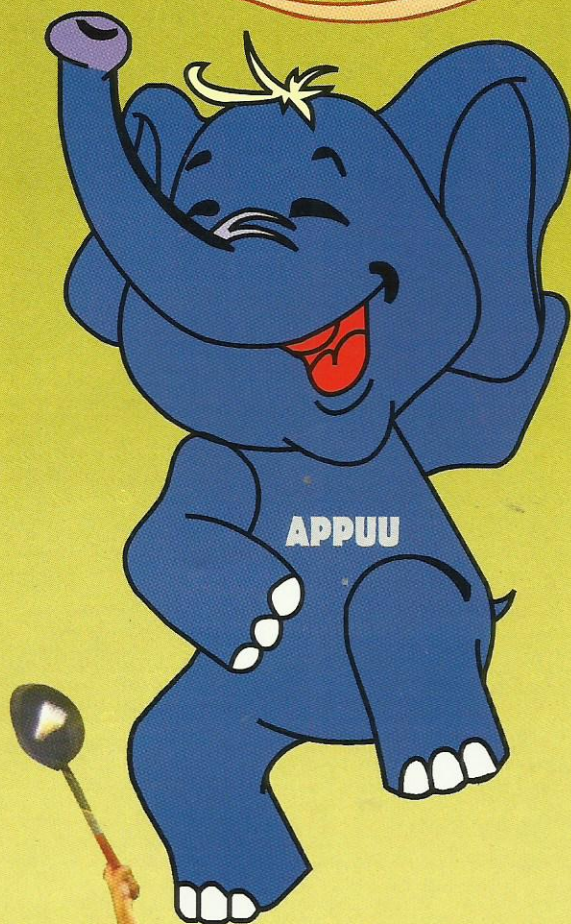


VOL. III ■ ISSUE 7 ■ AUGUST 2013



**MUMBAI SUBURBAN DISTRICT
BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP 2013**

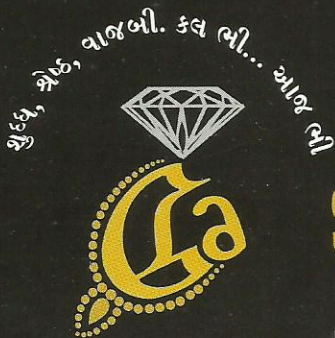
**JVPG CLUB COMBINED 4 STAR DISTRICT
RANKING TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2013**



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JUHU VILE PARLE GYMKHANA



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Co-Editor

YASH BHUTA

Associate Editor

KAPIL DESAI

Graphics Designer

SANJIV PAWAR

REACH US

Advertising:

Tel.: 022 26206016 Ext. 131
email: info@jvpgclub.com

Content writing:

Tel.: 022 26206016 Ext. 230
email: sanjiv.jvpgclub@gmail.com

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members,

In my last message, I had indicated that you shall be experiencing a change shortly.

Work on renovation of the 'Float Bar' on the first floor has commenced in good earnest.

It is our plan to open the bar sometime in early October. Cheers!!!

Other infrastructural facilities are also in the pipeline for upgradation.

Hope you and your children are enjoying the cool climate of the monsoons.

As you must be aware, a unique sports event involving various sports departments playing each and every sport against each other in a league format is presently on namely Champion of Champions 2013.

The buzz and excitement on account of this is palpable in every nook and corner of the club.

Please visit your second home as frequently as possible to partake of the fun atmosphere.

ANIL M. MAHESH

President

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Members,

Why not explore and exploit the fun and excitement nature has to offer in the monsoons.

We in India are fortunate to have such nature's bounty in abundance. This issue also once again offer same places worth exploring in the current season. Hope time is on your side for this.

As the President says, you must frequently partake the fun and frolic in the club more the merrier

KIRAN DALAL

Editor



CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS 2013



One-of-a-kind tournament involving 8 teams playing 8 games that is being held for the first time in the history of the Juhu Vile Parle Gymkhana Club. The unique format has generated tremendous interest and enthusiasm amongst the team players as well as members. The idea was conceived by Mr. Bipin Morjaria, the Tournament Director.

Champion of Champions 2013 is a stakes race hosted by the JVPK Club. It's a grand race tournament that is being held for the first time in the history of the Club. All of the sports are being played by 8 teams of the club. The basic idea that is being introduced in this tournament is that of bringing together all the different teams from different departments and setting them free to battle head-to-head for the title. This race of champions brings together stars from different field of sports.

The person behind this initiative, Mr Bipin Morjaria says his main aim was to encourage every individual member to rediscover themselves in any form of sports. Where as the Hon. Jt. Secretary Himanshu Gokani also desires to encourage wider participation from all age groups.

The tournament had its grand opening on July 21 2013. Hon. Jt. Sec. Himanshu Gokani welcomed all for the opening ceremony. Office Bearers President Anil Mahesh, Vice President Mohan Jain, Hon. Secretary Kiran Dalal, Hon. Treasurer Satish Shah and Hon. Jt. Secretary Himanshu Gokani along with Tournament Director Bipin Morjaria and Organizing Committee member Shamit Majmudar. All the 8 captains were also invited to be seated on the

dias. President Anil Mahesh and Bipin Morjaria gave a short speech about the tournament and the spirit of the games. The series of events that took place was as follows:-

- National anthem was played
- Hon. Secretary Kiran Dalal officially presented the booklet of the tournament.
- Captains of 8 teams lit the lamp
- As a tradition President Anil Mahesh broke the coconut, everybody offered prayers to Lord Ganesha and sweets were distributed.

Group - A



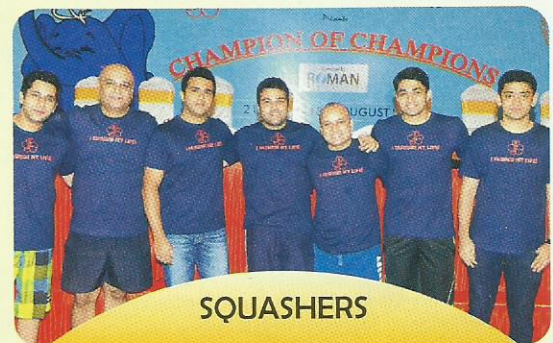
SUPREME SHUTTLERS



DIVERS



BAT-MEN



SQUASHERS



(L to R) 1st Row: Himanshu Gokani - Hon. Jt. Secretary, Mohan Jain - Vice President, Anil Mahesh - President, Bipin Morjaria - Tournament Director, Kiran P. Dalal - Hon. Secretary, Satish Shah - Hon. Treasurer and Shamit Majmudar - Organizing Committee Member.

