

BLOCKBUSTER CINEMA
FILMED IN DELHI

www.delhitourism.gov.in



DELHI

CINEMAGIC

AN INVITATION FROM DELHI TOURISM
TO FILM MAKERS AROUND THE WORLD
TO COME AND CREATE IN DELHI



DELHI TOURISM



DELHI TOURISM



AN INVITATION FROM DELHI TOURISM
TO FILM MAKERS AROUND THE WORLD
TO COME AND CREATE IN DELHI



DELHI TOURISM

Dilli Chalo

Cinema Chronicles. Imagine

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NARESH SHARMA, RAMESH LALWANI,
RAJIV SOLANKI.....

TEXT & DESIGN BY SANJOG SHARAN FOR KARMIC DESIGN

www.delhitourism.gov.in



Delhi CineMagic You Are Invited





The Raisina Hill is one of the most spectacularly beautiful built spaces in the world. Imposing architecture, wide open avenues and India's seat of power, they all sit here. In quiet elegance

Delhi
The Capital
Expansive
Welcoming

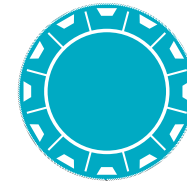
Purana Qila
this brilliance



Ancient Contemporary
The Grand Sweep of History



the cathedral



WEAVE YOUR DREAMS IN OUR CITY. DELHI

Delhi is the city of gardens, wide avenues and imposing monuments. The eternal city is the junction where cultures from across the globe have gathered, mingled and created a synthesis unique to the capital of India, since eternity. This veritable melting pot is the site for many qissas, stories, *adab, shayari*, poetry and cinematic magic and excellence. This City has the proud legacy of having three World Heritage Sites in its midst.

Of late there has been a surge in the number of Indian and International film productions that have placed their tales within the majesty of Delhi. As a proud industrious city, the people of Delhi have quickly fallen in step with the challenges of movie making. A host of legendary Indian actors, musicians, technicians and filmmakers trace their journey back to Delhi. The cinematic infrastructure here is enviable and state of the art. A number of audio-visual and special effect studios, along with editing suites are based here.

The roster of blockbusters is increasingly being added to with a majority of films shot here breaking records at the box office. The ancient city is also a modern metropolis with an enviable metro rail service, a top quality international airport, pan-Indian railway network and an efficient, precise service sector, hotels and inns. Couple this with the unique sense of hospitality of the people of Delhi, global cuisine and gourmet fair, a thriving fashion industry and you find the secret to Delhi being the zone for quality cinema where more than 20 movies are shot every year now.

Delhi Tourism offers a single window clearance system for filmmakers interested in shooting their films in our city. All legal formalities and permissions can be obtained with us being top drawer facilitators working in step and conjunction with directors and production houses. We are committed to easing the anxieties of each producer and add to their strengths in multi-dimensional ways, which thrives on mutual trust and respect. We are in service of Quality Cinema. Forever.

Spectacular Delhi

expansive. open. cinematic

cinema
scope

delhi
by day...
& night

The **Open Vistas** of the Indian Capital is a magnificent experience. Grand structures surround the Rajpath leading up to the Raisina Hills. The Indian Parliament, central government offices, art museums all form a part of the magnificent hub of our capital

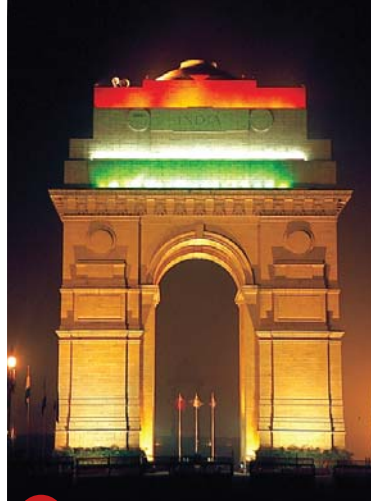
start camera. action

films shot at
raisisina hills

gandhi
sardar
pk
wazir

INDIA GATE

India' Beating Heart



green city



rang de basanti
band baaja baraat
jolly llb
fukrey

India Gate is a memorial raised in honour of the Indian soldiers who died during the Afghan wars and World War I. The green lawns at India Gate are a popular evening and holiday rendezvous for young and old alike. Central Delhi in general is known for its tree-lined, wide roads driving through which is an experience.



memory & the city
stories embedded in ancient trees



RajGhat
 Memorial of
 Mahatma Gandhi,
 Father of the Nation

historicity
essence

For filmmakers, Delhi has become the essential cinematic experience. Like New York, Toronto, London, Moscow, Istanbul, Paris, Rome and Mumbai. Always a magnificent backdrop to weave a fine story in, Delhi is many cities forged into one.

Bearer of multiple identities, Delhi is singular in its virtue, beauty and intrinsic charm. Like all great cities, its cosmopolitan nature lets each language multiply, each idea to find expression, every individual dream, hope and realisation.



imposing

Chandni Chowk, the main marketplace in Old Delhi, keeps alive the city's living legacy of Shahjahanabad. Created by Shah Jahan, the builder of Taj Mahal, the old city, with the Red Fort as its focal point and Jama Masjid as the praying centre. Chandni Chowk remains Asia's largest wholesale market.

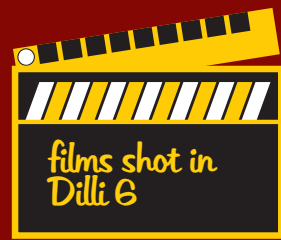
With the most famous mosque of Delhi Jama Masjid in the vicinity, along with Sis Ganj Gurudwara, Jain Mandir and a lot of small temples, the zone is the citadel of cultural harmony. It also embraces all with its old world charm, hospitality and culinary delights.

purani dilli
the zone of infinite possibilities





faith Old Delhi



Bajrangi Bhaijaan
Fan
Delhi 6
Shagird



Humayun's Tomb

In memory of a philosopher king



Humayun's Tomb was built by the widow of Humayun, Hamida Bano Begum and designed by a Persian architect named Mirak Mirza Ghiyas.

