



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/SHRUTHAASAN

SHRUTI FINDS AVERSION TO INDIAN INDIE ENGLISH MUSIC, 'STRANGE'

Yashika Mathur
yashika.mathur@hindustantimes.com

Recently, musician Ananya Birla appealed to fans to give Indian-made English music a chance. Citing her own experiences, actor-musician Shruti Haasan, who released her first independent English song, *The Edge*, in 2020, finds it "baffling" that Indian English music is in dire straits.

On how she feels the subgenre is still a way off from reaching its potential audience in India, she says, "It's much better than it was when I started out, but the legitimate Indian English music [scene] is not in a great place."

Citing mainstream tracks such as *Desi Girl*, the 38-year-old states that while English lyrics in Hindi or other regional-language songs are received well, songs that are entirely in English don't attract the same interest. "The number of

If the audience supports Indian English musicians more, streams more, goes to their gigs, it would make a huge difference.

SHRUTI HAASAN,
Actor-musician

Hindi and Tamil songs that have English lyrics is huge and no one is questioning that. It's cute when you mix it with something—I understand the value of regional independent music—but when it comes to an English song, I find an aversion, which I find strange."

And the *HER* and *Toxic* singer has seen the difference first-hand. "I had a release called *Monster Machine* in English last year, and this year I had a release called *Inimel*, in Tamil. Both are in the independent music space but *Inimel*'s reach was higher," she says, adding, "I can sing in many languages. I make English music because I am passionate about it. That is the language I can write in my songs. In my music, I try to very organically bring in the influences that make me who I am as an Indian English musician."

Ask her about the obstacles that home-made English music face, and Shruti is quick to call out the bias. Having said that, she adds, "However, ultimately, the audience's support truly drives that change. If the audience supports artistes more, streams more, goes to their gigs and supports live English music more, it would make a huge difference."



Kareena Kapoor Khan issued notice over use of 'Bible' in book title

Kareena Kapoor Khan has received a legal notice for using the word "Bible" in the title of her memoir, where the actor has distilled her opinions on women's health, according to an NDTV report. Titled *Kareena Kapoor Khan's Pregnancy Bible: The Ultimate Manual for Moms-To-Be*, the book was published in 2021.

A single-judge bench from the Madhya Pradesh High

Court issued the notice on advocate Christopher Anthony's petition, to register a case against the actor and the book's sellers. The court has sought an answer from the actor as regards the reason behind using the word 'Bible' in her memoir. After the petitioner demanded a ban on the book's sale, the publishers have also been issued notices by the court.

Anthony, a social activist

from Jabalpur, MP, has stated that the use of the word "Bible" in the memoir's title is hurtful to the sentiments of Christians. He opined, "Bible is the holy book of Christianity all over the world and it is wrong to compare Khan's pregnancy with the Bible."

The petitioner moved to the lower court to file a complaint against Kareena after the police rejected to register an FIR against the

actor. The lower court also declined his petition on grounds that he failed to establish how the use of the word "Bible" in the title was offensive.

The 43-year-old has two children — Taimur (7) and Jeh Ali Khan (3) — with husband, actor Saif Ali Khan.

We reached out to the actor's manager and team, and Juggernaut Books, but were met with no response till the time of going to press.