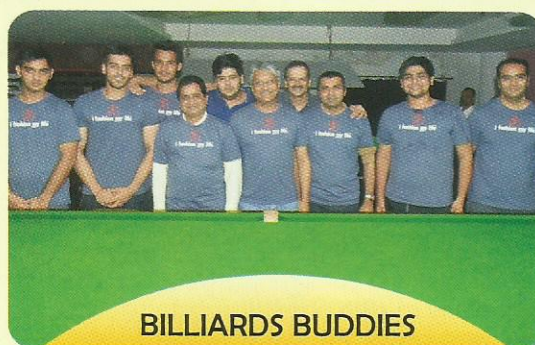
2nd Row: All Captains - Kketan Shah - Billiards & Snooker, Sanjay Kanakia - Table Tennis, Nikhil Rao - Tennis, Hemant Kamdar - Health Club, Sanjiv Shah - Cricket, Varun Motasha - Badminton, Vishal Morjaria - Squash and Vinay Punwani - Swimming.



Group - B



MUSCLE MANIACS



BILLIARDS BUDDIES



TENNIS ACERS



TABLE TYCOONS

- The Champion of Champions trophy was officially presented to the teams and all present on the occasion.
- All the teams marched from Activity hall and took the route covering swimming pool alongwith their respective flags.
- Ribbon was cut by the President Anil Mahesh and Tournament Director Bipin Morjaria who declared the tournament officially open.
- Balloons were released in the air.

What has followed since is a series of games which are being played with sportsman spirit & enthusiasm. A carnival-like atmosphere is wide-

spread across the club in all departments. This concept of playing 8 sports has created a lot of enthusiasm in players to play different sports and also facilitated intermingling and harmony amongst all departments.

The grand finale on 18th August will decide who wins the race, bags the Champion of Champions Title and sets the record for the first time by taking the prestigious trophy. Acknowledging the efforts from all the players - the Managing Committee has decided to grant free annual membership of 8 sports departments to the winning team and to the 3 best players of the tournament. JVPG Club would like to thank the sponsors - ROMAN Group; Porsche Centre Mumbai, Mangii Cafes and T-shirts by Mr. Kketan Shah.

Sponsored by:
ROMAN
G R O U P



Organizers releasing balloon at swimming pool area



All captains holding Champion of Champions trophy



Organizing Committee Members:

(LtoR) Purvi Kapadia, Kapil Desai, Shamit Majmudar, Bipin Morjaria, Anil Mahesh, Himanshu Gokani, Vikramsingh Manco, Sanjiv Shah and Nikhil Thanawala

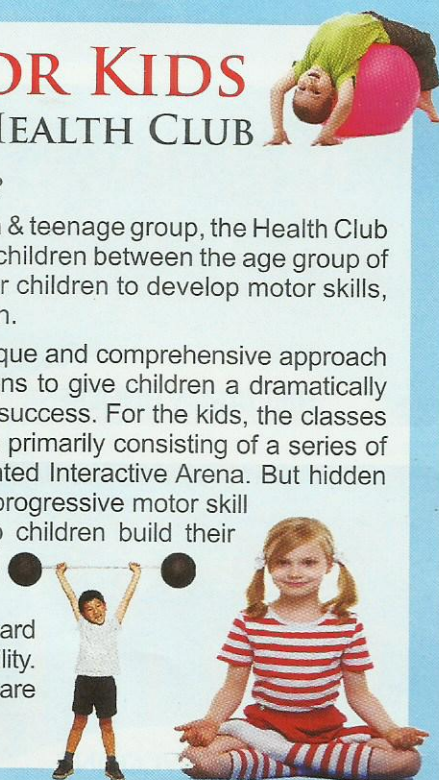
FUN GYM FOR KIDS FROM AUGUST AT HEALTH CLUB

WHAT IS FUN GYM ALL ABOUT?

As there are no classes for children & teenage group, the Health Club dept. plans to conduct classes for children between the age group of 4 and 12 years, to make it FUN for children to develop motor skills, sport skills, fitness and coordination.

FUN GYM programs based on unique and comprehensive approach to youth physical development plans to give children a dramatically improved way to achieve physical success. For the kids, the classes are just pure fun -- with each class primarily consisting of a series of specially designed games in patented Interactive Arena. But hidden beneath the fun is a curriculum of progressive motor skill and sport skill acquisition, to help children build their competence and confidence and reach their full athletic potential.

Members are invited to come forward and make the most of this facility. Enrollments are now open and forms are available at the health club reception.



Bouquets & brickbats



What do you think of us? Like us?

Any suggestions?

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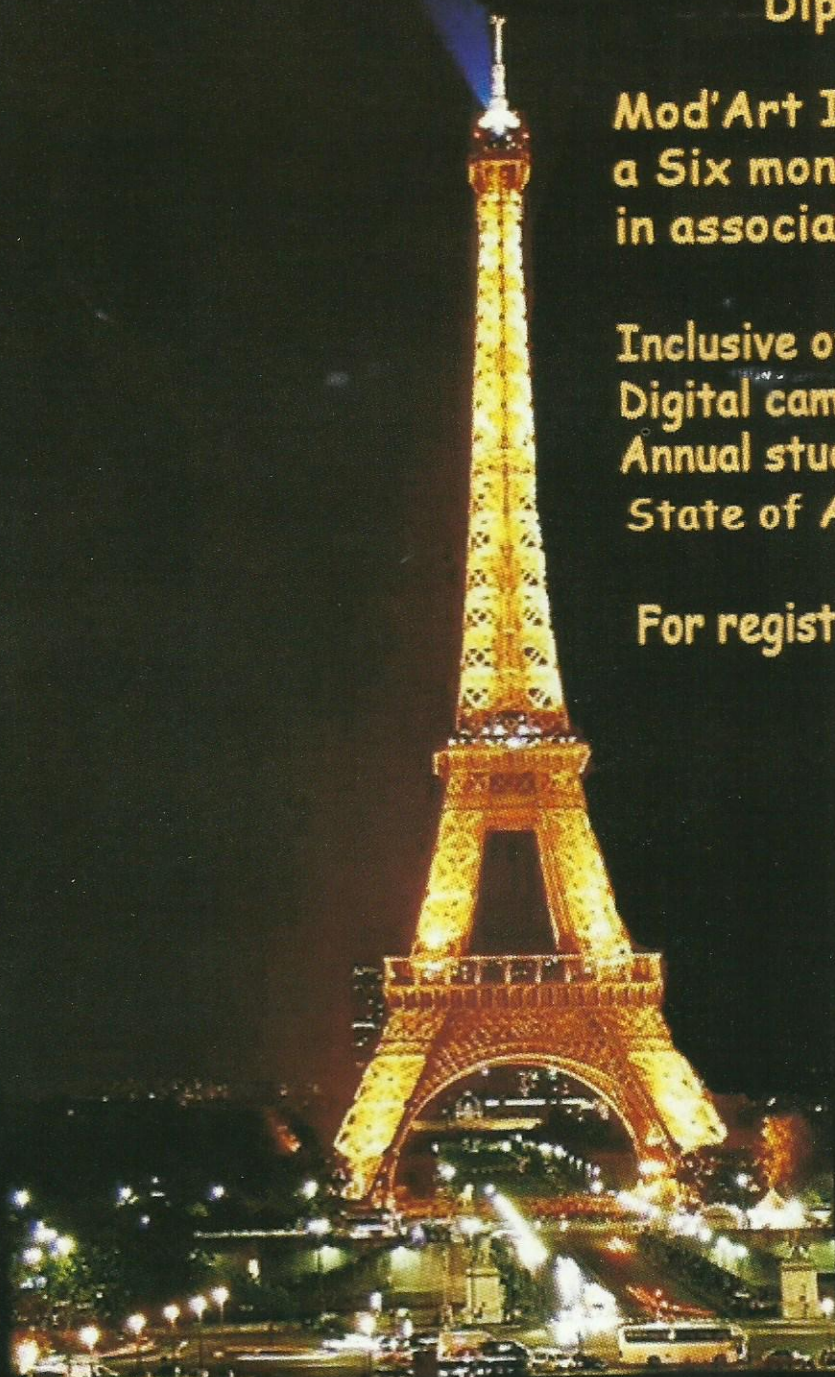
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