The structure is the first matured example of Mughal architecture. Humayun's Tomb is a World Heritage Site. This predecessor to the Taj Mahal has small octagonal chambers, diagonal corners, arched lobbies and symmetrical gardens. The meticulous and splendid architecture of the tomb makes it one of the most alluring sites to explore – a perfect backdrop that creates maximum impact.



Qutub Minar



Cheeni Kum
Zila Ghaziabad
Jannat 2

Constructed by Qutub'ud-din Aibak, Qutub Minar is the second tallest minaret in the world after the minaret of the Mosque of Hasan in Cairo. It is a tower of victory as well as attached to Quwwatul Islam Mosque for giving call to the people to come for prayer. The construction was completed by son-in-law Shamsuddin Iltutmish. Qutub Minar is among the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



The Burning Train
Chak De India!
Fanaa



Lodi garden



Lodhi Garden is the beautiful park containing 15th and 16th century monuments made by the Sayyid & Lodhi Sultans built within its well-kept lawns, flowers, massive trees and ponds. During the early morning and evening hours, the sprawling garden is a favorite spot for fitness people and those in search of calming solitude. Some of Yashraj's major films like *Chak De India!* and *Fanaa* have been shot here

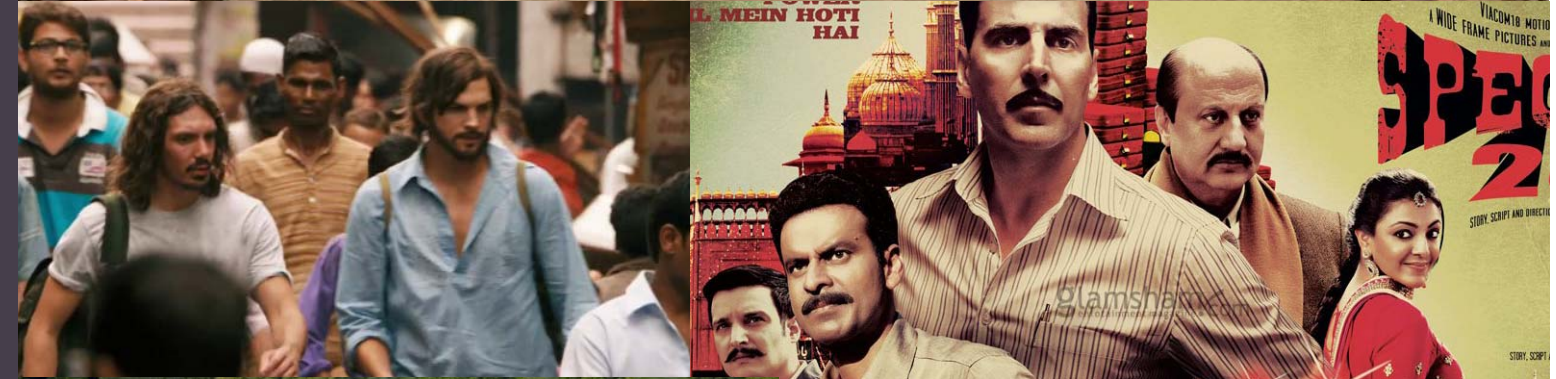


Purana Qila

Grand Fort. *Accomplished stage*

The majestic fort of Purana Qila began its construction in Humayun's reign in 1530 as the city of Dinpanah or 'asylum of faith,' only to be completed by Sher Shah Suri.

The Purana Qila (Old Fort) is an excellent example of Mughal military architecture. Its three gates show a remarkable fusion of Indo-Islamic style of architecture. The lake at the Old Fort adds to its scenic beauty.



Set in the Garden

This is the last Mughal architecture & enclosed garden tomb in Delhi. It is constructed under the supervision of Bilal Muhammad Khan by Safdarjung's son in 1754 AD. The garden as well as the layout is similar to that of Humayun's Tomb. The tomb has several multi-chambered and spacious pavilions, called Moti Mahal, Badshah Pasand and Jungli Mahal. The tomb complex also has a madarsa, still operating today.



Special 26
Kurban
Jobs

Safdarjung



Tughlaqabad Fort

Rugged Immense Beauty

Tughlaqabad Fort stands on a high outcrop of rocks and was built to guard from the attack of Mughals. In order to enter the fortress, one has to walk a causeway which originally supported 27 arches. At the south end of the fort is an escape route leading out of the fort. In the western part are the ruins of a palatial building, further to which is a 15.5 meter deep water tank called Jahannum ka Rasta or Road to Hell. Close to the ruins of Tughlaqabad Fort is a small fort called 'Nai Ka Kot'.



Nizamuddin

Music. Knowledge. Divine

Delhi is the major centre for Sufism along with Ajmer. Nizamuddin Aulia was a mystic monk who lived in Delhi in the 14th century. He was the patron of thousands of souls in search of inner peace, providing comfort in times of excess and in destitution. He provided balance to a city like Delhi by spirituality. His example led to what Delhi is today; a stature of a city with varied religions and saints. Amir Khusrau, the great poet and Sufi saint was his prime disciple. Progenitor of *Hindavi*, the language we speak today his timeless compositions illuminate our heart and soul till today. The great Shayar Mirza Ghalib stayed here.

This Dargah is where Hazrat Sahib rests now. This is the place visited by Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs alike, who come like one family here to pay their respect to Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia, for whom religious distinctions never mattered.





Connaught Place

The Jewel

The shopping complex was beautifully designed by Robert Russell in a shape of Horse-shoe style and surrounded by two circular roads; the double storey European style buildings have spaces and airy corridors. Connaught Place is one of the largest commercial areas in Delhi, India. CP is a heritage complex and a great place to go shopping along with a lot of restaurants for every taste and budget. It is one of the most popular hangout spots among the youth of the City.

