Embargo

The contents of this guide relating directly to the Opening Ceremony of the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games may not be broadcast, printed or communicated to the public in any way prior to the commencement of the Opening ceremony on 3rd October 2010.

NB: After it has served its purpose, may we respectfully suggest that you recycle this document.
Production Facts

Volunteers
After a number of auditions, 600 volunteers have been employed for the Opening and Closing ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games 2010. These volunteers have undergone role specific training as well as one week of venue training. Moreover, there are over 2000 volunteers working in the other functional areas like transport, spectator services, catering etc.

Main stage
The one-of-a-kind main stage, inspired by the mandala, is one of the largest built for an Opening or Closing Ceremony. Built within 7 days, by 500 workers, the stage is 120FT X 100FT X 8FT in size. Weighing approximately 500 tonnes, the stage can hold around 500 people underneath it.

Aerostat
The star attraction of the Commonwealth Games 2010, the aerostat, is the biggest Helium balloon in the world. Being used for the first time for an entertainment event/ceremony the aerostat will be suspended 25 metres above the ground. With a size of 40M X 80M X 12M, the aerostat has a 360 degree projection surface. Manufactured by Per Lindstrand, and designed by Mark Fisher, it has an underbelly of mirrors that reflect the lighting on the field of play.

Lighting
Playing a significant role in the Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games 2010, are the 1200 moving lights, 120 space cannons and 16 Follow spots weighing approximately 75 tonnes. Provided by one of the world’s largest suppliers of lighting, the Production Resource Group, the lights are programmed to bounce off the mirrors on the aerostat, and help create a spectacular effect.

Sound
To add to the cheer of the crowd, and create the perfect ambience are 25 stacks of sound speakers, provided by Australian Company Norwest and Sound.com. Also, there is a special sound system dedicated to the athletes seated on the field of play with over 500,000 Watts of sound.

Communications
The Opening Ceremony employs one of the best communication systems in the world. Provided by Reidel from Germany, these include 450 Walkies, 200 Tetras and 150 Clear Comms.

Power
Divided into 4 generator farms, 10 Mega Watts of Power will be supplied through 26 feeder panels for the Opening Ceremony, from the 4 quadrants of the stadium. For this, over 50 kms of power cable has been used.

Pyrotechnics
The Pyrotechnics to be used for the Opening Ceremony are manufactured and supplied by Howard and Sons, Australia. The fireworks will be released from the roof of the stadium as well as the field of play. Over 2700 shots spread over 88 locations on the roof of the stadium create spectacular effects and mark the opening of the Commonwealth Games 2010.
About the Stadium

Built in 1982, the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium was the venue for the Asiad, held the same year. Serving Indian and international athletes ever since, the stadium was taken into renovation in 2006 and over 5000 workers were involved in the construction. All set for the Commonwealth Games 2010, the capacity of the all new JLN stadium is 60,000 over two levels. With a one-of-its-kind membrane roof, it is the perfect venue for the Games Opening Ceremony.
The Games **Identity**

**Wheel of Life**

The Commonwealth Games are set to roll this year on the ‘Wheel of Life’, the logo for Commonwealth Delhi 2010. The ‘Wheel of Life’ is an all-encompassing concept that brings about the harmony in this world at large. It is the Wheel of Life that has helped and enabled India to absorb, accept and evolve different cultures over 5 cycles of civilization. As a result of this evolution, Indians live in different worlds at any given point, whether it is the past, present or future, and yet co-exist as one entity. In turn, this enables the ability of being interconnected and interdependent that finally brings the whole world together, as one, also known as ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’. We all are a part and parcel of the ‘Wheel of Life’, and this is what makes us one.

