

ZUBEEN'S DEATH THE UNTOLD STORY!

The sudden death of Assam's cultural icon Zubeen Garg during the North-East India Festival in Singapore has shocked millions, but the circumstances surrounding it continue to stir controversy and outrage. What began as a cultural celebration has now turned into a storm of allegations, police cases, and unanswered questions.

The Festival That Turned Fatal

The 4th edition of the North-East India Festival, held at Singapore's Suntec Convention & Exhibition Centre from September 19–21, 2025, was announced with grandeur at the Guwahati Press Club. Chief organiser Shyamkanu Mahanta promised a showcase of the region's rich culture with support from the Indian Embassy. Over 400 delegates, including Union Minister Pabitra Margherita and several chief ministers, were expected. For Assam, the highlight was to be a cultural evening led by Zubeen.

Zubeen arrived in Singapore on September 17 with his manager Siddhartha Sharma, musician Shekharjyoti Goswami, brother Sandeepan Garg, and singer Amritprabha Mahanta, checking into the luxurious Pan Pacific Hotel. The mood was celebratory—until tragedy struck.

The Yacht Tragedy

On September 19, Zubeen joined 12 expatriate Assamese on a yacht trip to St. John's Island. Food and drinks were served; traditional pork curry was cooked specially for him. Witnesses say he swam once with a life jacket, but on his second attempt without one, he suddenly lost consciousness. White froth was seen from his mouth and nose. He had vomited earlier on the yacht, which went unnoticed.

Despite CPR efforts, Zubeen was rushed to Singapore General Hospital, accompanied only by Siddhartha Sharma. Doctors declared him dead. Singapore police detained those present, searched his hotel room, and began an investigation.

Outrage Over Festival Continuation

Even as Zubeen's body lay in hospital, Mahanta reportedly continued with the festival schedule, including a fashion show. Though he later claimed all events were cancelled, the move triggered widespread anger in Assam. By September 22, more than 60 FIRs had been filed against Mahanta and Siddhartha, prompting the CID to open Case No. 18/2025.

Viral WhatsApp Screenshots Raise Doubts

The controversy deepened when leaked WhatsApp chats between Shekharjyoti Goswami and fan club leader Piku Borgohain surfaced online. The conversations suggested Siddhartha had been financially exploiting Zubeen for years, allegedly overworking him despite poor health.

For fans, this was confirmation of long-held suspicions: that the singer's simplicity and trust had been abused by those closest to him.

The Manager's Wealth vs. Zubeen's Assets

Once considered Zubeen's closest friend, Siddhartha is now under scrutiny. He reportedly owns a hotel, a water-bottling factory, multiple apartments, and a music office—assets far greater than Zubeen's modest properties. The contrast has fuelled accusations that Siddhartha enriched himself at the singer's expense.

The "Mayabini" Coincidence

Adding to the intrigue, Zubeen's beloved song "Mayabini"—which he had once joked should be sung if he died—was released on streaming platforms for the first time on September 16, 2025, just days before his passing. The timing has raised speculation about commercial motives, though fans have embraced the track as an anthem of mourning.

The Questions That Remain

- Was Zubeen systematically exploited by his inner circle?
- Why was his fragile health overlooked?
- Why did the festival proceed even as Assam lost its biggest icon abroad?

The People's Verdict

While investigations continue in Singapore and Assam, the public has already delivered its own. For Zubeen's admirers, those accused of exploiting him must face severe punishment—if not by law, then by society's rejection.

For now, Assam grieves its most beloved voice, united in one demand: Justice for Zubeen Garg.



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