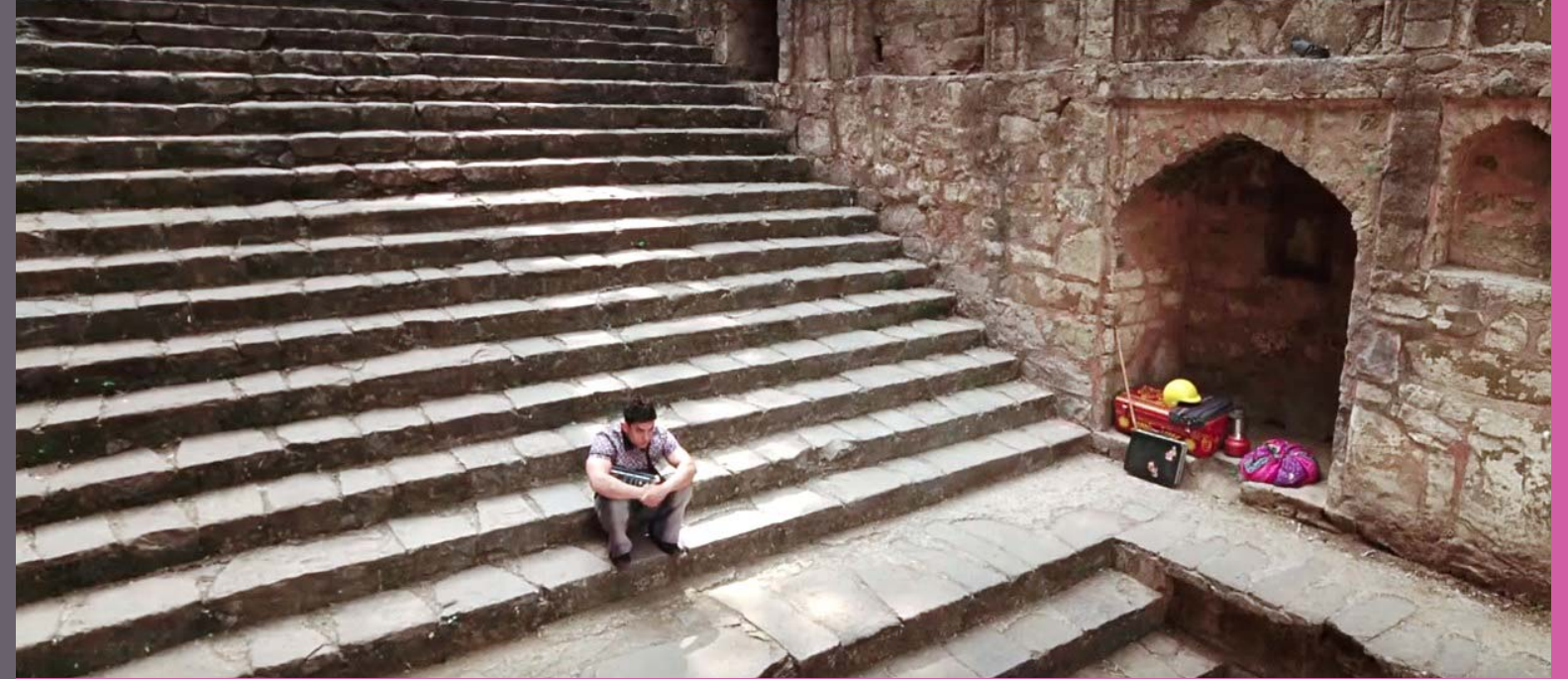


Built by Maharaja Jai Singh II in the 17th century, the Jantar Mantar in Delhi is one of the 5 observatories built by him. Consisting of 13 architectural astronomy instruments, the cosmic centre is a visual and thought masterpiece.



Jantar Mantar

Finding the Cosmic Centre



amir khan in pk. In the blockbuster, agrasen ki baoli is the living space for the alien in Delhi