17 AUG 2013 GHAZAL & QAWWALI NITE

Tabla Jugalbandi by Nazish Khan and Aquid Khan. Ghazal by Jabbar Khan & Saboor Khan and Qawwali by Shahid Rampuri & troupe on Saturday 17th August 2013 from 8 pm onwards at Activity Hall. For details contact Member Service Desk.

18 AUG 2013 CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS GRAND FINALE

Grand Finale followed by closing ceremony of Champion of Champions 2013 will be held on 18th August 2013. All are invited to witness the culmination of this eventful tournament and enjoy the presentation ceremony to the winner of this tournament.

24 AUG 2013 ANTAKSHARI

Senior Citizen Sub-Committee will organize Antakshari on Saturday, 24th August 2013 at Activity hall from 6.30 pm. For details contact Member Service Desk.

31 AUG 2013 JVPCL CLUB CHILDREN'S SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT

On 31st August & 1st September 2013 at Activity Hall. Age group 8 to 15 years.

For further details & registration please contact Mini Hingorani #9820185808 / Sherwin Rodrigues #9819747885

01 SEPT 13 DRAWING COMPETITION

Entertainment Sub-Committee presents Drawing Competition on Sunday 1st September 2013 at Jasmine & Orchid Hall from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon for members only. Age group 5 to 7, 7 to 9 & 9 to 11 years. Registration charges Rs. 100/- per child. Refreshments will be given to the participants. Forms will be available at Member Service Desk from 1st August 2013. Last date of entry 24th August 2013. For more details contact Member Service Desk.

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From 1st week of September 2013 ■ Time: 9.15 - 10.15 am
For registration please contact Health Club Reception (first come first served basis)

Be there or be LEFT OUT

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JUHU VILE PARLE GYMKHANA CLUB

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Bosco Caesar Dance Company is the brainchild of 2 very passionate Bollywood Choreographers *Bosco Martis * & *Caesar Gonzales*. They have been associated with Film Industry for over 12 years now. Our classes are a blend of dance forms like *Jazz, Hip-Hop, Ballet, Popping, Locking* etc. and ofcourse *Bollywood*!

Starting from 6th August 2013.
Days & Timings : Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday - 09:20 am to 10:20 am
Starting Soon : Bloomers - 7 to 15 Years / Bollywood Rockers - 16 Years & Above

REGISTER NOW!! AT HEALTH CLUB RECEPTION
(On first come first served basis)

PAVANKUMAR SARAF
Chairman - Health Club

HIMANSHU GOKANI
Hon. Jt. Secretary

JVPGC ALL MUMBAI 4-STAR RANKING TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT, 2013

The All Mumbai 4-Star Ranking Table Tennis Tournament 2013 held from 28th June to 2nd July 2013 at JVPG Club was a great success. It was indeed a challenging job for the Chairman and committee members to do it in just 15 days before the tournament. This would not have been possible without the active support of the office bearers, MSDTTA Chairman Kamlesh Mehta (Ex. T.T National Champion & Arjuna Award Winner), Amit Shah, Sanjeev Shah and other Table Tennis Sub-Committee members.

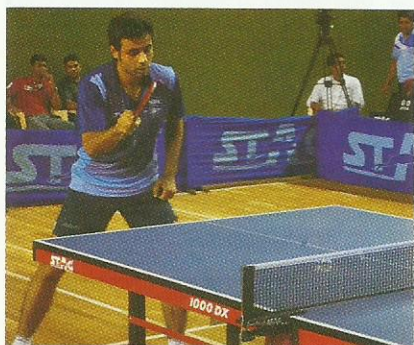
President Anil Mahesh announced the tournament open. The tournament witnessed more than 575 participants, a record at our gymkhana. The Activity hall was fully packed on the closing ceremony of this event. Mr. Dilip Patel, Corporator was the Chief Guest.

It was a competitive tournament having many ups and down for the top players particularly in women's event. It was covered extensively by various newspapers especially Indian Express. The Men's Winner - Aman Balgu, ranked nationally, displayed superb power, speed & spin as he out smashed & outpaced Noel Pinto, whereas Charvi Kawle roped in the title in the Women's event.

Mr. Suketu Mehta, Chairman T.T. says there are more tournaments in the pipeline. Our Hon. Jt. Secretary Himanshu Gokani invites more and more members of our club to come forward and immerse themselves in a ground breaking true next generation experience with the incredible speed that will keep them going.