**Shera The Mascot**

Shera, the most visible face of the XIX Commonwealth Games 2010 Delhi, is the mascot of the XIX Commonwealth Games. Derived from the Hindi word ‘Sher’ his name means tiger. Shera is not only a sportsman in himself but also an achiever with a positive attitude, a global citizen and justifiably proud of his nation’s ancient heritage, Shera truly represents modern India. Also, Shera is associated with, as a ‘large-hearted gentleman’ who loves making friends and motivates people to ‘come out and play’.

Also, according to Indian mythology, the tiger is associated with the Goddess Durga, embodiment of female power and the vanquisher of evil and Shera lives up to the spirit.

Shera, in short, embodies the values that the nation is proud of: majesty, power, charisma, intelligence and grace. His athletic prowess, courage and speed on the field are legendary, and set him as an example for anyone that wishes to win.
2. Opening Film

Synopsis: The Opening Ceremony commences with an opening film which showcases India to the world.
3. Countdown & Rising of Aerostat

Synopsis: Nagada drummers beat out the countdown to the Opening Ceremony in true Indian tradition. The aerosat rises dramatically to its full height.

The countdown starts with spotlights highlighting groups of conch blowers on East and West of the main stage.

The conch blowers blow on conch shells heralding the beginning of the ceremony.

Dung chen players are revealed on field around main stage. They start playing and are joined by the conch blowers again.

As flashes of light reveal Nagada players around the periphery of the field at the tips of the athletes seating area. Nagadas beat a prelude to the countdown.

The countdown starts with the Nagadas playing a beat to each count from 10 to 0. Each beat has a simultaneous flash of light. The conches blow again at zero and pyros take off from the roof of the stadium.

Background Notes

The Conch

Referred to as a conch shell or a chank shell in the west, the Shankha is used as a ceremonial trumpet, for religious practices and before commencing any auspicious occasion. The conch is sounded during worship at specific points and is usually accompanied by ceremonial bells and singing. Being an auspicious instrument, it is often played during pujas in temples and homes across India.
3. Countdown & Rising of Aerostat

Duration 00:03:05

Synopsis: Nagada drummers beat out the countdown to the Opening Ceremony in true Indian tradition. The aerostat rises dramatically to its full height.

Stadium lights are dimmed and we see the aerostat which is at a lowered position spectacularly lit with lighting gobos. A group of Been players located on the steps of the stage start playing and the aerostat starts rising, as if charmed up by the Been players. Nagada players accompany the Beens. Gigantic puppets rise with the aerostat.

The Been players move down the steps while the aerostat continues to rise.

Background Notes

Dung Chen

The Dung Chen belongs to the clan of trumpets that are among the oldest musical instruments dating back to at least 1500 BC. Constructed with brass tubing, these are musical instruments of the highest register. Played by “buzzing” closed lips, the Dung Chen produces a sound that is not only distinct, but also pleasant music to the ears.
3. Countdown & Rising of Aerostat

Synopsis: Nagada drummers beat out the countdown to the Opening Ceremony in true Indian tradition. The aerostat rises dramatically to its full height.

When the aerostat reaches its full height, pyros take off from the roof of the stadium.

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**Background Notes**

**Nagada**
The Nagada is an Indian percussion instrument that resembles the kettle drums of the old Naubat that is a traditional ensemble of nine instruments. Around 1 to 2 feet in diameter, and played with sticks, the Nagada is generally used to accompany the Shehnai. The drum skin of the Nagada is made with 2-headed goatskin which when played, has a charm of its own.

**Been**
Originally developed as an Indian music instrument, the Been is a wind instrument mostly played by snake charmers in India. It is very similar to the Chinese Hulusi, but has only two reed pipes. Further improved to produce the Shehnai, the Been originated in India, and is still played by snake charmers in street performances.
4. Rhythms Of India

Synopsis: A spectacular display of drummers from various parts of India.

The action moves to the stage again as a group of Pungcholom drummers start performing. They enthral the audience with their mid-air twirls and jumps.

Pungcholom drummers move down the steps and a group of 120 Chenda drummers move onto the stage and perform.