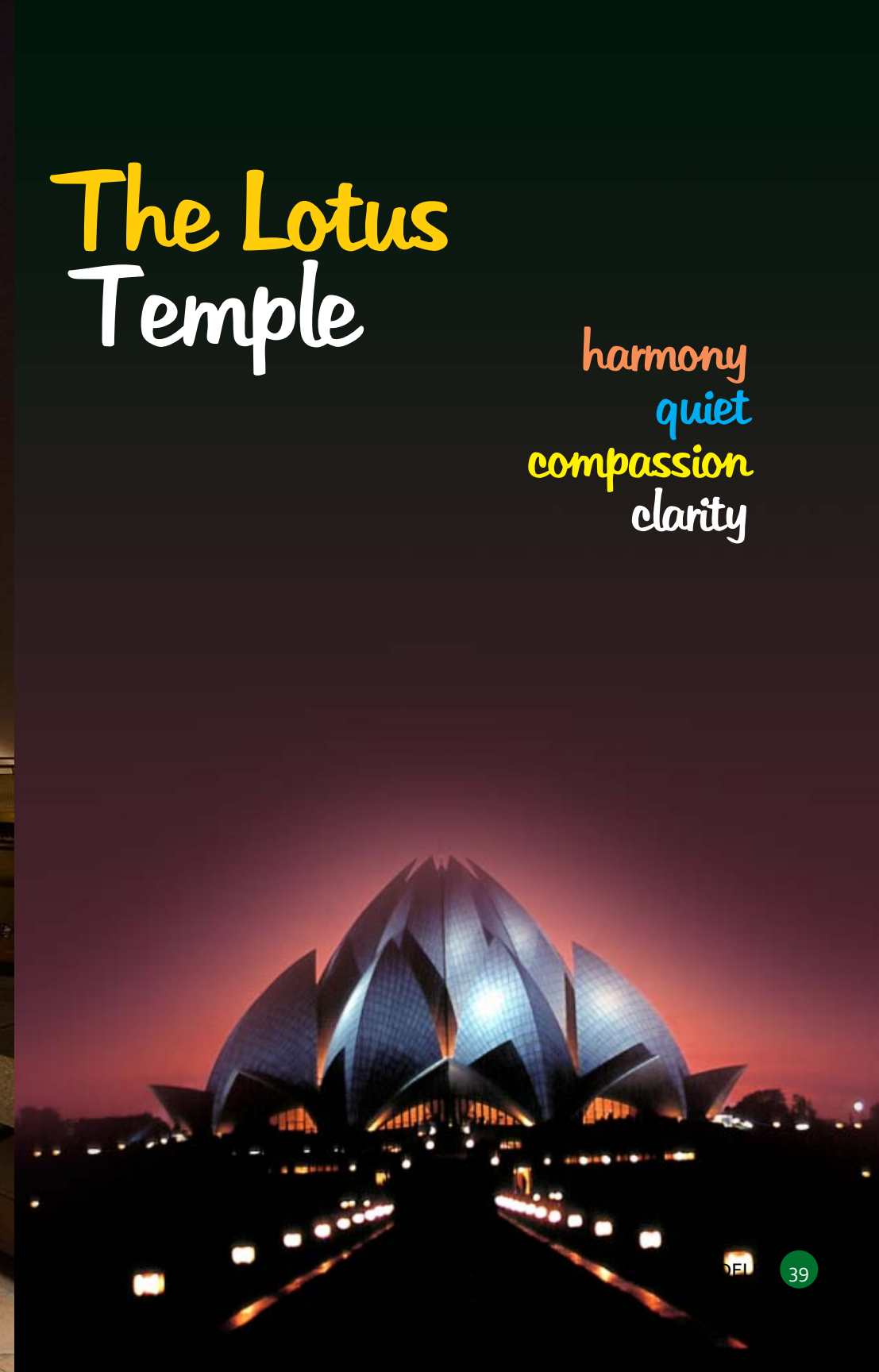
Agrasen ki Baoli

Agrasen ki Baoli, is a 60-meter long and 15-meter wide historical step well on Hailey Road near Connaught Place, a short walk from Jantar Mantar



The Lotus Temple

harmony
quiet
compassion
clarity









Dilli Haat, INA

Situated in the heart of Delhi, the unique Dilli Haat is a modern uptake on the traditional weekly market, the Haat or Bazaar, offering a delightful amalgam of craft, food and cultural activities. It offers a kaleidoscopic view of the richness and diversity of Indian handicrafts and artefacts.

A plaza paved with stone and brickwork skillfully interspersed with grass, flowering shrubs and towering trees, plus a play corner for children have conjured up an oasis in which visitors can browse at their leisure. Festivals promoting art, craft, food and music are held regularly here.



Haat Beat was the brief for the design of Dilli Haat, Janakpuri. A massive site with a large residential audience, in a part of Delhi that had very few places to go out to. We have promoted music all across Delhi through concerts and soirees. The idea was to find a home for playful music and give these homes a place to play with music. This was the bond where formal and informal shops come together to sell crafts and celebrate culture; to inject a new life into this part of Delhi and be its rhythmic 'heart beat'.

From the Architect's Note

made for cinema
Dilli Haat, Janakpuri





**Dilli Haat,
PitamPura**
ambition
and scale



We heard this at the music giant Stings's concert at Dilli Haat, Pitampura while metro trains kept appearing and disappearing at the station, 75 feet up. Close by was the majestic TV, Tower. She said it all looks so splendidly post-modern the way the live stage got contextualised. A Magnificent backdrop if there is one.

Dilli Haat, Pitampura has the ambition and scale to become a major platform that attracts all art and in particular the supreme art, Cinema.



Garden of 5 Senses. Set within the bustle of Mehrauli and South Delhi, is the idyll, the haven of tranquility. Which since its inception has become the ideal of how we can preserve and nurture our habitat. The zone where creation, natural and human, evolve through a conscious common goal.

Lovingly touched by the hardworking gardeners, Malis, experts, architects and artists, the Garden is an achievement in modern times. An amphitheatre, a sculpture park, water fountains, undulating walkways in tune with the Aravallis. All features where spectacle can be created through silence and quiet.





come together



Picturesque, youthful and alive, the Hauz Khas in South Delhi houses a water tank, an Islamic seminary, a mosque, a tomb and pavilions built around an urbanized village with medieval history traced to the 13th century of Delhi Sultanate reign. The lake is adjoined by the famous Deer Park with a grove boasting of majestic trees.

Hauz Khas Deer Park

Progressive and a zone for the avant garde in Delhi, Musicians, designers, travelers, foodies, readers of journals and little books, art and poster-collectors, map makers, socially responsible community have set up homes and shops here.

The extended complex is an upscale tourist cum commercial area with numerous art galleries, boutiques and restaurant. Hauz Khas Village is a spot in the capital to shop, eat and to enjoy the vibe. It has manicured park, more than 40 designer stores and restaurants that catered to a foreign clientele.

Khan Market



Khan Market has been named in honor of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan. It is located almost at the heart of the city, close to India Gate, surrounded by residential complexes. Its environs are home to a significant number of bureaucrats from the central government, and celebrities. It is one of the greenest pockets of the city, very close to the famed Lodhi Gardens. It has a wide variety of stores, including modern showrooms of most of well-known brands. Some of the stores and eating joints include Fab India, Route 04, The Kitchen, Cafe Turtle, Al-bake, Big Chill and many more.



international magnet



Malls in Delhi

The city of Delhi is a shopaholic's utopia. The shopping malls in Delhi represent the ultimate cure in retail therapy. You can purchase a wide range of goods within the shopping malls in Delhi. Spread over large acres of land, these malls provide a complete fun filled experience in terms of shops, eateries, lounges, and much more. Some of the famous malls are Select City, Saket; Promenade, Vasant Kunj; Ansal Plaza etc.

The mall culture of Delhi is been magnificently filmed in films like Aisha, Piku, Bewakoofiyen, Delhi Heights among others



Delhi University

The University of Delhi is the premier university of the country and is known for its high standards in teaching and research and attracts eminent scholars to its faculty. North Campus, Delhi University is a township in itself consisting of different colleges, shopping places, paying guest accommodations etc. Located in the northern part of Delhi, this campus has some of the most acclaimed colleges like SRCC, St. Stephens, Hansraj, Hindu, Miranda House, Kirori Mal and the iconic Delhi School of Economics.