SUKETU MEHTA
Chairman,
T.T. & Indoor Games



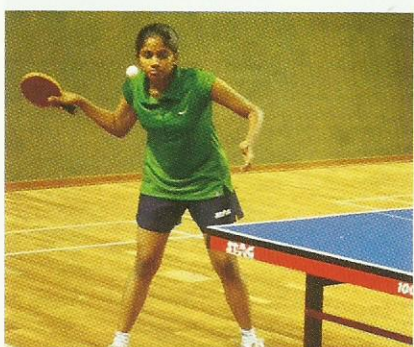
Men's Singles Winner Aman Balgu
in action



President Anil Mahesh & TT Chairman Suketu Mehta
lighting of the lamp



Women's Singles Winner Charvi Kawle
receiving trophy from corporator Mr. Dilip Patel



Women's Singles Winner Charvi Kawle
in action



Men's & Women's Singles Winners alongwith officials



MUMBAI SUBURBAN DISTRICT BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

JVPG Club hosted the Mumbai Suburban District Badminton Tournament from 10th to 14th July which was a great success. There were more than 525 entries. In the boys singles U/13 category Varun Dave of JVPG Club performed really well and won the finals. In the Men's Doubles our Badminton Chairman, Aditya Pandya and Rohit Sadani of JVPG Club won the final which was the best match of the evening.

Mr Anil Mahesh president of JVPG Club and also of MSDBA (Mumbai Suburban District Badminton Association) ensured that this event was carried out to perfection.



ADITYA PANDYA
Chairman, Badminton



President Anil Mahesh cutting the ribbon and declares the championship open



HDIL representative presents trophy to Boys U/13 Winner Varun Dave



Vice President Mohan Jain presents trophy to Boys U/15 Winner Sai Dinesh Reddy



Men's Doubles Winner
Aditya Pandya & Rohit Sadani



Winners alongwith President Anil Mahesh,
Vice President Mohan Jain and Vishwajit Bhatnagar



Badminton fans keenly watching the finals

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AT THE BADMINTON COURTS IN OUR CLUB

The badminton dept. is planning to conduct lot of tournaments this year for the members, like Home Tournament in the month of September, Jumbles Badminton Tournament, Badminton Doubles Specialist Tournament and many more. We are trying our best to provide maximum facilities to our members and would request more and more kids and adults to start playing badminton.

Are you wasting a lot of energy on the badminton court? Do you struggle to cover the whole court? Are your smashes weak and inaccurate? With poor technique everything is harder, but with good technique, a whole new world can open up to you as a player.

- What if you could cover the court smoothly, and with minimal energy?
- What if you could add that "snap" to your strokes giving them that extra bit of power?
- What if you could hit your shots with more accuracy and make fewer errors?

Finally, what if you could learn all of this from our experienced coach and Mr. Aditya Pandya (Chairman, Badminton Sub-Committee has been a national level badminton player and has represented Maharashtra for 2 years and recently has won the district badminton tournament)

The course we have created for you is called "The Essentials of Badminton Technique". Just as it sounds this course covers all of the essential skills of badminton technique to help you to create a strong foundation for your game. There is no age restriction everyone can be a part of it. The coaching will be held throughout the year from Monday to Sunday. The circular and other details will be given shortly to the members.

We have Jamnabai Narsee School children getting trained by Aditya Pandya which is a great success.



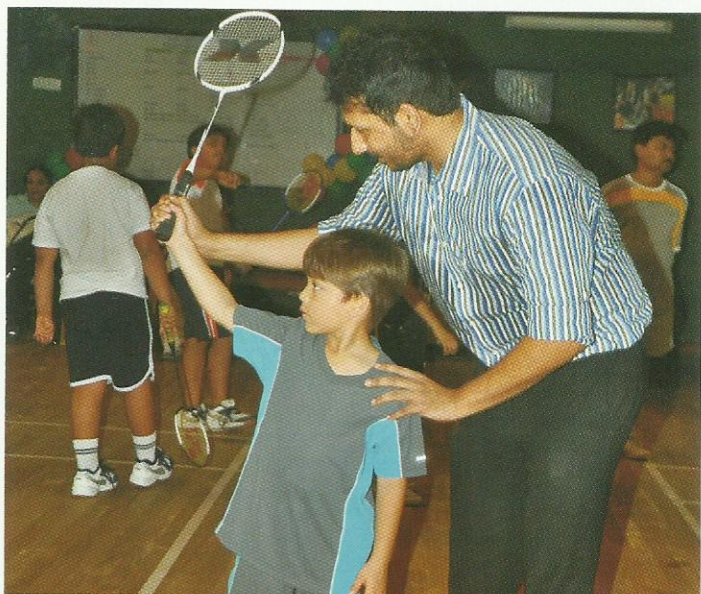
Student practicing the basic technique of playing badminton.

The badminton dept. is planning to conduct lot of tournaments this year for the members like the home tournament in the month of September and jumbles badminton tournament and badminton doubles specialist tournament and many more.

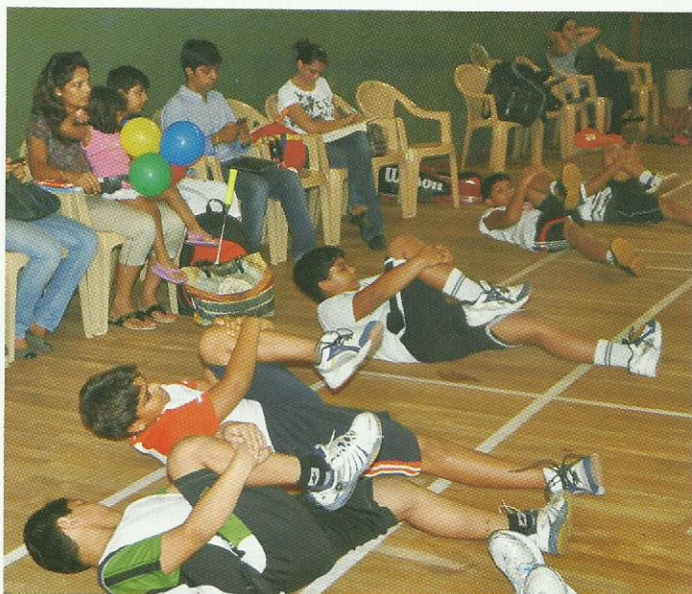
Badminton as a sport has come up a lot and has become the most popular sport after cricket.

Indians performing well in International level with the likes of Saina Nehwal and P. Kashyap.

We are trying our best to provide all the possible facilities to our members and would request more and more kids and adults to start playing badminton learn the game and increase their fitness level.



Chairman Aditya Pandya, teaching a young student.



Future champions exercising before matches.

BILLIARDS HOME TOURNAMENT 2013

Today billiard is not only a kind of club entertainment, it is a sport. Every year hundreds of tournament take place around the world and champion fees exceed the prize payments than many other sports.

