

#TRENDING

New Travel Trend

The appeal of 'flying naked' lies in its simplicity. It allows for quicker airport navigation and reduced stress, ultimately transforming the way people perceive and engage with air travel.



Packing a suitcase for a flight can be a stressful experience. Many travellers find the packing process confusing and are unsure of what to include in

their luggage. However, a new travel trend is changing how we think about packing. 'Flying Naked.' This innovative cost-saving strategy is becoming popular among budget-conscious travellers. Here's how it works.

Bare Minimum

Travellers are increasingly sharing their experiences on social media about 'flying naked.' This movement encourages individuals to leave their luggage behind and embrace a more carefree approach to air travel. The essence of this trend revolves around the idea that passengers board flights with only the clothes on their bodies and a few vital essentials stashed away in their pockets.

carriers have adopted strict policies regarding carry-on luggage, charging hefty fees for bags that exceed size limits by just a few centimetres. In light of these soaring costs, travellers are actively seeking innovative solutions to avoid the financial burden of additional baggage fees. By choosing to travel without traditional luggage, these individuals minimise their expenses and streamline their travel experience. It allows for quicker airport navigation and reduced stress, ultimately transforming the way people perceive and engage with air travel.

The Whole Picture

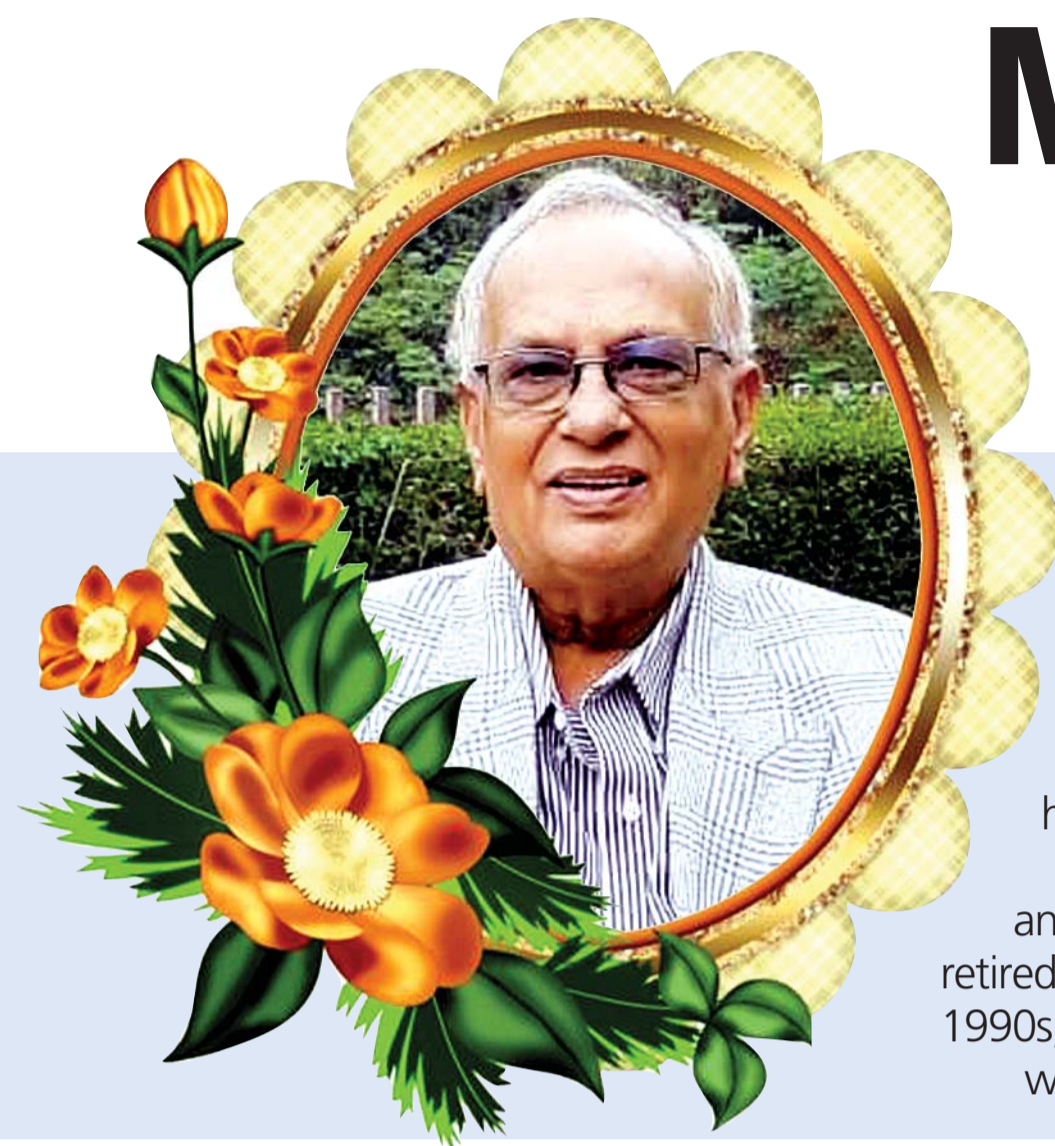
While the trend of travelling with minimal belongings is gaining popularity with Gen Z, critics argue that while packing light may seem convenient, travellers may often need essentials upon arrival. This can quickly erase any savings from avoiding baggage fees. Moreover, this cycle of constantly buying and discarding items raises valid concerns regarding cost-effectiveness and environmental sustainability. It isn't just about the money spent, the environmental impact becomes significant when considering the waste generated from these disposable purchases. Despite these chal-