A still from the Amitabh Bachchan starrer – Paa. Other movies shot in Metro and Metro stations are pk, Delhi 6, Bewafaa, Jannat 2 and Bang Bang.



Jawahar Lal Nehru University [JNU]

Mainly a research oriented postgraduate university, JNU with approximately 8,000 students and faculty strength of around 550. Located in the southern part of New Delhi and spread over an area of about 1000 acres (4 km²), the campus occupies some of the northernmost reaches of the Aravali Hills. The campus still maintains large patches of scrub and forestland - the JNU ridge, home to over 200 species of birds and other wildlife such as, Nilgai, Indian Crested Porcupines, Common Palm Civet, Jackals, Mongoose, Peacocks as well as a large number of Snakes.



The Anand Rai directed movie Raanjhanaa was shot at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in the JNU Campus.



Delhi Metro

The Delhi Metro is a rapid transit system serving Delhi, Gurgaon, Noida and Ghaziabad in the National Capital Region of India. The network consists of six lines with a total length of 189.63 kilometers (117.83 mi) with 142 stations of which 35 are underground. It has a combination of elevated, at-grade and underground lines and uses both broad gauge and standard gauge rolling stock.

Delhi in Cinema

DELHI TOURISM: TAKING IT FORWARD

Delhi as the capital of India is home to the best that our magnificent nation represents. There are millions of Qissas, stories, waiting to be told, and the eternal city is a film makers' delight to shoot and produce films in and around the city. The city is full of beautiful locations and sites to suit distinct cinematic themes. Home to people from across the world it is a place with great resonance and affirmations.

In the last five years alone more than two hundred films have been shot in Delhi. Some of them are blockbusters like Rang De Basanti, Chak de India, 3 Idiots, Dev D, Band Baja Baraat, Agent Vinod, Vicky Donor, pk, Kill Dil, Kick, Tanu weds Manu Returns to name only a few. Unlike any city, Delhi today offers a variety of pristine locations waiting to be discovered and rediscovered. Dig into the sea of stories and you will find the nectar of excellence and immortal cinema.

- ♦ Rashtrapati Bhawan
- ♦ Parliament of India
- ♦ Other locales related to seat of power
- ♦ Delhi Metro
- ♦ Enumerable Monuments & diverse architectural splendor
- ♦ Important religious places, temples, mosques, churches & Gurudwara.
- ♦ Forest Area & Green Cover
- ♦ Gardens and Parks
- ♦ Wide roads in Delhi
- ♦ New flyovers for chase sequence
- ♦ Renowned and varied market places, bazaars, Haats and shopping complexes
- ♦ Flamboyant Malls
- ♦ Exhibition Grounds
- ♦ Delhi T3 Airport – Recently Awarded the Best in the World
- ♦ Remodeled Railway Stations
- ♦ Colleges
- ♦ Schools
- ♦ Jail Complexes
- ♦ Hospitals
- ♦ Wedding Destinations
- ♦ Farm Houses
- ♦ New, revamped and large Stadiums
- ♦ Fashion events
- ♦ Golf Course
- ♦ NCR- Gurgaon and Noida
- ♦ Agricultural Lands
- ♦ Villages
- ♦ Old towns and lanes
- ♦ Varied localities and residential complexes
- ♦ Corporate Buildings
- ♦ Call Centres



Availability of such a wide range of locations coupled with the following facilities has made Delhi one of the best cities for film shootings and production:

- Delhi is home to the National School of Drama, one of the foremost theatre training institutions, and along with Delhi University which has a number of Theatre Societies, the city offers a multitude of talented individuals,
- Availability of extras and crowd (Artists and Dancers)
- Availability of junior and senior artists
- Availability of vanity vans
- Availability of Silent Generators
- Availability of all light and other equipments
- Hotels of all categories.
- Food at all rates and all cuisines
- A multi-lingual city
- A city with a blend of the old and new – An ancient history attached to it, Delhi is has a distinct, contemporary modern day ambience.
- Transport solutions of all levels and variety of rates
- Event companies and line producers
- Availability of special and general work force at reasonable price
- One of the best law and order situations
- Facilitative & Supportive Delhi Administration
- Most politically stable
- Well-connected Roads
- Large number of Cinema Halls
- Good International Connectivity
- National Connectivity by all means of transport
- National Media and International Media
- Presence of Noida Film City
- Buddha Circuit in Noida adjacent to Delhi

The Indian film industry has a wide and an ever growing audience spread all across the globe. The Film Industry is, therefore, one of the best mediums for promoting tourism in India. Shooting in India is not only convenient as compared to foreign locations like Switzerland, but is also quite budget-friendly. Talking about India, Delhi is among one of the most preferred locations to shoot at.

Delhi has undoubtedly become a hub for film shoots. In the last few years, Indian film makers have largely resorted to the capital. It has become a fixture in Bollywood, with storylines being increasingly set here.

REASONS WHY DELHI IS ONE THE BEST CITIES FOR SHOOTING FILMS

Delhi is economical to shoot in and permissions are easy to get:

