



Celebrating  
**india**  
2006  
in Singapore April 10-16





# INDIA FASTEST GROWING FREE MARKET DEMOCRACY



India, the world's fastest growing free market democracy is on a high growth trajectory. The youngest and fastest growing population of consumers and professionals is leveraging demographic advantages and the GDP is expected to grow at 8% for the second year running. According to Goldman Sachs, among Brazil, Russia, India and China, India will show the fastest growth over the next 30 – 50 years. At present rates of growth, the burgeoning market in the country would be adding one France every three and a half years and one Australia every year.

With disposable incomes having multiplied five times over the past decade and a positive net employment outlook of +27 per cent, India's 400 million strong middle class is driving demand, competition and productivity like never before. World class educational institutions, thriving culture of entrepreneurship and strong quality orientation in manufacturing are drawing investors into India. The 2005 A T Kearney FDI Confidence Index ranks India higher than the USA, establishing India as global investors' favourite democracy.

India's focus on increasing investments in infrastructure development is designed to complement its rapid emergence as the preferred manufacturing hub for leading global corporations. Establishment of a 'hub and spoke' network of centres of economic activity is sure to lead to manifold growth in business profits and bring the hinterland into the mainstream.

All this is buoyed further by India's strong adherence to democratic tenets, which have enabled its assimilative and culturally rich society to forever modernise its traditions and create a unique work ethos, where freedom and the spirit of enterprise are together giving every individual a chance to shape a future of his or her own making.

When India made a pitch for its well deserved share of attention from global business at Davos in January 2006, the message from Indian policy makers and business leaders was received very well. The attraction with all things Indian continues. India is the Partner Country at Hannover Messe 2006, the world's largest and most important annual technology fair. Clearly, for India and those seeking a partnership with India, the time is NOW!





## INDIA & SINGAPORE BUILDING ON SYNERGIES

Rapid growth in bilateral trade is but one facet of the strong relations that India and Singapore have come to enjoy in the recent past. Singapore has emerged not just as India's most important trading partner amongst the ASEAN countries, but also as India's gateway to the ASEAN and China. Bilateral economic ties have got a further fillip with the signing of the CECA – Comprehensive Economic Co-operation Agreement by the two Prime Ministers in June 2005.

- **Bilateral trade grew by 41.3 per cent in 2005.**
- **Investments from Singapore into India recorded a substantial increase in 2005.**

Singapore, the ninth largest investor in India in 2003-04, climbed up to number 7 in 2005. According to the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance, Ministry of

Commerce & Industry, Government of India, cumulative FDI from Singapore from August 1991 to January 2006 adds up to over US\$ 1 billion. The top 5 sectors attracting FDI from Singapore in India include telecommunications (17.93%), financial and non-financial services (16.28%); electrical equipment - including computer software & electronics (12.4%), fuel (power & oil refinery) (11.12%) and transportation industries (8.85%).

India's Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with Singapore is now modeled on the lines of the existing treaty with Mauritius, with exemption for capital gains tax on profits from sale of shares built into the agreement. This is expected to generate even more investments from Singapore into India.

While welcoming investments from Singapore, India has also been looking to Singapore as a gateway

to the whole Asia-Pacific region. Many Indian companies have now set up joint ventures and subsidiaries in Singapore, covering diverse product categories such as automobile ancillaries, precision tooling, enameled wires, concentrates for soft drinks, synthetic juice powders, palm kernel processing, micro and mini computers etc. More than 300 Indian IT companies have set up software development operations in Singapore.

### Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) & Singapore

In line with the Government of India's "Look East" policy, the CII South East Asia Regional Representative Office was established in Singapore in September 1994, to broaden the relationship between ASEAN and India by encouraging and supporting contact and assisting both Indian industry and businesses in Singapore and the ASEAN.

The focus of this office has been to work both with corporates and government in Singapore and other countries in ASEAN, to devise a strategy which promotes an enduring and mutually beneficial

economic relationship spanning trade, investment, technology transfer, training and development across sectors. The 1st INDIA – ASEAN CAR RALLY 2004 organised by CII and IBEF, in co-operation with the ASEAN Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India and Governments of Member Countries of ASEAN is widely recognized as a landmark achievement in networking people and economies of our region. CII's Bridge Singapore Initiative has emerged as a key catalyst in further strengthening the India-Singapore partnership.