lenges, many resourceful travellers have ingeniously adapted to the 'flying naked' trend. For instance, some individuals choose clothing with multiple pockets, allowing them to carry essential items such as toiletries, snacks, and travel documents without extra bags. Others have devised creative methods, like stuffing clothes into neck pillows or using duty-free shopping bags, to avoid incurring additional charges. By employing innovative packing strategies and thinking outside the box, travellers are making the minimalist approach practical while being mindful of their budget.

Air Travel And Gen Z

Air travel has been experiencing several new trends pioneered by Gen Z and popularised through social media. How do you pass the time on a long flight? Do you read a book, watch the in-flight entertainment, listen to a podcast, or scroll through your phone? There's a new trend that abandons all of these options. Welcome to 'rawdogging,' a travel trend

that originated with young travellers who have chosen to forgo all forms of in-flight entertainment. Instead, they simply stare out the window or sit with their thoughts for the duration of the flight. This means no films, music, sleep, headphones, snacks, or distractions once seated. Alternative names for this meditative experience include 'bareback' and 'flying raw.'



St. Xavier's School, Jaipur, Batch 1964, Std. X-8.

Subodh Mathur

Subodh Mathur was one of my elder brothers. He passed away in Jaipur on 21 December 2024. What an older brother to have! He was born in Alwar, just a few days before India became independent in 1947.

He grew up in Alwar, Bharatpur, Jhalawar, Bikaner, and Ajmer, where our father was posted as the Collector. When we came to Jaipur in 1958, he had already been studying in Hindi-medium schools.

A few years ago, he wrote, "I remember attending Rumpuria High School in Bikaner. It was housed around an abandoned cinema hall. I recall that I played the lead role in a one-act play called *Jhitiya*, loosely based on the story of Red Riding Hood going to meet her Grandmother in a remote cot-



IRS Batch, 1971.

My Brother is No More

So also the Family Base

Subhash loved life and enjoyed it fully. But family came first. When Subodh was admitted in the early 1970s to a university in the US, he did not have a blazer or a coat. When Subodh was about to leave Jaipur, Subhash gave his stylish, precious Tweed coat to Subodh, so that he would have something warm. Later, when our mother passed away in 1980, Subhash asked for and got a transfer to Jaipur so that our father, who retired in 1969, would have good support. Later, in the 1990s, he organized a major family reunion in Gwalior, where he was posted in the Narcotics department.

Fruitcake Day

Fruitcakes, we've all seen them in the movies or grandma's kitchen. The heavy and dark cake that looks like it went through seven stages of baking and sounds like a fist thumping against a wooden table when set down on a surface. Yet, there is a day made for it. That's right, this day is called Fruitcake Day and it's made for the celebration of the cake that we all seem to find synonymous with a brick. Indulge in variations of a classic cake from all over the world or compete to see who can fling this fruit-packed favourite the furthest.



Calcutta Customs House.

than 4 lakh reads in December 2024 alone. Though he had grown up without computers, he set up and became the editor-cum-organizer of a website <https://inourdays.org/>, which records personal memories. In his college days, Subhash and his friends had put together a print magazine named the *Oasis*. All the material was in English. Quite a step for someone who had failed an English test in his school days. After he retired, he came back to writing short stories in English. Some of them were published in Rajasthan Patrika, one of them even made it to a national publication.

Subhash became a part of a group that offered free coaching to UPSC aspirants. In commercial establishments, he was one coach/teacher would have several students. Not in Subhash's group. They would form a panel of 3-5 senior people, who would do mock interviews with one young aspirant at a time, all free. One of the persons they coached topped the All-India list!

Subhash and Tilak took part in several charity/development activities. One of them was to help develop the village of Bachu Singh, who has served the family for decades. After his oldest brother, PC Mathur, known in the family as Titi and Bhai Saheb, passed away in 2015, Subhash was left as the oldest of his siblings in Jaipur, which remained the family base to which everyone returned from wherever in the world they were. Without Subhash, the family base in Jaipur has crumbled.