As the Chenda playing reaches a high, we see two groups of tribal drummers – Bihu and Gudum Baja, pouring out from under the stage on to the FOP.

As Bihu and Gudum Baja make formations on the field, Bhangra and Dholu Kunitha drummers pour out from under the stage

Gaja Dhol and Wangala drummers enter from under the stage as other group form choreographic patterns on the field

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**Background Notes**

**The ‘Pung Cholom’**
A unique classical dance of Manipur, the Pung Cholom is the soul of Manipuri Sankirtana music and Classical Manipuri dance. Performed by the dancers playing the Pung (a form of hand beaten drum) while they dance at the same time, the dance is marked by a gentle rhythm, which gradually builds up to a thunderous climax.

**The ‘Chenda’ Drum**
Famous for its loud and rigid sound, the Chenda is a cylindrical percussion instrument used widely in the state of Kerala, India. Mainly played as an accompaniment in the Hindu religious art forms of Kerala, the Chenda is used as an accompaniment for Kathakali, Koodiyattam, Kannyar Kali and among many forms of dances and rituals in Kerala.
4. Rhythms Of India

Synopsis: A spectacular display of drummers from various parts of India.

Background Notes

Koya
Koya drummers enter from under the stage and join other groups on the field.

Keshav
All drummers perform in unison.

We discover a young tabla player Keshav on stage. All drummers fall silent as Keshav plays tabla solo.

Drummers reply to Keshav’s solo piece. This set is repeated once more.

Focus moves back to the field as all drummers perform. Rhythm builds up to a crescendo. After a brief applause break-up there is a reprise as all drummers exit under the stage in formation.

Jugalbandi
Jugalbandi meaning 'entwined twins' is a performance that features a duet of solo musicians. The duet that can be either vocal or instrumental is defined when the two musicians are on an equal footing. As both musicians or set of musicians act as lead players, the Jugalbandi becomes a playful competition that is thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.
5. Swagatam

Synopsis: India welcomes the world through a ‘Namaste’ choreography done by school children.

The Swagatam song takes off and blocks of children join together to form the Namaste. The Swagatam track picks up and the joined hands of the Namaste choreographically sway from one side to another, giving a grand welcome.

Simultaneously words of welcome from 18 different Indian languages recognized by the constitution of India are projected on the aerostat.

The Swagatam song by the famous Indian singer Harihara resounds in the stadium and the hands joined in Namaste, together sway to its tunes.

The children rearrange themselves into 4 blocks: 2 facing the VIP arena and the other 2 facing the audience. They pull a fabric over their heads in a way, that it shows the opening of the two palms. The children begin to paint from under the fabric which causes Mehendi patterns to appear on the palms.

Background Notes

Namaskaram
A commonly spoken greeting or salutation, Namaskar traces back its roots to India and Nepal, where it originated. Spoken from one person to another, the Namaskar is commonly accompanied by a slight bow made with hands pressed together, palms touching and the fingers pointed upwards, in front of the chest.
5. Swagatam

Synopsis: India welcomes the world through a ‘Namaste’ choreography done by school children.

The children then move with the choreography and come together as one solid block for the National Anthem.

They uncover a layer of costumes and reveal the colours of the National Flag. India is highlighted as a strong power, one nation, and one spirit.

**Background Notes**

**Mehendi**

Mehendi, or the application of henna is a temporary form of skin decoration in India. Sometimes called henna tattoos, Mehendi is typically applied on special occasions like weddings, Diwali, Bhai Dooj and Eid.
7. National Anthem & Raising Of Indian National Flag

Synopsis: The flags of the 3 Host Nations are hoisted, then, the National Anthem is played - a specially recorded track featuring maestros of Indian music and a children’s choir

The audience stands up in respect. The National Anthem is played, and the spirit of being one comes alive. The National Anthem, a specially recorded track featuring maestros of Indian music and a children’s choir, is played. Children sing the National Anthem in flag formation.

