, clear and stress-free. These TWS support multi mode noise cancellation where you can choose with various modes (via the *Soundcore app*) to block out background noise in varying levels according to the environment. Overall noise cancelling was good with multiple levels of transparency. Gaming mode is great which provided a focussed yet thrilling experience while playing NFS. Battery life is great with upto 35 hours of total life. I did wish more customisation was possible on the TWS itself rather than connecting to the app. However, many will enjoy the ability to really tweak a pair of TWS to their individual sonic preferences. [soundcore.com](http://soundcore.com)



₹7,999

## OPPO Reno 7 Pro 5G

The latest from the Reno series is a brilliant mobile device which performs as well as it looks. The Starlight Black version I have been using for the past week has received several compliments already for its slick and well balanced appearance. Coming to the hardware, the Rear cameras include a 50 Mp main camera (Sony IMX766) with 8+2MP cameras for wide and Macro along with a colour temp sensor plus a 32 MP front camera (IMX 709). Photos and videos are flagship level with excellent colour rendering, sharpness and contrast in detail. Video modes include AI highlight video portrait videos and Bokeh Flare for incredible DSLR like Bokeh effects. Another unique feature is the 3D Breathing light feature around the camera module which lights up softly during a call or notifications. MediaTek makes excellent SOCs and the new Dimensity 1200 MAX allows seamless multitasking and connectivity. The device also comes with 256 GB storage and 12GB RAM with 65W charging. Color OS 12 is based on Android 12 and is clean, uncluttered and pleasant. In my opinion The Reno Pro 7 5G probably offers the best bang for your buck currently. [oppo.com](http://oppo.com)



₹39,999

## Withings Body Scan

The upcoming Body Scan from Withings will deliver weight, body composition (segmental) and heart health along with ECG and Vascular age. It will also be able to measure nerve impulses and assess nerve activity. The Withings app will provide measurements and metrics as well as personalised health plans. Coming soon. [withings.com](http://withings.com)



Ashok Pandian  
[@ashokpandian](https://twitter.com/ashokpandian)



# NEXT LEVEL LUXURY SUV!

Known for its high level of comfort and versatility, the new Q7 packs quite the punch



launchpad

## sneak peek

**A**UDI IS BACK with the iconic Q7 and it now boasts of the new design language of Audi's 'Q' family range.

### Design

The new Audi Q7 boasts of a refreshed design that is sharper and sportier than its predecessor. Key design elements include the new bumper with a three-dimensional effect, a single frame grille that is wider and has vertical slats, higher air inlets, Matrix LED headlamps, LED tail lamps, dynamic turn indicators, a panoramic sunroof and stylish 19-inch alloys.

### Interior

The cabin of the Audi Q7 is where all the action truly lies! Finished in plush materials, you have a spacious luxury lounge on wheels. With seven seats, the Q7 is rather practical too. This luxury SUV comes with the Audi virtual cockpit, the Audi smartphone interface as well as an ambient lighting package that offers 30 customisable colours to suit your mood. You also get the rear seat entertainment package that comes with built-in provisions such as the rear screens that are integrated with the B&O 3D surround sound system. To keep you comfortable, there is the 4-zone air conditioning that ensures you can set your spot in the car according to your needs!

### Performance

Under the sculpted hood of the Audi

Q7 you will find the new state of the art 3.0 litre V6 TFSI engine with a 48V mild hybrid system. The engine delivers 340 hp of power and a solid 500 Nm of torque allowing the Q7 to go from 0-100 km/h in just 5.9 seconds! Add to that, you get the legendary quattro all-wheel drive system, adaptive air suspension, seven driving modes through the Audi Drive Select system and the ability to enjoy this beast of a machine both on and off road!

### Features

The new Audi Q7 comes loaded with features as compared to its predecessor; this list includes lane departure warning with steering assist, Park Assist Plus with 360° 3D surround camera,

## MOTORSCRIBES

(A pitstop for modern-day car and bike enthusiasts, this column features the latest machines, reviews, roadtrips and more. By a team of automotive insiders who call themselves MotorScribes)

adaptive windscreen wipers with integrated washer nozzles, MMI Navigation plus with MMI touch response, a Bang & Olufsen premium 3D sound system, and air ioniser with aromatisation. You also get eight airbags on board!

### Verdict

The Audi Q7 ticks all the right boxes that you would expect from a high-end luxury SUV. It is rich with features and creature comforts, offers effortless performance and to truly make it your own, Audi has ensured that you can choose from a wide list of accessories too! It is an iconic SUV that has been priced extremely well for its segment and will definitely find a lot of takers.

