

OUR BANGALORE

Special Edition

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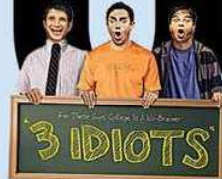
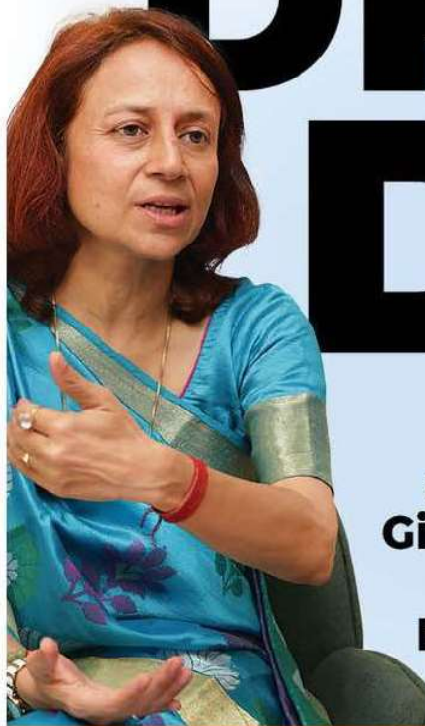


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DRIVEN DUO



Passion meets action as Sonam Wangchuk & Gitanjali Angmo champion causes that safeguard Earth and enlighten the next generation

THE RIGHT EDUCATION FROM THE VERY BEGINNING IS CRUCIAL

...Says educationist Gitanjali J Angmo



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'INDIA MUST EMBRACE VISHWA GURU ROLE IN CLIMATE FIGHT'

...Says Sonam on the nation setting benchmarks in global efforts against climate change



INSIDE

THE HIMALAYAN ODYSSEY BY UZMA IRFAN

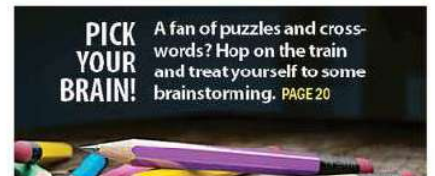
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BLR HUBBA RETURNS

Over 500 events across music, arts, and literature till Dec 20, BLR Hubba's second edition starts tomorrow.

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RCB'S AUCTION GAMBIT P18

SEEKING FREEDOM IN MURAKAMI'S WALLED CITIES P16

Bindu Gopal Rao

Bangalore's lively and diverse spirit comes alive this winter with BLR Hubba, an annual festival that celebrates everything from tech to art, literature, and culture. With its second edition scheduled from November 30 to December 15, this event promises to showcase the best of the city—a place that is as much a hub of innovation as it is a cultural melting pot.

BLR Hubba isn't just another festival. It is an immersive celebration of Bangalore's eclectic mix of modern and traditional, local and global. At the heart of the festival is UnboxingBLR Foundation, a not-for-profit initiative driving the celebration of the city's journey. The idea is simple yet profound - to put Bangalore on the map as a global hub for everything—from technology and startups to the arts and humanities.

An array of events

BLR Hubba stands apart with its carefully curated events, designed not only to entertain but to



become fixtures in Bangalore's cultural calendar. According to **V. Ravichandrar**, the Chief Facilitator of BLR Hubba, the goal was clear - "To create something that is not routinely seen in the city," and it shows. The event spans across multiple genres and venues, each with its own flair.