Feb 1972, LBS Mussorie.

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

#OBITUARY



St. Xavier's School, Jaipur, Batch 1964, Golden Jubilee, 2014.

Our father, Khem Chandji, was a senior IAS officer with a large family and no corruption. He was always a high-status family on a tight budget. On my father's first posting to Jaipur, he got a house in Civil Lines, which is now allocated to ministers. High status. But, between us three brothers, we had only one bicycle. Every evening, after we had come back from school by school bus, Subhash would lug his two younger brothers back to school, for swimming and sports. It was quite uphill from our home to at least the railway crossing.

He excelled in swimming and cricket, which he played for the school and Rajasthan University. After his MA from Jaipur, he gave the UPSC exam, and got into the Indian Revenue Service. By the time he left Jaipur to join the government, he had worked hard to woo Tilak Bhatnagar, a hostel student. They married in 1974, and had two sons, Gaurav and Tushar.

Subhash loved life and enjoyed it fully. But family came first. When Subodh was admitted in the early 1970s to a university in the US, he did not have a blazer or a coat. When Subodh was about to leave Jaipur, Subhash gave his stylish, precious Tweed coat to Subodh, so that he would have something warm. Later, when our mother passed away in 1980, Subhash asked for and got a transfer to Jaipur so that our father,

who retired in 1969, would have good support. Later, in the 1990s, he organized a major family reunion in Gwalior, where he was posted in the Narcotics department. Subhash followed my father in accepting no bribes. When he was a senior Customs officer in Calcutta, confiscating all kinds of goods, including the high-demand Sony Walkman portable cassette player, he asked me to bring him one from the US. I asked, "Why? Have you not confiscated any?" He just said, "I don't have one. Just bring it."

As part of his official work, he travelled to Japan and Canada, and also went to the US. And enjoyed those journeys thoroughly. On one of his official trips, he wanted to take his wife along with him. But, he did not have the money to buy her ticket. But, the family came through for him, and she could travel with him.

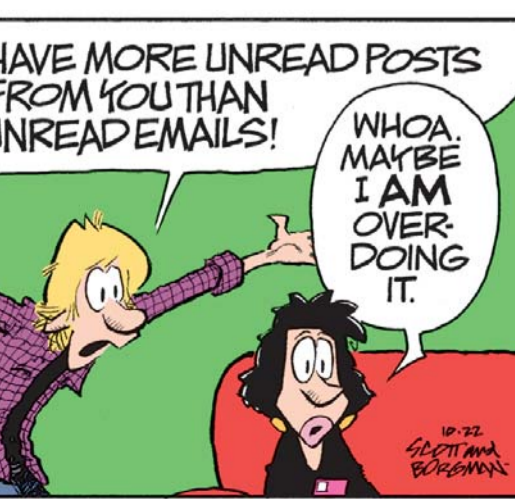
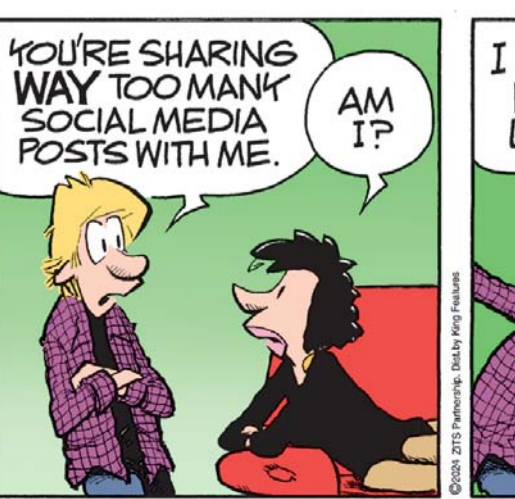
In the end, his reputation cost him heavily. In the early 2000s, he was posted in Ahmedabad as the Chief Commissioner, Excise. He was transferred from Ahmedabad to Delhi so that he could become a Member of the Central Excise Board, a very high rank. He moved to Delhi in anticipation of final orders giving him this job. All formalities had been completed, except the final, routine approval from the Prime Minister's Office. It was not to be. At the behest of some industrialist, who could not tolerate such a person in the Board, at the very last minute, his name vanished from the list that went to the PMO. No explanation from anyone. The PMO made it clear that it had not deleted Subhash's name, they had approved the list as it came to them. Even the Union Finance Secretary, who was close to our oldest brother, PC Mathur and had spent endless hours in our Jaipur home before he became an IAS officer, could or would say nothing. It was a tremendous shock and hurt to him and the family. And, what next?