*The Audi Q7 range starts from ₹79.99 lakh and goes up to ₹83.33 lakh.*  
— Vikram Gour

## hot wheels

## Going dark!

The Tata Safari joins the 'Dark' range of products that come in a signature Oberon Black body colour and look simply striking!



THE TATA SAFARI has been doing brisk business in the country and has won accolades for its design. Undoubtedly, one of the best looking SUVs available in the mid-range product segment, it now gets a neat new look in the form of the #Dark Edition!

Clad in signature Oberon Black paint that is synonymous with the dark range of products from Tata Motors, the new Safari also gets 18-inch Blackstone alloys and signature badging on the fender and the tailgate. The dark theme carries over to the cabin as well and special finishes include the Blackstone Matrix dashboard, Nappa Granite black upholstery with blue tri arrow perforations and stitching. The end result is quite striking and upmarket, which suits the persona of the Safari quite well.

Tata is offering the Dark Edition scheme on the XT+ and XZ+ variants and they also benefit from exclusive features such as ventilated seats on the first and second row, an on-board air purifier as well as Apple Car Play and Android Auto over Wi-Fi.

Known for its robust build quality and Land Rover DNA thanks to the use of the modified D8 platform, the Safari has clocked over 16,000 customers since it was launched last year. The plush ride quality, high level of safety and neat connected technologies are the key driving force behind this demand. With the Dark Edition, Tata Motors is looking at furthering this growth.

*Starts from ₹19.05 lakh (ex-showroom).*  
— Manu Gour

# MG's electric upgrade

The soon to be launched MG ZS EV boasts of a series of changes that make it quite the package

TO START WITH, the new MG ZS EV will now get the global design language that is seen on the same product across Europe. The key elements include the fully-covered front grille with a charging socket placed right up front near the MG logo. The new ZS EV also gets refreshed 17-inch alloys with a sharp look, a sunroof and we also expect it to come in a bold new blue colour as well. Other key changes to the new MG ZS EV include the LED headlamps, DRLs, a new design bumper and new design for the taillights.

The cabin is expected to be more upmarket as well and like all MG products sold in India, we do expect to see a heightened level of connected features as well as autonomous level 02 technologies on board. After all, the MG ZS EV is essentially the

electric version of the Astor which currently sells in India with an AI personal assistant on board with the said autonomous level two technologies.

On the performance front, the new MG ZS EV is expected to come with the same 44.5 kWh V lithium-ion battery pack and offers a driving range of 419 km per charge. It is a peppy machine that delivers all that power from the word go and you do get that feeling of being pushed back in your seat as it accelerates forward.

For MG, the new ZS EV will only further their prospects in the EV space for the current version has sold over 4,000 units since it was introduced in 2020 and has a 27 per cent marketshare in the segment. With MG focusing on building out the EV ecosystem as well, their EVs will only grow in popularity!

*The MG ZS EV is expected to cost between ₹20-23 lakh.*  
— Vikram Gour





experience

# On a tiger trail

Waghoba Eco Lodge by Pugdundee Safaris is the perfect romantic getaway if you fancy spending quality time surrounded by nature this Valentine's Day weekend

Pics: Mayuresh Joshi

Tiger relaxing in a waterhole

**T**HE OCCASIONAL ALERT calls of birds sensing the presence of a predator nearby, surrounded by the endless wilderness welcomed us as we made our way through Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) in Maharashtra a few weeks ago. As we reached the new luxurious Waghoba Eco-Lodge by Pugdundee Safaris, our abode for the next few days the serenity of the surrounding was a welcome change. Set in the heart of the unbridled wilderness of Tadoba, it is built painstakingly with minute attention to detail, keeping all sustainable construction and practises in mind. The inspiration behind the name Waghoba is 'Wagh' as the tiger is called in Maharashtra.

## Chaistop

The drive from Nagpur airport to the tiger reserve was a pleasant one with a hint of winter chill on an otherwise sunny day. During our two-and-a-half-hour drive, we stopped to have tea at a *dhaba* located on the highway to recharge ourselves. It was already past noon by the time we reached the entry point of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve. Once we entered the gate, the last leg of the 18.6 km road trip began with lush green on both sides. As we drove on a long serpentine road that runs through the forest, we felt the fresh air which we don't get in our daily city life. The lodge was about 15 minutes drive from the Khutwanda gate of Tadoba, and about 30 minutes from Moharli gate. We were welcomed by the courteous staff of the lodge along with a welcome drink and a hot towel to regain the lost energy if any, due to the long drive.