Billiards & Snooker Home Tournament 2013 - from 30th June to 17th July 2013. Saw many interesting matches and winners were as follows:-

- a) Snooker Open- Winner Zubin Lelinwalla, Runner up - Santosh Gulwadi.
- b) Snooker Handicap - Winner Vishal Mehta, Runner up - Sumil Joshi.
- c) Billiards Open - Winner Harvinder Negi, Runner up - Sanjiv Shah.
- d) Billiards Handicap - Winner Amit Dhruv, Runner-up Rajesh Vora. Finals between Amit Dhruv & Rajesh Vora was an interesting match of the tournament on a 150 point format which was played on a best of 3 frames went till the deciding frame where in Amit Dhruv scored 9 points on his last and final visit where in Rajesh Vora was already 149 points. Mr. Amit Dhruv won the final keeping his opponent Mr. Rajesh Vora 1 point away from taking the title.

The common term billiard combines several varieties of this sport. Yes sport!!! Today billiard is not only a kind of club entertainment but every year hundreds of tournaments take place around the world. The Chairman Bharat Mehta of Billiard & Snooker Dept. talks with great pride about prestigious achievements of our JVPJ Club in the world of Billiards.

Going down the memory lane, he speaks about Dhruv Sitawala's contribution that is currently ranked India's No 3 as per the latest ranking of IBSF (International Billiards & Snooker Federation). This 40 yrs old sportsman started out in 1998, he

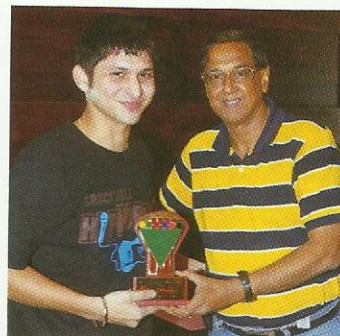


credits his success to the Juhu Vile Parle Gymkhana Club calling it his "Second home". Dhruv Sitwala being the only individual player, playing his sport at world level year after year representing India in every championship.

Hence making the snooker department proud with his success and giving the confidence and belief to have more Hero's like him.



BHARAT MEHTA
Chairman
Billiards & Snooker



President Anil Mahesh presenting trophy to Zubin Lelinwalla - Winner of Snooker Open Category in home tournament

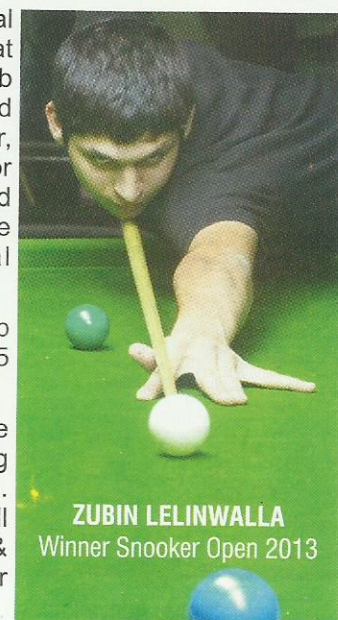


Hon. Jt. Sec. Himanshu Gokani presenting trophy to Vishal Mehta - Winner of Snooker Handicap Category in home tournament

Achievements & Success clipping of Billiards & Snooker Dept.:

1. Dhruv Sitawala came 3rd in world Billiards Championship 2012 held in UK.
2. Mumbai Inter-Club Snooker League Championship, 75-80 teams from all over the state had participated and in this field of fierce competition our JVPJ team finished as Runner-up. Team comprised of Bharat Mehta (Captain), Davendra Joshi (Arjuna Award Winner), Rajesh Vora, Anoop Kedia, Vishnu Kedia, Birju Kanani.
3. Rahul Sachdev reached top 32 in the Snooker World U/21 Championship held in China.
4. Billiards & Snooker National Tournament 2013 held at Gwalior Dev Dongre sub junior national no. 4 and state no. 3 in Snooker, Shivam Mehta sub junior state no. 4 in Snooker and Dhairya Bhandari participate in sub junior national tournament.
5. Zubin Lelinwalla Runner up in All India U/25 Championship.

The Chairman wishes to see more members participating and promises to guide them. This will result into high skill talent of National & International stature from our JVPJ Club.



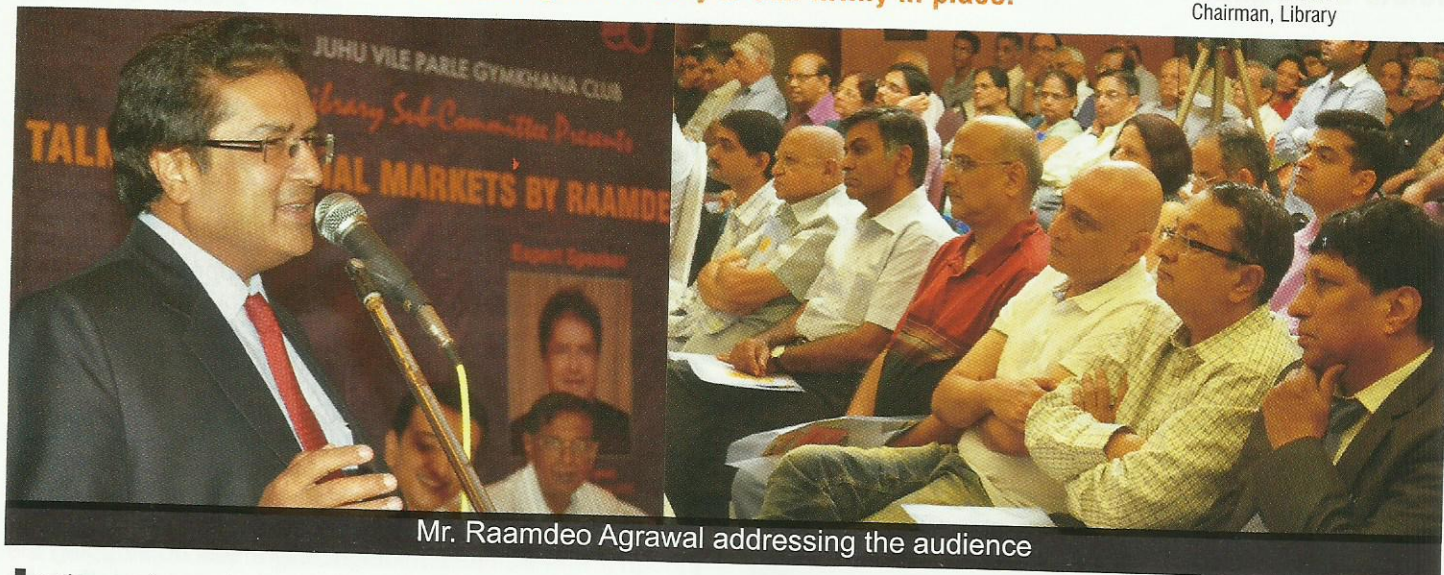
ZUBIN LELINWALLA
Winner Snooker Open 2013

TALK ON FINANCIAL MARKETS BY MR. RAAMDEO AGRAWAL

India is still undoubtedly one of the most promising country
and the fundamentals of Indian growth story is still firmly in place.