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

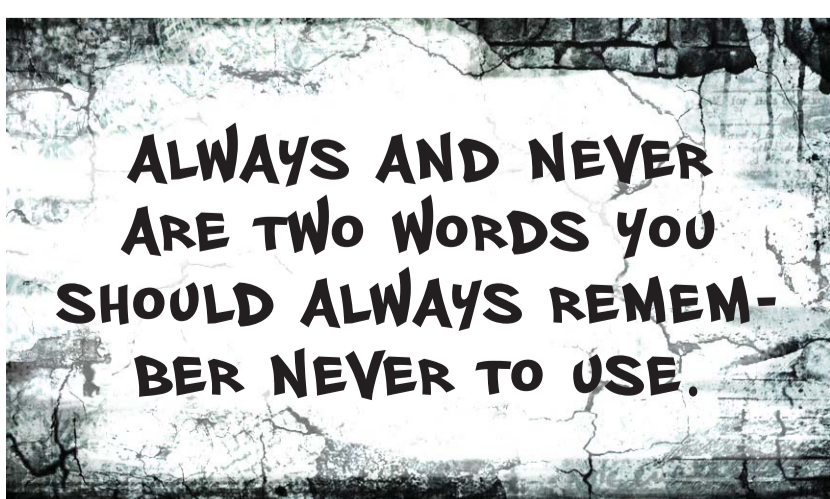
BABY BLUES



ZITS



THE WALL



#INDIAN ARTIST

Tabla Vadak Amrit Hussain

When Amrit Hussain's fingers touch the surface of the tabla, a sound comes out that touches millions of hearts.



Zakir Hussain

Jaipur, little did I know that performing amongst international artists from 11 countries would change my destiny in such a way that I would get a chance to travel to around 60 countries and my favourite instrumental tabla would resonate in these places. But all this was made possible by my hard work and blessings of the masters and I had the privilege of playing tabla in more than 60 countries. This is to say of International Artist Amrit Hussain. About 18 years ago today, in 2003, in the city of Napoli, Italy, he represented India in the Orchestra di Piazza Vittorio of 11 countries and left a mark by presenting the art of our country very well. Artist Amrit Hussain's fortunes have shone in harmony with artists from 11 countries in a musical concert held at the National Theatre, Italy, and today, he is leading a campaign to integrate classical music with western music on foreign soil.

Tabla *Nauvaz* Amrit Hussain says that during the Europe tour in 2003, there was a chance to represent India with artists from 11 countries in a multinational orchestra. Since then, artists from these 11 countries became friends and due to this friendship, classical music started getting western music. When Amrit Hussain's fingers touch the surface of the tabla, a sound comes out that touches millions of hearts. The magic of these fingers rises on the head of the listeners. Amrit Hussain is fast recovering as a household name in western countries. Amrit Hussain, who has been instrumental in establishing tabla playing on the art scene, is a great tabla player and also a great music director and writer.

He has mastered in tabla playing Ek Taal, Teen Taal, Qaida, Tihaiya, Peshkar to Gaida, Tukda and some special restrictions as well as lessons from elders. Amrit Hussain is seen blooming on the stage. When he plays the tabla, there is a similarity in not only the rhythm, but also the technique and the sentiments, and it is this unique talent that sets him apart from others in the music world. Like his music, his thoughts act as a bridge between the past and the present and present a beautiful picture of his creative journey.

Made on the basis of Struggle

Amrit Hussain's tabla lyrics go down in the hearts of the listeners. He is not only a tabla seeker but also a famous personality of writer and musician. He has won the applause of the audience through his many compositions in foreign forums. Along with this, the flags are raised

Prestigious awards received in Poland and Morocco

Amrit Hussain has been honoured with many awards for the cultivation of his art. But he has also been awarded the Polish Frederick Grammy Award by the Government of Poland in 2015 and



Music Bridge built between two countries

Amrit Hussain says that while living in Europe, he has been working to build a bridge of peace between the two countries through music for the past several years. He said that the relations between people of both the countries are very good with Indian

Amrit Hussain is from the family of 7 generations

Amrit Hussain says that he has inherited music. Music is being served in his *gharana* of 7 generations. "Our Abba, Ustad Rafiq Mohammad Saheb and Dada, Ustad Rasool Khan Saheb always say that this tabla is worshiped like Saraswati, and it is this unique talent that sets him apart from others in the music world. Like his music, his thoughts act as a bridge between the past and the present and present a beautiful picture of his creative journey.

the UNESCO-certified Al Farabi Award by the Government of Morocco in 2018. Amrit Hussain has also had the privilege of performing at an event held in Greece during the 2004 Olympic Games.



and Western music. Perhaps, our leaders are also aware of this, that is why they give us visa to come to Europe. He said that the canvas of fun is huge. I am thankful to God that I got the patronage of such people who devoted their whole life for Music.