# CELEBRATIONS CALENDAR



## CELEBRATIONS AT A GLANCE

| Event                                   | Date        | Venue   | Contact                        |
|---|-------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Indian Cuisine Festival                 | 10-16 April | Tiffin Room, Raffles Hotel                        | nandini.prasad@tajhotels.com   |
| Journey Through India                   | 10-16 April | The Ritz-Carlton Millenia                         | tmaira@singnet.com.sg          |
| India Evening                           | 11 April    | Shangri-La  | ciisgp@pacific.net.sg          |
| Connecting India                        | 12-13 April | Grand Hyatt                                       | ed@sicci.com                   |
| An Affair with India                    | 12-14 April | Mandarin Court, Meritus Mandarin                  | kavita@phievents.com           |
| Tourism Fair                            | 12-14 April | Mandarin Court, Meritus Mandarin                  | indtour.sing@pacific.net.sg    |
| Kachche Lamhe                           | 13 April    | Victoria Theatre, Singapore                       | contactmetaphor@yahoo.com      |
| Impressions of India<br>Art Exhibition  | 13-16 April | The Pavilion, Far East Square                     | 62933889 / 98335197 / 98423416 |
| Khajuraho<br>A Dance Performance        | 14 April    | Jubilee Hall, Raffles Hotel                       | 96624689 / 98213929            |
| Sharmila Tagore<br>A Retrospective      | 14-19 April | Ngee Ann Auditorium<br>Asian Civilisations Museum | shweta@teamworkprod.com        |
| In Conversation<br>with Sharmila Tagore | 15 April    | Jubilee Hall, Raffles Hotel                       | shweta@teamworkprod.com        |





# CELEBRATIONS CALENDAR



**THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA**, in association with partners in India and Singapore presents **Celebrating India 2006**. A celebration of contemporary India, the best of Indian artistic talent and the diverse and growing aspects of Singapore – India relations.

## INDIA EVENING

11 April, Shangri-La Hotel

From Paris Fashion week to Melbourne and at home in India, having woven the magic of film into fashion, **Ritu Beri Couture** will bring the magical and mystical exotic collection inspired by Bollywood to the **India Evening**.

This fashion event will be a homage to Bollywood over the years featuring models in amazing creations inspired by Bollywood movies. The rich colours and silhouettes will be displayed as a fashion tableau, creating the magic of Bollywood in Singapore with live musical scores mixed to perfection with live musical scores mixed to perfection with Bollywood themes from the classical to the contemporary! From *Pyar Kiya to Dama Kya* from the movie *Mughal-e-Azam*, to the recent hit *Kajrare* – the tableau is designed to inspire and intrigue the audience with live music by the extremely talented and versatile, young singer Shibani Kashyap.

"India Evening" supported by



Confederation of Indian Industry



## CONNECTING INDIA

**Asia Pacific Business Summit 2006**

12-13 April, Grand Hyatt

**Connecting India – Asia Pacific Business Summit** is organized by the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) and hosted at a time when the economic relationship

between India and Singapore is reaching new heights. The Summit constitutes the business component of the week-long celebrations. Highlights of this business conference include Plenary and Sectoral sessions covering more than 20 industry sectors, and participation by renowned academics and leading policy-makers, who will provide in-depth perspectives on India's rapidly-expanding economy. The Summit will also forum to review the India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Co-operation Agreement (CECA) which provides India with a strategic framework for deeper engagement with ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific.

Focusing on India's key economic sectors, including Information Technology, Telecommunications, Media, Infrastructure, Real Estate, Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology, Healthcare, Legal Services, Banking, Financial Services, Manufacturing, Trading, Logistics, Shipping, Education, Tourism, Hospitality, Agro-Products and Food Processing, this 2-day Business Summit is structured to give attendees, a very comprehensive overview of the business and investment opportunities in India. It will provide delegates with the ideal platform to explore emerging business opportunities, set up international joint-ventures and strike lucrative commercial deals.

With such an amalgamation of knowledge, expertise, opportunities and economic interest, **Connecting India** will certainly go a long way in enhancing business relationships between India and the Asia-Pacific.

For more details please contact

Mr. Nirman Sodhi, SICCI at Tel. +65-6222 2855, Fax. +65-62231707

Email. [connectingindia@sicci.com](mailto:connectingindia@sicci.com)

Registration form also available at [www.sicci.com](http://www.sicci.com)

Organised by



## AN AFFAIR WITH INDIA

**A Lifestyle & Property Exhibition**

12 April, 3pm-9pm | 13 April, 9am-9pm | 14 April, 9am-9pm

Mandarin Court, Meritus Mandarin

Admission Free

A variety of products will be showcased under one roof at the **India Lifestyle and Property Exhibition**. An event that brings you what you have never seen before from different parts of India. This dazzling array of products includes branded designer labels, artefacts, art and paintings, lifestyle products and property options.

The **India Lifestyle Fair** promises to be a truly distinctive experience which takes you down the shopping alleys of India... right here in Singapore. There's something for everyone and you're invited to come across and enjoy this one of a kind shopping experience and the *not to missed* lucky draw with prizes from Daum and tickets to India.