YASH BHUTA
Chairman, Library



Mr. Raamdeo Agrawal addressing the audience

In times of massive volatility in the financial markets and foreign exchange markets - the Library Sub-Committee headed by Mr. Yash Bhuta organized a talk by Mr. Raamdeo Agrawal - MD of Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. The talk was held at the Activity hall on 5th July 2013 From 6.30 onwards.

Raamdeo Agrawal was as candid as always in his talk. Some highlights of his talk are as follows:

- India is still undoubtedly one of the most promising country & the fundamentals of Indian growth story is still firmly in place.
- Though currently - we see a lot of pessimism and weak sentiments amongst investors - this is a very good chance to buy. A lot of value stocks are available at cheap prices.
- He shared that the key of his wealth creation has been the strategy of 'Buy and Hold'. He believes that the best strategy is to buy blue chips and then hold long term. He emphasized the importance of investing in blue chips and good quality scripts which have a proven track record and a matured and experienced management.
- For retail small investors - Mr. Raamdeo Agrawal

recommended investing in mutual funds through SIP (systematic investment plan) but before this - a thorough research of the fund manager must be done.

- Through a presentation - with facts and figures - Mr. Agrawal demonstrated how investing in stocks is the most rewarding asset class as compared to real estate or Gold.
- Investing in gold is not a very good investment in his view. At most one can expect to make a return which would be equal to the inflation.
- As of the value of the Indian rupee versus the American dollar - he was of the opinion that he correction was due and now is complete. He expects the dollar to remain at around Rs. 60 for. While before the rupee starts appreciating again.

The talk was followed by a question and answer session and the audience which included over 150 participants asked their queries which were answered in detail by Raamdeo Agrawal.

Finally the President, Anil Mahesh and Hon. Jt. Secretary, Himanshu Gokani of our club thanked Mr. Raamdeo Agrawal. The members were very happy with this rare chance of having a one to one with one of India's wizards of Dalal Street.



MUSIC OF BOLLYWOOD

A pleasant surprise was in store for all as Mr. Shaan, the famous Bollywood singer, made his appearance on the stage. On public demand, Shaan sang more than a couple of his hit songs from the film '3 Idiots' and 'Fanaa'.



VINOD JOLLY
Chairman, Entertainment

The Entertainment Sub - Committee headed by Mr. Vinod Jolly, celebrated 100 years of Cinema with a grand musical evening 'Music of Bollywood', which was held on 20th July 2013 at the Activity Hall from 8.30 pm onwards, which went on well beyond midnight. The show was house full almost 1 week before. Our Joint. Secretary Mr. Himanshu Gokani ensured that all arrangements were carried out to perfection.

The heart of the show for this program was the musical troupe of Mr. Anand Palwankar - 'Heart Waves'. The troupe consisted of high quality singers, Ms. Shefali Taggarsi, Ms. Alifia Shetty and Mr. Anand Palwankar himself. The music was arranged by Mr. Palwankar, supported by musicians and chorus singers.

As the evening set in, members started pouring in and so did the rains. The mood was just perfect for all to enjoy an evening filled with super-duper hit Bollywood songs.

As the musical troupe took charge of the stage, they took all the members and guests down memory lane to the Golden Era of Bollywood. Evergreen hit songs sung by Rafi Sahab, Mukesh, Mannadey, S.D. Burman, Kishore da, Lata, Asha and many more were sung to near perfection. The Activity

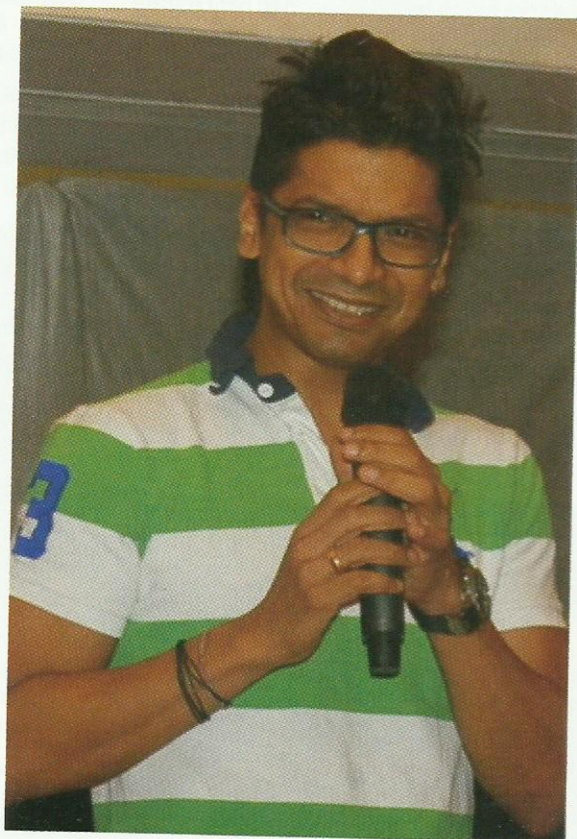
Hall, which was fully packed, was all set for this all-night musical extravaganza.

One song after another was welcomed and greeted with smiles and applause from all. Many members and guests who requested for their favourite songs were also obliged by the troupe.

A pleasant surprise was in store for all as Mr. Shaan, the famous Bollywood singer, made his appearance on the stage. On public demand, Shaan sang more than a couple of his hit songs from the film '3 Idiots' and 'Fanaa'. Shaan said that considering heavy rains, he will sing a hit song of Kishore da, 'Ek ladki bheegi bhaagi si', which was cheered by all. Everybody thanked him for his nice gesture of attending the show and for singing songs.

Once again, Mr. Anand Palwankar and his troupe took centre stage and super hit songs flowed one after another. Even though it was well past midnight, there was no stopping the demands from all and Mr. Palwankar ensured that he complied with everyone requests.

All members and guests went home with hearts full of everlasting sweet musical memories from this musical program, 'Music of Bollywood'.





SENIOR CITIZEN 'GANDHI NE KAHA THA'

For the first time ever in 30 years a drama in Hindi 'Gandhi Ne Kaha Tha' was organized at Activity Hall on 27.07.2013 and the Sr. Citizen Sub. Committee is proud to have done it.

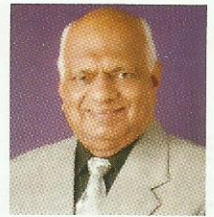
For the first time ever for the Senior Citizen's get together a Drama in Hindi "Gandhi Ne Kaha Tha" was organized.