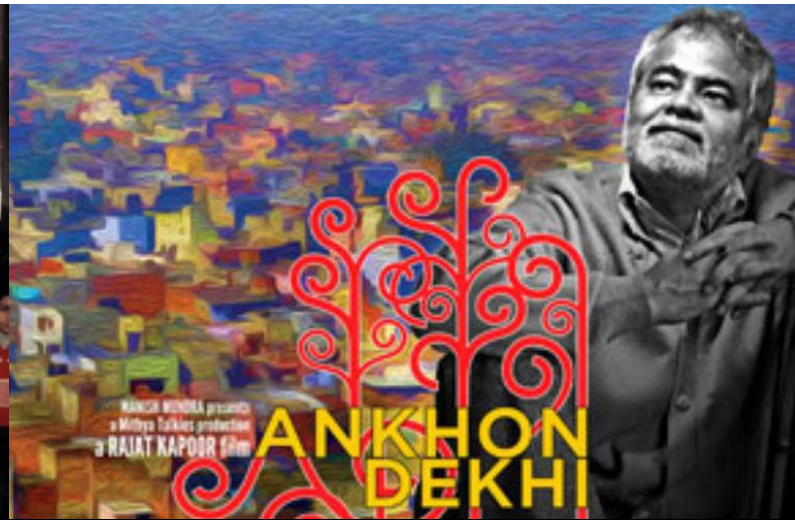
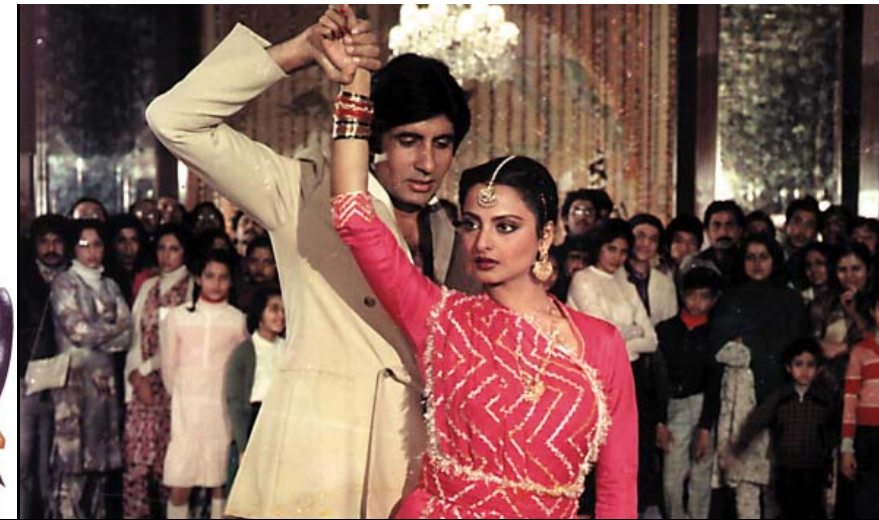
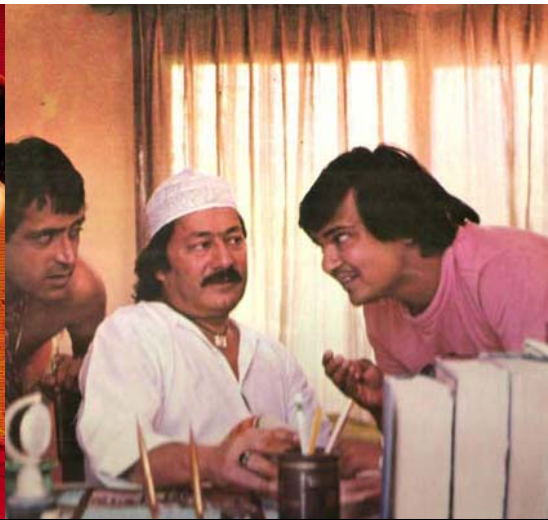
Shooting in Delhi has been made easier with Delhi Tourism's very own Film Shooting Facilitation Cell. One need not get in touch with intermediaries and multiple agencies to get permissions to shoot at various locations with the Single Window Clearance Mechanism soon to be implemented by Delhi Tourism. All one needs to do is get in touch with Delhi Tourism and the process would be taken forward.

MARKET ASSOCIATIONS NOT A HURDLE

Delhi's market associations allow film shootings without any problems. Chandni Chowk is one of the markets which are widely seen in movies shot in Delhi. If a scene is set inside a restaurant or within a marketplace, one can easily get the shoot done in Delhi. The only condition owners keep is that the restaurant or shop's name should appear on the screen.

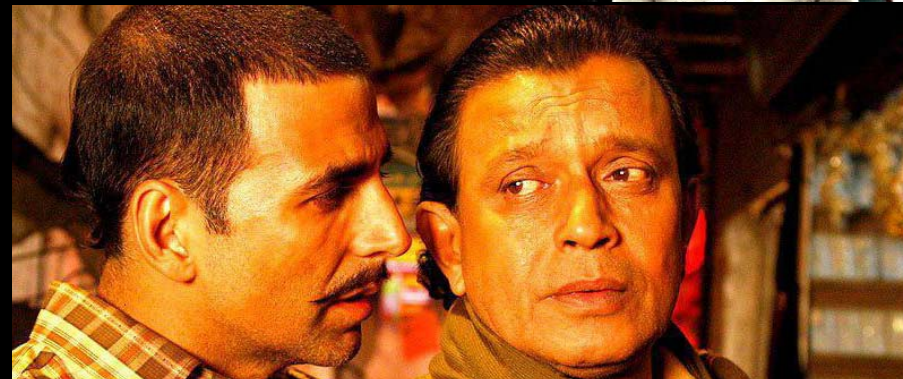
DELHI & NCR HAVE A MULTITUDE OF BACKGROUNDS AND BACKDROPS

Delhi is like a wide stage where film makers can come across from varied backgrounds to tell their intimate, personal stories. One can show any kind of situation in Delhi and NCR, for the region provides all sorts of backdrops from the lower middle class family of Fukrey, and the Lajpat Nagar Punjabi family with the Daryaganj fertility clinics of Vicky Donor to Aisha's posh locales. Delhi is perfect for all kinds of shooting scenes. If a filmmaker wants to shoot in college campuses, they go to North Campus. And for a typical Delhi look, film-makers prefer the Old Delhi area. Delhi has a solution for everyone's demands.



Delhi Tourism offers

- Delhi Tourism has been nominated as the Nodal Agency for facilitating film shootings in Delhi by Govt of NCT of Delhi. The soon to be implemented Single Window Clearance Mechanism of Delhi Tourism makes it convenient for the Film Producers to get shooting permissions as there is no need to contact multiple agencies to shoot at various locations. A film maker can send in their applications directly to Delhi Tourism stating the desired locations to shoot at and the Film Shooting Facilitation Cell, Delhi Tourism will pursue the application further. An application form (below) prepared by Delhi Tourism is to be filled.
- Delhi Tourism can also facilitate for Air bookings, Hotel Accommodation, Ground Transport and Catering Support for the entire film unit in Delhi.



THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS AGENCIES IN DELHI. DELHI TOURISM IS COMMITTED TO OBTAINING PERMISSIONS FROM THE RESPECTIVE AGENCIES AS AND WHEN REQUIRED

- I. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
- II. Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
- III. Delhi Police / Delhi Traffic Police
- IV. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)
- V. Department of Environment & Forest
- VI. New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC)
- VII. Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) – East Delhi Municipal Corporation; North Delhi Municipal Corporation and South Delhi Municipal Corporation
- VIII. Public Works Department (PWD)
- IX. Sports Authority of India (SAI)
- X. Department of Archaeology and Archives
- XI. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation
- XII. Indian Railways
- XIII. Delhi Development Authority (DDA)
- XIV. Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL)



Rise

AN INVITATION FROM DELHI TOURISM
TO FILM MAKERS AROUND THE WORLD
TO COME AND CREATE IN DELHI

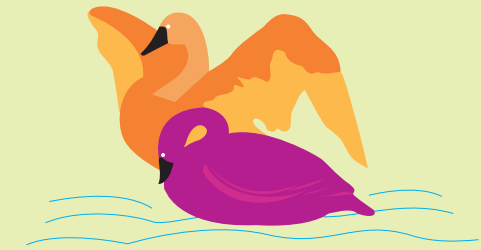
Dilli Chalo

Cinema Chronicles. Imagine

DELHI IS AN OCEAN OF FABLES, TALES AND STORIES. Of people and homes, emperors and dynasties, *darbars* and *mehfils*. Layers upon layers of meaning, understanding and ideas in evolution have found voice and expression here through time. Those who chose to dive in will find splendid pearls of knowledge, wisdom and growth through time. The chroniclers of *Dilli*, the ancient city, have painted a vivid picture through words and visuals, prose and poetry. From the mythic *Mahabharata* to the very recent magnum opus *Gandhi*, a grand tapestry of the lives of the capital's virtuous men and women and their triumph against overwhelming odds have won over people by their millions. To guide and inspire them. To mesmerise, to hold them captive and then release them. Towards liberty, harmony and joy. Such is the magic of stories. Such is the magnificence and splendour of Delhi.

In modern times cinema has become the kernel of human experience. The medium through which all modes of creativity and art find form and meaning. Cinema documents us and we are the bearers of all that is excellent within the moving image on the silver screen. From music to colour, from composition to art, from architecture to space, all that epitomises what is excellent within man, woman and the cosmos at large finds its vehicle in cinema. The mythic, mystic, magic beauty and grace of earth's passage lies embedded, eternal in cinema. Just like the grand emperor's vision in architecture which stand for centuries, cinema has found us, for eternity. We have found the cinema. The ultimate democratic symbol. The forbearer of our sorrow and our joy and happiness.

Sitting invisible within the darken[ed] cinema theatre we find ecstasy and interconnectedness with fellow travelers, each sharing and dipping into our collective's agony and ecstasy. The laughter that rings out through comedy.



Like all great cities, our cosmopolitan nature lets each language multiply, each idea to find expression, every individual dream, hope and realisation. Delhi allows for variety, like spice, like colour, like musical notes. That sore into the skies and spread wide.



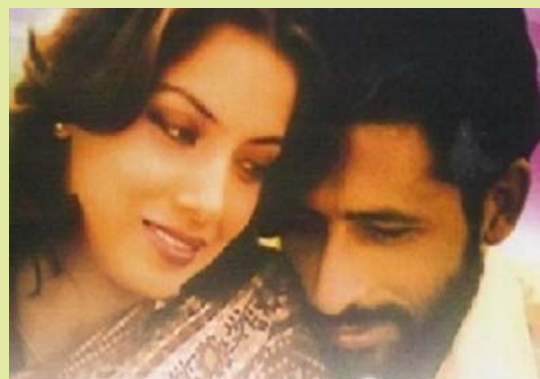
Luminosity

Incandescent international stars lie Julia Roberts in *Eat, Pray, Love* and our own ShahRukh Khan have made their movies here. *Cooking with Stella* directed by the great photographer Dilip Mehta is remarkable the way Delhi has been so cinematically portrayed.

The tears which well over through tragedy. The gasp of shock at a perfect horrifying moment. All together, *Nirvana* in three hours woven around an interval. Through stories of people within a context and space. Of a locale and many a times within and belonging to a city. We are thus glad that cinema is finding Delhi to be the ideal destination. The ancient city, the ultramodern *megapolis*. Delhi and Cinema complete each other. Through the city's grand expanse and by the kind generosity of the capital that has welcomed one and all to make him and her its own. The grand family of the *DilliWallah*. For us, the guardian of each person's passage through Delhi, the fact the both the Indian and World Cinema finds in Delhi the ideal destination to weave in their story, provides us great joy coupled with a huge sense of responsibility.

For filmmakers, Delhi has become the essential site. Like New York, Toronto, London, Moscow, Istanbul, Paris, Rome and Mumbai. Always a magnificent, cinematic backdrop, Delhi is many cities forged into one. Bearer of multiple identities, Delhi is singular in its virtue, beauty and intrinsic charm. Like all great cities, its cosmopolitan nature lets each language multiply, each idea to find expression, every individual dream, hope and realisation. Delhi allows for variety, like spice, like colour, like musical notes. That sore into the skies and spread wide. Delhi Tourism is the window through which filmmaking in Delhi finds freedom of expression and movement. We are forever conscious of our intrinsic, vital role within the world of cinema.

Consider this. In last five years alone over 100 films have been shot in Delhi. Each one different, made in multiple languages. Each not bound by formula.



Evocative

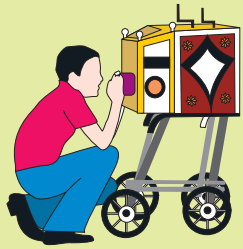
The brilliant crafted and acted Sparsh is landmark cinema made in Delhi. Directed by Sai Paranjape and acted by the brilliant Naseeruddin Shah and Shabana Azmi the film is now a cult classic.