## INDIA TOURISM FAIR

12 April, 3pm-9pm | 13 April, 9am-9pm | 14 April, 9am-9pm

Mandarin Court, Meritus Mandarin

Admission Free

India with its 5000 years of history and great geographical variety offers immense opportunity for travel and tourism. Mountains, beaches, wildlife, forts, palaces, pilgrimage centers and the hospitality of the Indian people make the country a paradise for tourists.

Presenting-sponsor



Organiser



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The **Incredible India Tourism Fair** being organised as a component of **Celebrating India** will showcase these tourist attractions and facilities and also offer and opportunities for booking tours to various destinations in the country at attractive prices. The exhibitors include national and state level tourism organisations, reputed hotel chains, Indian air carriers and local tour operators with specialisation in operating tours to India. It will thus be a one-stop-shop for collecting information, discussing various travel options and also booking holidays. Other attractions will include a lifestyle fair at the same venue, cultural performances and *bhema* demonstration.

## TASTE OF INDIA

**Culinary Journey through India**

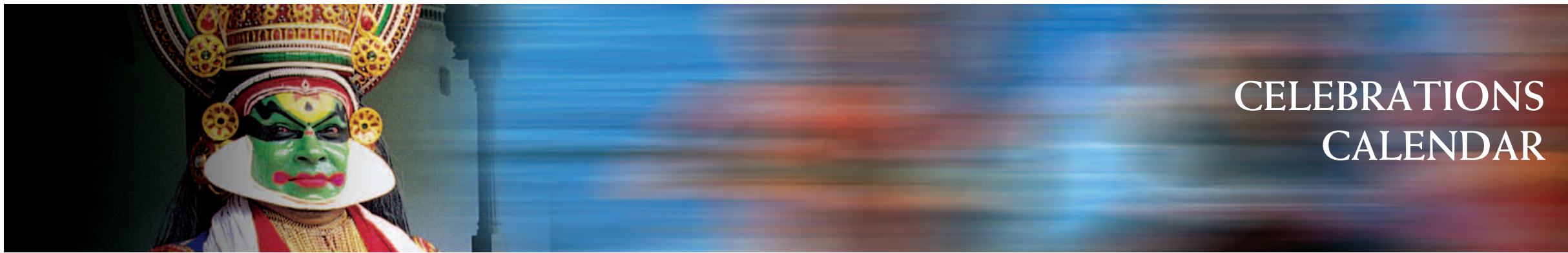
10-16 April

The Ritz-Carlton Millenia

Embark on a Journey through India as you savour the authentic flavours of fine Indian cuisine brought to you by Oberoi Hotels & Resorts and The Ritz-Carlton Millenia. Chef Soumya, Chef de Cuisine and Chef Surendera from Oberoi Hotels & Resorts together with Chef Sharma Nand of the Ritz-Carlton will present an exquisite dinner featuring classic Indian preparations hosted by Snappers Restaurant on April 12th. During the week, the buffet luncheons and dinners at the Green-house Restaurant will offer a mosaic of tradition Indian dishes from delectable curries, *kababs* to a range of Indian breads and desserts.

Oberoi Hotels & Resorts are synonymous the world over for providing the right blend of service, luxury and quiet efficiency. Internationally recognised for all-round excellence and unparalleled levels of service, Oberoi Hotels & Resorts have received innumerable awards and accolades. The only

**Incredible India**



hotels in India to be ranked among the best in the world by the readers of Travel+Leisure, the Oberoi leisure hotels are recognised for offering the highest levels of luxury among leisure hotels around the world.

**TASTE OF INDIA**  
**Taj Hyderabad Food Festival**  
 10-16 April, Tiffin Room, Raffles Hotel

With its innovative and trendsetting restaurants across the country, Taj Hotels, Resorts and Palaces is today recognized for its culinary expertise. The Taj was the first to introduce international cuisine such as Schezwan, Thai, Italian, Mexican and Californian into the country and in 1972, it was the first to open a 24-hour coffee shop in India at the Taj Mahal Palace & Tower, Mumbai. The Indian restaurants at the Taj highlight the country's varied regional cuisine.

The Taj Chefs, while on regular 'discovery' trips both abroad and into the interiors of the country, infuse their cuisine with new ideas and recipes in the most authentic form. Traditional cooking techniques and skills are handed down to these experts chefs. Today, each Taj restaurant is reflective of that tradition and firmly placed on the country's culinary map, is setting benchmarks for an outstanding culinary experience.

**Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces**  
 Established in 1903, Taj Hotels, Resorts and Palaces is one of South Asia's largest and finest group of hotels, comprising 57 hotels at 38 locations across India with an additional 13 international hotels in the Maldives, Mauritius, UK, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Africa and the Middle East. From world-renowned landmarks to modern business hotels, idyllic beach resorts to authentic Rajput palaces,

each Taj hotel offers an unrivalled fusion of warm Indian hospitality, world-class service and modern luxury. The Taj, a symbol of Indian hospitality, recently celebrated the centenary of its flagship hotel, The Taj Mahal Palace and Tower, Mumbai. Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces is part of the Tata Group, India's premier business house.

**CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART**  
**Impressions of India**  
 13-16 April, The Pavilion, 28 China Street, Far East Square

Art from contemporary India is a journey through decades and is representative of a changing and adapting humanity. The role of an artist in a fast evolving society such as India doesn't merely end as a punctuation of beauty, but transcends to explore the realms of social issues and presents a thought provoking perspective on the Indian concept of life, spirituality and the self.

Like the country itself, Indian art provides a fascinating panorama of diversity of religion, language and culture. This rich and exhilarating legacy along with a long history of mythology, literature, music, dance and folk and tribal art has inspired Indian artists of today.

**Impressions of India** is an exhibition of art works by some of India's finest and established artists such as T. Vaikuntham, Yusuf Arrakal and rising stars like Ratnadeep Adivrekar, Samir Aich, Buwa Shete and Shilpa Nikam.

For more details please contact  
 The Pavilion 6293 3889 (11 am – 6 pm)  
 Punita 98335197  
 Suvudha 98423416



**PERFORMING INDIA - THEATRE**  
**Hindi Play - Kachche Lamhe (Vulnerable Moments)**  
 13 April, 7.30 pm, Victoria Theatre  
 Tickets \$98 / \$78 / \$58 / \$ 48

Three great Indian Television stars come together for the first time on stage in this poignant love triangle *Kachche Lamhe* (Vulnerable Moments) based on the Sahitya Akademi Award winning short story *Seema* by eminent lyricist and poet Gulzar and scripted by Javed Siddiqi of *Tumhari Amrita* and *Aap ki Soniya* fame.

*Married to Sudbir, the director of a theatre group. Seema finds herself a mere vehicle of drama. Whilst Sudbir is engrossed in his creative pursuit, Seema pines for freedom from this bondage of borrowed identities. T.K., a businessman and her husband's best friend comes as a pleasant intrusion in her life.*

Featuring a celebrity cast of Kiran Karmakar (Om from *Kabani Ghar Ghar Ki*), Lubna Salim (Leela Bhabhi in *Baa, Baboo aur Baby*) & Harsh Chhaya (Dr Manas from *Astitva, Ek Prem Kabani*).

**PERFORMING INDIA - DANCE**  
**Khajuraho: Temples of the Sacred and the Secular**  
 by Malavika Sarukkai  
 14 April, Jubilee Hall, Raffles Hotel  
 Tickets \$1000, \$80, \$60, \$40

Malavika Sarukkai is the foremost exponent of Indian classical dance specializing in the Bharatnatyam and Odissi dance forms. She is the winner of many awards and much international acclaim. She has performed at various festivals the world over, including the Festival of India in France, USA,



Japan and Switzerland, the Edinburgh Festival, the Arts Festival of Adelaide and the Munich Opera.

Malavika Sarukkai's 'Khajuraho' pays homage to the temple as the sacred site of the origin of classical dance. In the Indian classical worldview, the sacred and the secular exist together. For more than one thousand years the Khajuraho temples have reaffirmed this belief. 'Khajuraho' is a tribute to the temples which resonate with the sacred even as they celebrate the secular.

For more details please contact 96624689 / 98213929

**PERFORMING INDIA - CINEMA**  
**In Conversation with Sharmila Tagore**  
 15 April, 7.30 pm, Jubilee Hall, Raffles Hotel  
 Admission \$55 (\$40, only for IWA members)

A chance encounter with Satyajit Ray at the age of 13 brought to the Indian screen one of our most loved actresses, Sharmila Tagore. A natural actor, Sharmila Tagore was part of the Children's Little Theatre in Kolkata before her film debut in *Apur Sansar*. The popular film, *Kashmir Ki Kali* launched Sharmila to instant stardom in Indian mainstream cinema and since then her films have become bywords for entertainment.

**Film Screenings**  
 14 April 7.30pm Apur Sansar (*The World of Apu*)  
 15 April 7.30pm Kashmir Ki Kali (*The Beauty of Kashmir*)  
 16 April 7.30pm Amanush (*Inhuman*)  
 18 April 7.30pm Aradhana ( )  
 19 April 7.30pm An Evening in Paris  
 Venue Ngee Ann Auditorium, Asian Civilizations Museum  
 1 Empress Place, (next to Victoria Theatre)  
 Admission \$9 Discount of 15% for 20 or more tickets (same show)



# 15 years 6 governments 5 prime ministers ONE DIRECTION

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