Smt Pramodini Nanavati gave the welcome address and a brief synopsis regarding the play was done by Shri Kamlesh Daru. Following this Shri Dwiwekraj said a few words.

The play opens on the eve of Independence when Mahatma Gandhi is trying to end the communal violence spreading in India due to communal riots. Mahatma Gandhi is shown living in the house of a Muslim labourer in a Muslim Ghetto in Calcutta. At his place Tarkeshwar Pandey who is Gandhi's supporter comes to meet him. Pandey's son is killed during the communal riots and he is heartbroken. Gandhi advises him to adopt a Muslim boy to overcome his grief and sorrow, Pandey decides to obey the advice given by Gandhi and he adopts a Muslim boy and takes him home. On reaching home his wife refuses to accept this boy as her son. Time goes by and Pandey's wife slowly begins to accept him as her son.

The boy is brought up according to Muslim tradition and while growing up he saw the atrocities committed towards the Muslim and to take his revenge he joins a terror outfits and gets involved with violence, but his heart changes when he sees a lone Hindu boy who survives an Hindu mass attack and he is reminded of his childhood and he realizes that violence is not the answer to counter violence but the answer lies in the world around us.

It was a truly thought provoking play and the Sr citizen's truly enjoyed this play.



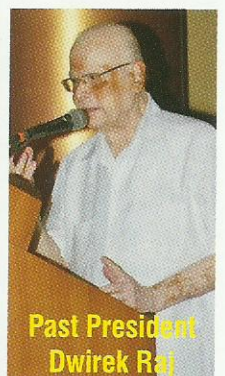
Satish C. Shah
Chairman
Sr. Citizen Sub-Comm.



Shri Kamlesh Daru



Smt. Pramodini Nanavati



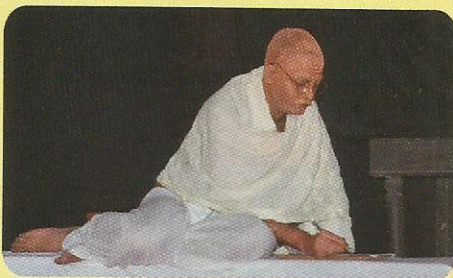
Past President Dwirek Raj



A big Thank you to Shri Kamlesh Daru and Shri Pradip Gandhi and Smt Pratima Bhatt for making this event successful.

Sr citizen forum members enjoyed the delicious South Indian food catered by Aditi Caterers at the end of the play.

A STILL FROM 'GANDHI NE KAHA THA'



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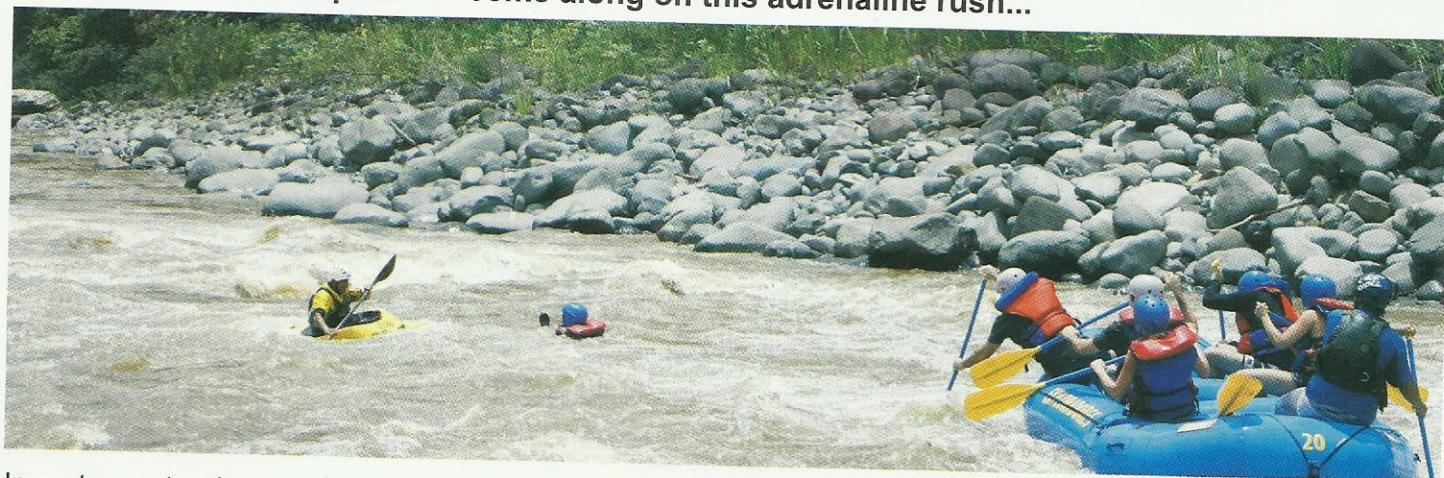


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MONSOON MAGIC II

GET YOUR ADRENALINE RACING!

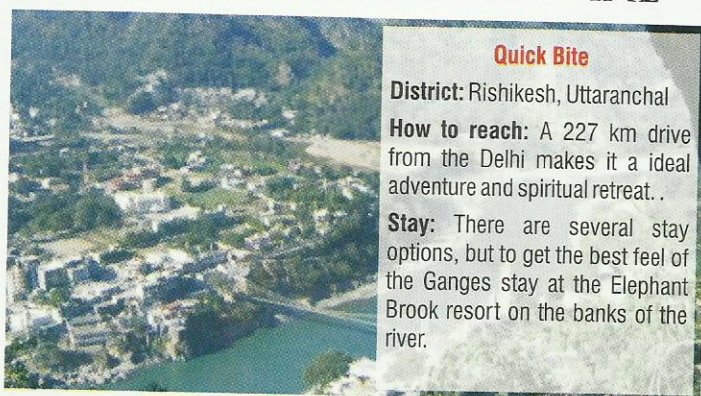
The season of plentiful rainfall swells rivers and lakes; this is the best time to get swept away by the force of the rapids! So come along on this adrenaline rush...



In our two part series covering the Indian monsoons, we arrive at the most exciting part of our journey, so hook up your seat belts for some adrenaline racing activities.

The monsoons are here and the rivers swelled till the brim, the mountains, the trees, the birds everyone seem to in the rhythm of the season, so why should we be left behind!