Non-veg Nagpur thali

## Sustainability matters

Set across seven-acres of land in an untouched area in the buffer zone, Waghoba Eco-Lodge has 14 exclusive luxury cottages. It offers a swimming pool, organic vegetable and herb garden, library-cum-lounge, and a man-made hide for bird watching. Overhangs constructed with handmade Guna Adobe bricks and local stone have been designed to minimise day heat and keep the building cool. The dining, office, lounge etc. all are cooled using coolers, rather than AC. This helps reduce electricity for these sections by 75% and also balances the resort's carbon footprint.

As we get settled into one of the cottages for a snack break, we were surprised to find a private balcony to enjoy a hot cup of coffee. Almost like a mini home with all the modern facilities set in a jungle, suitable for a nature-loving couple this Valentine's Day weekend. In the evening all the guests at the lodge gathered at the library-cum-lounge area where we saw wildlife documentaries on Tadoba that helped us understand the flora and fauna better and enjoy the hospitality along with veg and non-veg snacks like paneer and chicken *tikka*, veg and non-veg momos served with a drink of choice. We wrapped up the long day with a hearty dinner and anticipation of a morning safari the next day.

## Into the wild

We left for the safari sharp at 5.45 am in an open jeep wrapped in proper winter gear as it was very chilly. It took us nearly 15 minutes to reach the starting point at Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve. As it is a protected reserve, all safaris are accompanied by a forest department official. Though the drive was long, we were eager to



Breakfast on the bonnet



Library-cum-lounge area



Aerial view of the property

venture into one of the most sought-after tiger-sighting and watching destinations in India, replete with mammals, birds, insects and reptiles, along with grasses, shrubs and trees. The forest cover is predominantly teak and bamboo. Driving into the tiger reserve is like entering an entirely different world. Of course, like every tourist jeep passing by, we also wanted that one great tiger sighting. Soon we heard calls of Sambar deer alerting other animals of a predator's presence as explained by Naturalist Mayuresh Joshi who had accompanied us on the safari to explain to us all things wildlife. We stopped and sat in anticipation for the great sighting for a long time. But sadly, even though we didn't spot any predator during our journey, we realised Tadoba is a flourishing animal kingdom of other species, an avian world full of birds, plus reptile and insect life in abundance. This bio-diverse ecosystem was the ancient dynasty of Gond. It is a known fact that Tadoba was named after a Gond King, Taru who fought a valiant battle with a tiger.

### Brekkie on a bonnet

We took a breakfast break with our pre-packed boxes and enjoyed it over the jeep's bonnet while soaking in the jungle air along with monkey and langur friends who were eagerly waiting for their share of the spread. While we didn't spot a tiger or a leopard, we were otherwise lucky to see the pride of peacocks, spotted deer grazing happily, sambar deer walking and posing majestically for the shutterbugs and huge crocodiles soaking in the sun. After the four-hour safari, we headed back to Waghoba for a scrumptious lunch and rest. By night, the resort transforms into dreamland with lamps lit up along the driveway. The buffet dinner included Indian and continental dishes and an interesting choice of desserts. What impressed us were the deserts that were cooked using local produce like millet *barfi* and *thandai* ice cream, yet of international standard. After dinner, we retired soon to our rooms as our time at the lodge was almost over. The next morning, we enjoyed the cool breeze and warm sunlight as we sipped on coffee on our private balcony while watching an array of butterflies flutter by. After breakfast, we were ready for our drive back to the city. Our short yet adventurous expedition had come to an end, and we bid *adieu* to the hospitality of Waghoba with a promise to come back soon.

₹15,000 (exclusive of safari charges).  
(The writer was at Waghoba Eco-Lodge on an invitation.)

— Reshmi Chakravorty  
reshmichakravorty@  
newindianexpress.com  
@reshmi190488

### How to reach

**Via airport:** Nagpur — 140 km  
(2.5 hours).

**Via railway:** Nagpur  
JN — 140 km | Chandrapura — 50 Km

### Activities

Jeep safari, boat safari, night safari, nature walk, bird watching and cycling.

The sambar deer

White-eyed buzzard

Sloth bear taking a leisurely stroll

Mottled wood owl

Bedroom of our cottage

Private balcony of our cottage





100  
YEARS SINCE 1920

# ZINDA TILISMATH BALM

100% HERBAL FORMULA



**JAB THANDA KAREGA KAAM,  
DARD SE MILEGA AARAM**

Sab se Cool ▶

A Cool & Effective Solution For



HEADACHE



COLD



SPRAIN



NECK & BACKPAIN



JOINT PAIN



MUSCULAR PAIN