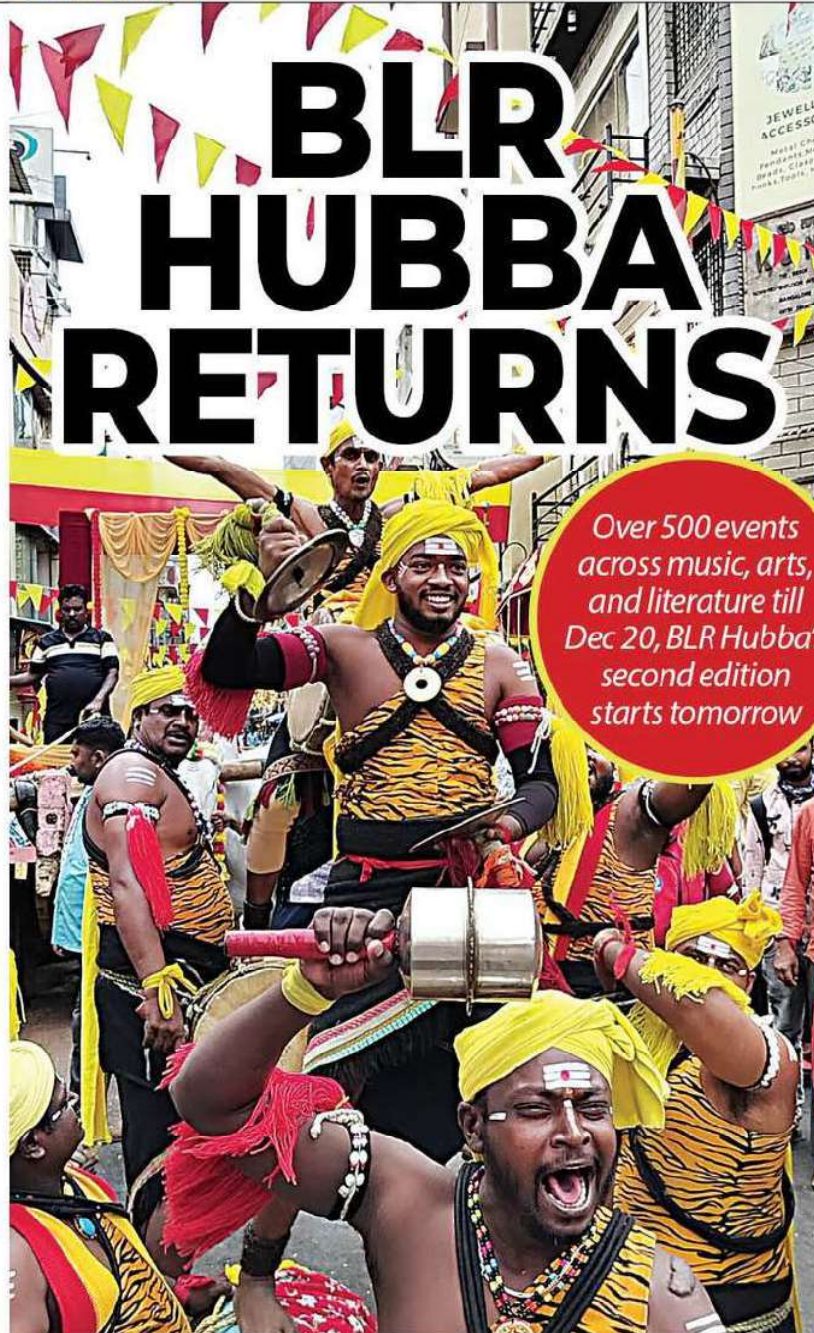
Among the festival's most anticipated Homegrown events is Kantha: Sounds of Asia, a musical celebration that melds Asian musical traditions into an exhilarating blend of rock, fusion, folk, and jazz. Featuring 38 talented artists, it promises a unique soundscape that will resonate with the city's diverse cultural tapestry.

For those seeking something avant-garde, Alt Fest will push boundaries in the world of experimental arts, while Futures will gather national and international thinkers to explore future possibilities. Not to be missed is Speaklore, a spoken word festival where improv, playback theatre, poetry, and puppetry merge to tell compelling stories. For those who crave outdoor cultural experiences, Hubba In Your Streets will transform Bangalore's streets into a lively celebration of local talent, from artisans to buskers.

A nod to roots

BLR Hubba is also deeply connected to the heart of Karnataka and its cultural heritage. One of the stand-out events, Gala-Gala-Gaddala, will mark the 120th birth anniversary of poet Kuvempu, one of Kannada's literary giants. With performances, readings, and discussions, the event will shine a light on the life and work of the poet, offering festival-goers an in-depth look at his monumental contributions to Kannada literature.

Another artistic gem is CodeBLR, a public art initiative that will



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WHAT'S MORE?

- The festival lineup includes guided tours of Nagarathpet, Malleswaram, and Basavanagudi, alongside literary, art, and theatre workshops.
- There will also be art exhibitions, marathons, film screenings, and engaging discussions on the city's essence.
- The hubba will host markets for children, musicians, and art and craft enthusiasts at Jayamaharal Palace lawns, Jayanagar 4th Block, and Koramangala.
- Daily event venues include Freedom Park, Bangalore International Centre, Panchavati (Malleswaram), and Sabha (Kamaraj Road).
- Most of the events are free to attend.



transform Bangalore's walls into vibrant murals and thought-provoking artworks. Reflecting the city's ever-evolving identity, CodeBLR will remind visitors and locals alike of Bangalore's dynamic spirit.

Something for everyone

Whether you're a local or a visitor, BLR Hubba offers something for everyone. With 500+ events and over 40 locations across the city, the festival truly captures the essence of Bangalore. The festival's emphasis on accessibility means most events are free, ensuring that cultural exploration is open to

all. And thanks to the BLR Hubba website, navigating the festival is easier than ever. The site features an intuitive search feature to help you find out what, when, and where—making sure you don't miss out on any of the action.

From thought-provoking visual arts and contemporary dance performances to immersive Bangalore Walks that stretch across 100 km of the city's footpaths, BLR Hubba is shaping up to be a global festival with local roots.

Looking Ahead

The dream for BLR Hubba goes

beyond its current scale. Over the coming years, it aims to grow into the largest cultural festival in India and eventually evolve into a world-class event. For now, however, it remains a true ode to Bangalore's rich, diverse cultural landscape—a place where stories are told, traditions are celebrated, and new ideas take shape.

This year's BLR Hubba promises to be an unforgettable experience for anyone looking to immerse themselves in the heartbeat of Bangalore—a city that never stops innovating, creating, and celebrating.