The National Anthem is played:

“Jana Gana Mana Adhinayaka Jaya He
Bharat Bhagya Vidhata
Punjab Sindh Gujarat Maratha
Dravida Utkala Banga
Vindhya Himachal Yamuna Ganga
Ucchala Jaladhi Taranga
Tubh Shubha Name Jage
Tubh Shubha Ashisha Mange
Gahe Tubh Jaya Gata
Jan Gan Mangaldyayak Jay He
Bharat Bhagya Vidhata
Jaye He ! Jaye He ! Jaye He !
Jaye, Jaye, Jaye, Jaye He”

Background Notes

National Anthem
Jana Gana Mana, the national anthem of India is written in highly Sanskritized (Tatsama) Bengali. It was first sung at the Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress on 27 December 1911. Jana Gana Mana was officially adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the Indian national anthem on January 24, 1950.
8. Athletes Parade

Synopsis: Athletes from each nation march into the stadium, led by a group of drummers. India being the host arrives last and marches to an especially composed drumming piece leading to the climax for the parade.

Athletes from each nation march into the stadium, led by the group of drummers that played the rhythm of India. An energetic track plays for the athlete’s parade.

Each nation is lead by an Indian woman, draping a unique design and style of the saree. In all, 71 different styles of sarees will be displayed. These include the Lavani style of Maharashtra, the Sidha Palla style of Gujarat, the rural skirt drape from Uttar Pradesh, and the Dhoti style of draping from West Bengal. Also showcased are the Coorgi style, the Nivi style, and Gond styles from Central India.

The women leading gracefully carry placards bearing the name of the nation they lead.

Athletes from each nation take the ceremonial lap around the stadium and move to their designated seats on the outer periphery of the ground.

India, the host, arrives last. A drumming piece, specially composed for India’s ceremonial lap becomes the climax for the parade.

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<tr>
<th>Background Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The ‘Saree’</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A strip of unstitched cloth, the saree ranges from four to nine metres in length. It is an epitome of Indian traditional wear that is commonly wrapped around the waist with one end, and the other draped over the shoulder.</td>
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[Image of athletes marching]
9. Dignitaries Speech

Synopsis: Mr. Mike Fennel, the President of the CGF and Mr. Kalmadi the Chairman of the Organizing Committee enter the stage. They take their positions on the center stage and make their speeches.

Background Notes

**Mike Fennel**
The Commonwealth Games President, Mr. Mike Fennell won the new term as president of the Commonwealth Games during the federation's general assembly meeting in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo. Mr. Fennel was first elected to lead the federation at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada.

**Suresh Kalmadi**
Born on the 1st of May 1944, Mr. Suresh Kalmadi is an Indian politician and senior sports administrator. He is a member of the Indian National Congress political party. He is the president of the Indian Olympic Association, Asian Athletics Association, and Athletics Federation of India and the Organizing Committee Chairman for the Commonwealth Games 2010.
10. The Baton

Synopsis: The journey of the Baton is projected on the aerostat. The Baton is then, brought into the stadium. Prince Charles receives the Baton from the star sportsperson and reads out the message that the Queen wrote at the beginning of the games.

After reading out the Queen’s message, Prince Charles declares the games open.

Background Notes

Queen’s Baton Relay
The Queen’s Baton was received for the Commonwealth Games 2010 by Indian Olympic Association president Suresh Kalmadi from Pakistani counterpart Syed Arif Hasan at the Indo- Pak border.

Setting off its journey from the Buckingham Palace on October 29, covering 170,000 kilometres across the 71 nations and territories belonging to the British Commonwealth, the baton has travelled across the country, finally culminating in its arrival at the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium in New Delhi for the opening ceremony on October 3.
11. Arrival of the Games Flag

Synopsis: The 71 country flags are brought in by the flag marshals to form a pathway on FOP. The CGF Flag is carried open by a military party. It is then raised by the military flag raising party. It is taken to the ceremonial stage where it is to be hoisted.