Most of them huge box office successes. This is because Delhi allows for each flight of fancy which finds insights through the kaleidoscopic bag of stories. The eponymous *Piku* from Chittaranjan Park, Shruti from Punjabi Bagh in *Band Baaja Baraat*, Geeta of Lutyen's Delhi in *Hazaaron Khwahishein Aisi*, Sonia from South Delhi in *Rang De Basanti* are each more than a character from a movie. The liberation of Rani in *Queen* and Datto in *Tanu Weds Manu Returns* each exemplify the women of Delhi, fierce, independent, proud. Each woman signifies an epic struggle against great odds providing the men around them justifications and inspiration to reach out and find completion. A pride in their identity.

The grand families in Yash Chopra's sweeping romance dramas, like our epics, are symbolic of the larger picture. From the theme of separation and unity in the early 1960s *Waqt*, to the simmering anger within *Trishul* they each serve as a metaphor of the prevailing era. When the grand balladeer turned his attention to unrequited love in *Kabhi Kabhie*, *Silsila* and *Chandni*, Delhi becomes integral to the story. But then Yashji was continuing in the footsteps of his elder brother B R Chopra *Saab* who had made Delhi the site of some important pathbreaking cinema in the rather diverse *Dhartiputra* and *The Burning Train*. It is in this spirit that YashRaj Film walks in the well laid out tradition of its forbearers of filming in Delhi. Through a bouquet of films like *Band Baaja*, *Chak De India*, *Mardaani*, *Fanaa* and *Ek Tha Tiger*.

If we consider the pantheon that constitute the film industry a host of famous personalities have spent significant part of their lives here. From the Dada Sahib Phalke award winner, the master Director & Actor Manoj Kumar to the living legend, Amitabh Bachchan. From the dreamgirl Hema Malini to the megastar ShahRukh Khan. From thespians like Naseeruddin Shah to Om Puri to Manoj Vajpayee to Piyush Mishra, each have earned their acting chops here. The existence of National School of Drama has always provided a wealth of excellent talents who have gone on to create a major niche for themselves. The long standing theatre tradition has given us some great actors whose nuanced performance has won our hearts many times over. Think Zohra Sehgal, Rohini Hattangadi, Surekha Sikri, Suhasini Mulay, Nandita Das and Uttara Baokar. These are the women of substance who have been known for their exemplary performances. Immaculate Actors like Balraj Sahni, Manohar Singh in the past and Irfan Khan, Sanjay Mishra and Nawazuddin Siddiqui in the present, they all have started their journeys here. Delhi is proud of their achievements.

The fact that a number of major film directors have evolved in Delhi, the city becomes the great stage for the story they tell. From Kabir Khan in *Bajranghi Bhaijaan* to Anurag Kashyap in *Dev D*. From Rakesh Omprakash Mehra in *Rang De Basanti*, *Delhi 6* and *Bhaag Milka Bhag* to Tigmanshu Dhulia in *Shagird* to the masterful *Aankhon Dekhi's* director, the creators have shown a remarkable feel in which



One thing which may have been missing in the past is now firmly present. That is the existence of a state of the art infrastructure and personnel bred and trained by the finest. Thanks to the number of Indian and International film projects which have taken off here.

the story emanates from the roots of Delhi. In this their passage goes through Delhi's historic sweep of the old cities, its monuments, *gallis* and avenues. Important directors like Mani Ratnam and Raj Kumar Hirani have repeatedly found in Delhi as the site where their imagination flowers. In films like *Dil Se*, *Mouna Raagam*, *Three Idiots* and *PK*, Delhi is the verdant ground from which dreams find fruition. Imtiaz Ali from *Love Aaj Kal* to *Highway* to *Rockstar* and *Tamasha* locates his movies in Delhi to find resonance of the love of today reaching far and wide. Meera Nair made the wonderful whimsical *Monsoon Wedding* in the city and the comic caper *Fukrey* too was based here. Sai Paranjape with her 1980s classics *Sparsh* and *Chashme BuDoor* created a major splash with her high brow yet reachable movies. Manish Sharma first with *Band..* and with *Fan* chooses the city's expanse to find his well etched characters here. The magic of each of these director's storytelling has been forged by the basic distinct identity of Delhi.

One thing which may have been missing in the past is now firmly present. That is the existence of a state of the art infrastructure and personnel bred and trained by the finest. Thanks to the number of Indian and International film projects which have taken off here, Delhi is now regarded well for its array of high end equipment, audio and television studios, dance academies and theatre groups. Each of these entities nurture their talents well, so that whenever a travelling studio heads to Delhi they will find a well laid out foundation waiting for them. Exceptional hardworking talents well cognisant of the grind, the economics and the value of the moment. Efficient and evolved not only for Indian productions but also who have worked



with great results in major international movies like *Eat, Pray, Love*, *Holy Smoke* and the blockbuster *The Day after Tomorrow*.

Delhi Dreams on. Plays On. Through its six seasons and its seven incarnations. With its ancient and modern monuments. With the grace of its remarkable, affable, industrious people. Working hard to realise their dreams, aspirations, assertions and aspiration. Through their food, dance, music, culture, fashion, writings, paintings, sculptures, visions. Each passage brings about the opportunities for immaculate dialogs, perceptive insights and a grandeur in movement. They all come naturally to you in Delhi. Cascading over you to find monumental experiences and flight for imagination. Each essential for Cinema.

Our list is long, not exhaustive, for Delhi and our Cinema. We know that many stories remain to be told emanating from our home. Delhi Tourism will be that ideal partner in this journey of chronicling. For big and small cinema. For spectacles like *Sardar* and *Baby* to the small, heart wrenching tale of *Titli*. In each case we offer our services to ease the exacting process of film making. We are at one with the vision of the director because we understand the centrality and importance of cinema in our lives. We seek confluence and synergies that works hard for the completion of each endeavour. So that the celluloid shines on the silver screen. To dazzle audiences worldwide. With wishes from the most beautiful city. May many more stories be told. In Delhi. Through Us and You the Filmmaker.

Bangla Sahib Gurudwara



Mughal Gardens
Rashtrapati Bhawan

