

THE FIRST INDIANS ON EVEREST

On the 50th anniversary of India's first successful expedition to the world's highest mountain, the last living members recount the historic climb in detail like never before

By Parvathamma Ganes & Rameshwar Aravind

Before the Everest expedition in 1953, the mountain was a "taboo" for Indians. It was considered a "holy" place, and people were forbidden from climbing it. The Indian government had to issue a permit for the first Indian expedition. The Indian government had to issue a permit for the first Indian expedition. The Indian government had to issue a permit for the first Indian expedition.

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1953 Everest 29,029m

Cholung 27,940m

1953 May 11 Chompa, Nandu Singh and Nandu Singh reach the summit of Everest.

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Photo: The South Face Expedition

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THE FIRST INDIANS EVER

On the 50th anniversary of the first successful expedition to the world's highest mountain, the last living members of the team climb in detail like never before





These scales, cooperation and... (Caption text describing the group photo)

These scales, cooperation and... (Main text block starting with 'These scales...')



Trubates left at the top by the nine summiteers (Caption text describing the mountain scene)

ON THE PEAK

Trubates left at the top by the nine summiteers... (Main text block under 'ON THE PEAK')

ALOO PARATHAS AT 26,000 FEET

Supplies, equipment and packaging had to break new ground for the 1965 expedition (Text under 'ALOO PARATHAS...')

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STRANDED IN DEATH ZONE

MS Kohli's account of being trapped high up on the mountain during the 1965 attempt (Text under 'STRANDED...')



Chen and Kohli... (Caption text describing the person in the photo)

When we were at South Col... (Text under 'STRANDED...')

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