RISHIKESH, UTTARANCHAL



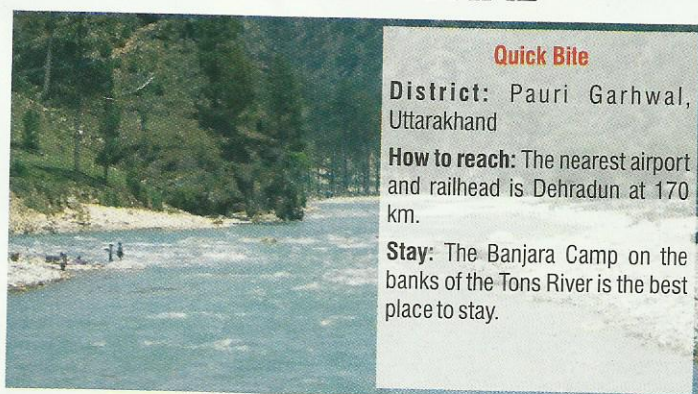
Quick Bite

District: Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

How to reach: A 227 km drive from the Delhi makes it a ideal adventure and spiritual retreat.

Stay: There are several stay options, but to get the best feel of the Ganges stay at the Elephant Brook resort on the banks of the river.

MORI, UTTARANCHAL



Quick Bite

District: Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

How to reach: The nearest airport and railhead is Dehradun at 170 km.

Stay: The Banjara Camp on the banks of the Tons River is the best place to stay.

Our journey brings us to the town of the holy Indian river "The Ganges" - Rishikesh beckons not only the spiritual at heart, but has something which is not for the faint at heart! Wondering what I'm talking about, it's the adrenaline pumping adventure activities in store.

Stay in your tented cottage along the holy Ganges and set out to experience some of the best extreme sports the region has to offer, from the popular white water rafting, to lesser known activities like quad biking, bungee jumping, Devi Darshan trek, mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking and canoeing. For a more relaxed experience you can choose to take some yoga lessons and indulge in a soothing massage. A weekend of adventure will leave you energized and rejuvenated and stress free for a while at least, till you plan that next weekend getaway!

From the holy waters of the Ganges, my travel takes me to the little town of Mori. Situated along the banks of the Tons River, this is little known part of the picturesque state of Uttarakhand. An ideal getaway to enjoy a laid back holiday or an adrenaline pumping adventure experience, Mori is the place to be.

A visit to the ancient Duryodhana Temple is indeed a treat, this wood-crafted temple is said to have been built by the Pandavas. Closer to nature, a visit to the Lunagad Creek is a half hour walk amidst pine forests and fresh mountain air will bring you to the blue clear plunge pool formed by a small waterfall.

Adventure activities ranges from cycling, rafting and trekking, more laid back options are guided nature walks, bird watching and exploring the diverse flora and fauna.

DANDELI: KALI RIVER



QUICK BITE

District: Uttara Kannada, Karnataka

How to reach: The nearest airport is at Belgaum 65 km away and the nearest railhead is at Londa 35 km.

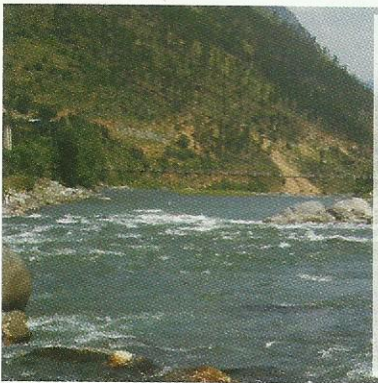
Stay: The Jungle Lodges Old Magazine house Forest Camp and Jungle Lodges Kali River Lodge are the best options in the region.

From the holy to hills we descend to the picturesque town of Dandeli. Famous for the Kali River with flowing with in all its glory and vigor, the best time to visit is during the monsoons when the whispers turn into roars and the rapids are at its best, promising an adrenaline rush like no other. Rafting along the exciting class 3 rapids amidst the green cover and dense forests home to wide variety of wild animals and flourishing bird life is indeed an exhilarating experience.

Although white water rafting is the most popular activity here, there are plenty of other activities like trekking, bird watching, jungle safari, kayaking, canoeing, river side fishing, overnight camping, croc treks, nature walks and island visits to name a few.

Excursions from here include a visit to the nearby Cavla Caves, Syntheri Rocks and the tribal village.

KULLU: BEAS RIVER



QUICK BITE

District: Kullu, Himachal Pradesh

How to reach: The nearest airport is Bhuntar and nearest railhead is Jogindernagar

Stay: There are several stay options at this popular hill town.

We hop across from Kali River in Dandeli to the valley of Kullu, on our hunt for some of the most enlivening white water rafting experiences across India. Kullu valley known for its beauty and tranquility of the hills, the green valley, and the gurgling streams is almost like a landscape painting on the canvas of an artist. Rafting along the Beas River along a stretch of 16 km starting at Pirdi and down to Jhiri is an experience you cannot forget. This river is ideal for extreme Kayakers and beginner rafters alike.

ZANSKAR RIVER: LADAKH



QUICK BITE

District: Leh & Kargil, Jammu & Kashmir

How to reach: The nearest airport is Leh and the nearest railhead is Jammu railway station

Stay: There are several hotels and tented accommodation you will find in the region.

On our round up on the best rafting experiences, we arrived to the top of our list, and we are at the top of the countries map too! Yes, we landed in the land of landscapes, rivers, snow capped mountains and some of the countries best views and of course the best places for an invigorating and thrilling white water rafting experience.

The Zaskar River, with its striking beauty and its thrills is one of the most challenging rivers for rafting in the country. Your river expedition will take you through some of the most breathtaking gorges in all of Asia. The rapids here are level III and IV, so brace yourself for some adrenaline rushing heady experience like never before.

Be warned, these rivers are for the experienced, not something you first timers would want to venture into.

So, this rounds up our three part series on all the monsoon mania, from waterfalls, wildlife, hills and adventure. You can take your pick and enjoy the beautiful season of monsoon as you go hopping across monsoon getaways and sipping on hot Chai (tea) to keep the cold at bay!

DUBARE CAMP: COORG



Quick Bite

District: Kodagu, Karnataka

How to reach: Nearest airport is Bangalore and the nearest railhead is Mangalore

Stay: The Dubare Camp is the best place to stay, apart from several other options from homestays & hotels.

From the roaring Kali to the more calm waters of the Cauvery, flowing along the Dubare Camp at Coorg. For beginners this is a great place to start, with not too many rapids and a wide river, rafting here makes for a good start. You can choose from the 8.5 km run and the 12 km run, which begins at the riverside cottage at Valnoor and ends at the Last Resort at Hosapatna. The monsoon months of July-September are ideal to get started here. The scenic surroundings embraced by tall trees and dense forest cover with small creeks and gurgling streams makes for a perfect weekend getaway from the hustle bustle of city life.

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