Athletes’ Marshals from 71 countries walk into the stadium holding the flags of their respective nations. The announcement for the Games Flag is made. Everyone looks on, curiously.

Soon, a military party of 8 enters the stadium carrying the Commonwealth Games Flag. The flag carries the CGF logo, and is a depiction of the spirit of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Background Notes

CGF Flag
The core element of the Commonwealth Games brand is ‘The Bar’ which visually represents the Games’ effort to raise the bar of sport for all humanity and a level playing field where athletes compete in a spirit of friendship and fair play. It is the bar on the CGF flag that depicts the true spirit of the Commonwealth Games.
12. Athletes Oath taking Ceremony

Synopsis: Flag bearers and athlete’s marshals from each nation move towards the centre stage and make a loop around the main stage for the Oath. Then, on behalf of all athletes, the Oath is taken by the Indian Captain.

The Oath
“We declare that we will take part in the 2010 Commonwealth Games in the spirit of true sportsmanship, recognising the rules which govern them and desirous of participating in them for the honour of our Commonwealth and the glory of sport”
13. Tree of Knowledge

Synopsis: The Guru Shishya Parampara and the rich heritage of Indian knowledge is shown through the interaction of a wise teacher and a passionate student. India pays homage to this ancient tradition, and portrays to the world, how the Guru is worshipped next to God himself.

With the drones from the Tanpura, the Guru and Shishya walk in and position themselves at the centre stage. The Guru teaches her the initial notes of classical music, and the Bodhi tree takes shape.

The Tabla, Sitar and Mridangam players join in. Lights reveal musicians seated on the center stage steps who uplift the vocals to a whole new level.

Musicians begin to play and classical dancers move to their tunes. The Guru Shishya tradition is expressed through the different seasons. Classical dance forms Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Kathak, Manipuri, Mohinattam and Kuchipudi are brought into focus. The tree canopy changes colors with each season, hence complementing the dancers' expressions.

The Bodhi tree lights up following which projections of statues and sculptures of Gautama Buddha are projected on the aerostat.

Background Notes

‘Guru and ‘Shishya’
The Guru – Shishya relationship embodies the living and learning relationship between the master and his pupil. Considered sacred, this relationship is based on the genuineness of the guru and the respect, commitment, devotion and obedience of the student.

Gautama Buddha
Siddhartha Gautama, one of the greatest spiritual teachers from ancient India, was a leader with a vision. Regarded as the Supreme Buddha, in most Buddhist traditions Gautama Buddha, is said to have received his enlightenment under the sacred Bodhi Tree in Bodh gaya, India.
14. Yoga

Synopsis: Originated in ancient India, and faithfully continued in the modern times, Yoga and the Yogic way of living is regarded as the pinnacle of physical perfection and athletic prowess. Thus, representing the ultimate union of the body, mind and soul, this segment showcases fitness in its absolute form, and the classical way of retaining it.

Lean, strong and athletic yoga performers spread across the field of play. In the amber light, each of them emanates a yellow glow.

The performers come together to form a blazing sun. A series of yoga poses are showcased. Yoga performers on the center stage display some of the most complicated asanas.

The atmosphere changes to an icy cool blue. The aerostat and the audience look like a part of the limitless universe. The spiraling of the performers represents the Kundalini or the Coiled energy.

Rising from the centre stage, the 7 chakras are formed. The chakras ascend towards the aerostat. Each one rises with a primal sound - the Bija Mantra – Lum…Vum…Rum …Yum…Hum…Shum…Aum are heard as part of the music.

Background Notes

Sunrise
In traditional Yoga, the Sun is considered as the primary source of energy. Salutation to the sun or the Surya Namaskar is one ritual practiced throughout India and in many countries abroad. Hence, Yoga is said to work the best when done early morning, at the time of dawn.
10. Yoga

Synopsis: Originated in ancient India, and faithfully continued in the modern times, Yoga and the Yogic way of living is regarded as the pinnacle of physical perfection and athletic prowess. Thus, representing the ultimate union of the body, mind and soul, this segment showcases fitness in its absolute form, and the classical way of retaining it.

The chakras come alive. The ephemeral shape of a man in a giant Padma asana takes shape.

The installation comes down and the lights go dim. We hear various ethereal sounds that are Vedic chants, Buddhist chants, hymns, Azaan and Gurbani.

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Kundalini Yoga is a highly developed spiritual science with an obscure and multicultural history which, according to Hindu tradition, relies upon a technique called ‘Shaktipat’ to attain enlightenment under the guidance of a spiritual master.
15. Great Indian Journey

Synopsis: India has been a country that has accepted various cultures over centuries. Also, it has managed to retain its cultural diversity and multi-ethnicity. The Great Indian Journey celebrates the unique spirit of India, and shows the world, how being from different backgrounds, we all are still one.

Arriving at the center stage in front of the VIP area, the train comes to a screeching halt and disembarks. It breaks up into a number of installations thus creating the bazaar of India.

The stadium is filled with sounds of women pounding rice, masters singing as weavers sew, the humming of farmers, and dhoabis washing.

This creates a beautiful melody that is the soundscape of rural India. People in a wedding procession, Rickshaws, Tricycles, Cattle, Fishermen, Policemen, Milk men, Hawkers, Chaillalas, Blacksmiths, Construction workers etc. scatter across the ground.

The bazaar showcases how we live in the past, present and future simultaneously.

**Background Notes**

**The cycle shop**
Not just a place where cycles are sold, the cycle shop is an extravaganza of sorts. From big to small cycles, new and old the cycle shop has it all.

**The bangle stand**
The bangle stand is the perfect shopping destination for Indian women. It supplies the Indian beauty all she wants whether it be a festive occasion or just a casual day.

**The moving wok**
The Wok is a round bottomed cooking utensil commonly used in India. It is usually seen in kitchens or restaurants, and often ranges from 30 cms to 2 meters or more in diameter.
15. Great Indian Journey

Synopsis: India has been a country that has accepted various cultures over centuries. Also, it has managed to retain its cultural diversity and multi-ethnicity. The Great Indian Journey celebrates the unique spirit of India, and shows the world, how being from different backgrounds, we all are still one.

As the human train disembarks, the train people with their props and tools create the music of the Bazaar of India – the India Stomp. The symphony created out of pure din is an energetic, vibrant piece of music that encapsulates the exceptional capability of India being able to coexist in its diversity and contradictions.

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<td><strong>Knife sharpener</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The knife sharpener is a simple iron wheel connected to the wheel of the bicycle through a conveyor belt. Sparks coming from the wheel, every time a knife is being sharpened, is what makes it attractive.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Dhobi bags</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carrying piles of clothes, dhobis are easily recognized by the colourful bags they use to serve colonies at large.</td>
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<tr>
<th>The sweet shop</th>
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<td>Whether it is festivals or happy occasions, or just a casual outing with friends, the sweet shop serves the best mouth watering eatables.</td>
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15. Great Indian Journey

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Background Notes

Construction workers
The construction workers toil day in and day out and help create architecture that is used for offices, homes, schools, hospitals etc. across the country.

The hookah
The hookah is a traditional way of smoking tobacco that is kept in a plate or earthen pot that is placed on a pipe stand, and smoked through another pipe passing through the stand.

The kite shop
While the young and old fly kites and fill up the sky, the kite shop sells kites of all sorts and caters to the needs of all customers.

The loom - Cloth
Publicized by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, the cloth, Khadi, that was made on the loom was regarded as the sign of a true Indian, and the tradition continues.

Duration: 00:08:30
15. Great Indian Journey

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Background Notes

Chandeliers
Looking like diamonds hanging from the ceilings, the chandeliers add a touch of royalty to homes, banquet halls and hotels across India.

Garlands
Like many other countries, flowers are considered a sacred gift of nature and are used for worshipping the gods. As a token of love guests are welcomed by putting a garland around their neck.

The sadhu
A common term for a mystic, an ascetic, practitioner of yoga and/or wandering monks, the sadhu is solely dedicated to achieving the moksha (liberation).

The brick layer
One by one, laying the bricks, the brick layer has one of the most tedious jobs. Across the country a number of brick layers help people build houses.
15. Great Indian Journey

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<td><strong>The political rally - Ambassador</strong></td>
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| Another sight very common in India is the Ambassador. A car known for its durability and dependability, an Ambassador is normally associated to as the “Politician’s car”.

| **The auto rickshaw** |
| Even though India is going gung-ho over its technological advances, the 3 wheeled hero, our very own auto rickshaw is still a choice for commuters across cities.

| **Silicon valley** |
| Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka is known for its tech savvy people, advanced learning systems and adaptability to latest technologies. These associations often lead people to informally call this city as the “Silicon Valley”.

Duration: 00:08:30
15. Great Indian Journey

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Background Notes

The water pots (matkis)
Commonly known as the Matki, the earthen pot is used to store water in households. It is also a part of many rituals and traditions followed in India.

Bollywood
Bollywood, is the Indian film industry. Derived from ‘Bombay’ and ‘Hollywood’, it has stories of dance, drama, love, hatred, friendship, betrayal, superheroes and a lot more.

Fisherman’s boat
Rocking with the waves, the fisherman’s boat helps many families survive their livelihood. An occasional folk song often makes it an experience worth taking a ride on.
17. Celebrating India

Synopsis: Showcasing the ultimate richness in India's festivals and culture, this segment is a vibrant and colourful production of Indian folk dance.

The Great India Journey resumes into performances of traditional folk dance. People from across India celebrate the message of Gandhi in their everyday life through festivals and dances.

The opening ceremony is marked with the pyro show along with the thousands of dancing folk performers is the culmination of the cultural shows.
18. Grand Finale

Synopsis: Famous Indian music composer, lyricist, musician and singer A R Rehman takes over the stage. He performs the theme song for Commonwealth Games 2010. These are followed by Maa Tujhe Salaam and Jai ho. At the end of his performance, pyrotechnics blast off, and declare the Grand Finale of the Opening Ceremony.

CWG Song Lyrics

“Oh yaaron, yeh India bulaa liya, Diwaano yeh India bulaa liya... bulaa liya

Yeh toh khal hai, Bada meh hai, Milaa diya… milaa diya

Yeh toh khal hai, Bada meh hai, Milaa diya

Oh rukna rukna rukna rukna nahi, Haarna haarna haarna haarna nahi, Junoon se kanoon se maidaan maar lo, Let’s go, Let’s go

Play o jijo heyo let’s go, Play o jijo heyo let’s go

Oh yaaron, yeh India bulaa liya, Diwaano yeh India bulaa liya... bulaa liya, Parvat sa ucha uthoon toh yeh, Duniya salami de

Sardil iraade na ho jayein kahin, Dil ko woh suraj de, Jiyo utho badho jeeto, Tera mera jahaan let’s go

Kaisi saji hai saji hai dekho maati apni, Bani rashke jahaan yaara ho, Kai rang hai boli hai kai desh hai magar yahi jag hai sarnaaya saara ho, Laagi re ab laagi re lagan Jaagi re mann jaat ki again, Uthi re ab iraadon mein tapan, Chali re gori chali ban than”

Background Notes

A.R. Rahman
Referred to as the ‘Mozart of Madras’, A R Rehman began his career in the early 1990’s. He has won fourteen Filmfare Awards, four National Film Awards, a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe, two Grammy Awards, two Academy Awards and an Oscar.