STOP PRESS

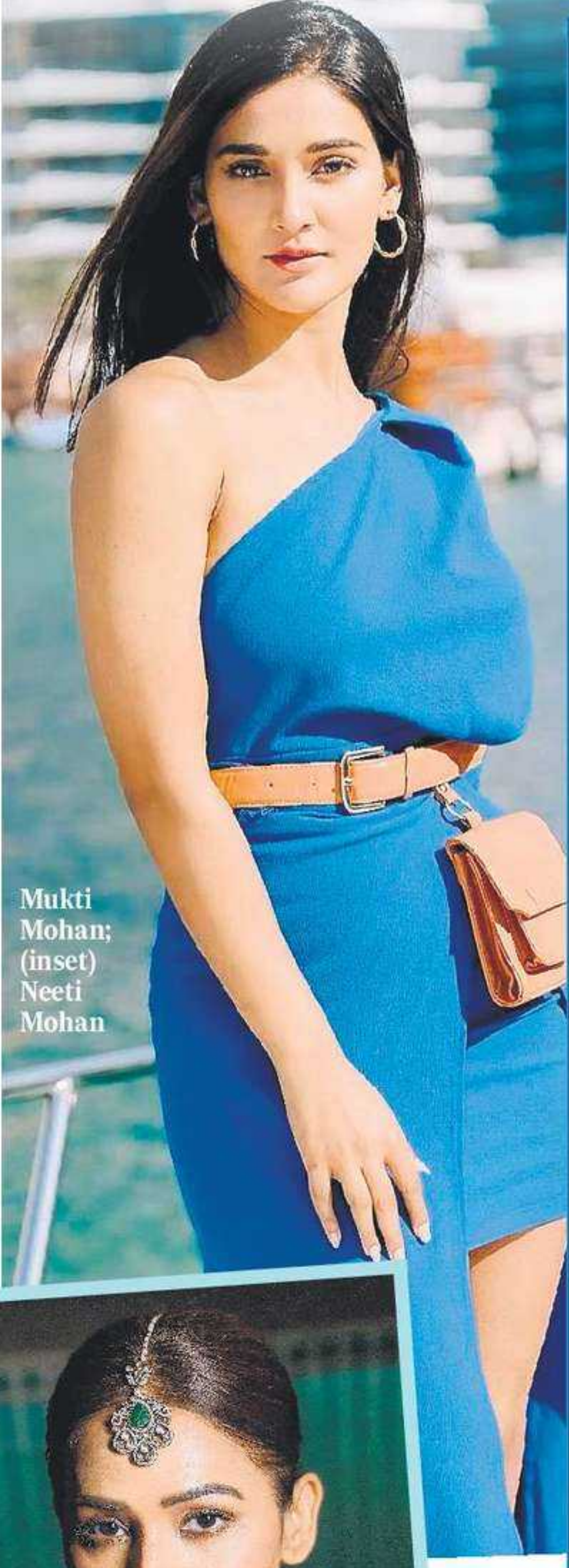
A case was registered against Allu Arjun after the actor participated at a gathering to support MLA Ravi Chandra Kishore Reddy. He is alleged to have violated Model Code of Conduct for polls and Section 144 in Nandyala (Andhra Pradesh).



PHOTO: FACEBOOK/ALLU ARJUN

NOTE TO READERS: Some of the coverage that appears on our pages is paid for by the concerned brands. No sponsored content does or shall appear in any part of HT without it being declared as such to our valued readers.

We need to stand against it: Mukti on Neeti's credit omission from song



Mukti Mohan; (inset) Neeti Mohan

Navya Kharbanda
navya.kharbanda@hindustantimes.com

A recent podcast with choreographers Remo D'Souza, Ganesh Acharya, Shakti Mohan and others, talking about them not getting credit on YouTube for many of their choreographed songs, has once again put the spotlight on the credit debate.

Weighing in on the issue, actor-choreographer Mukti Mohan says it isn't just choreographers—even their assistants never get credit. "The steps we see in a number—so many times, it's the assistants who do that but their names are nowhere to be found," she rues, lamenting that her work as an assistant choreographer for *Padmaavat* (2018) and *Shamsher* (2022), didn't get any recognition.

But more shockingly, Mukti reveals that the name of her elder sister, singer Neeti Mohan, was omitted from the YouTube credits for *Chal Tere Ishq Mein* for *Gadar 2* (2023). "The credits had the actors, directors, and producers names, but her name was neither on the title nor in the credit list," she says, adding that the power of social media and audience's advocacy got Neeti her rightful recognition.

"She was quite upset and her morale went down. But thankfully, fans do figure out. Soon, people started commenting under the Youtube video, asking the label and production house to add Neeti's credit because they easily recognised her voice."



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/SODHI_GCS

Delhi Police question Gurucharan's TMKOC co-stars

Actor Gurucharan Singh, known for playing Roshan Singh Sodhi on *Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah* (TMKOC), has been missing for several weeks now. Delhi Police recently visited the sets of the show in Film City, Mumbai, to question the actor's former co-stars. "This week, Delhi Police visited our sets and spoke with the actors who were in touch with Gurucharan Singh. Everyone has cooperated well with the police. Also, there were

some rumours related to Gurucharan's payments being due from the production house. But, the police found that the payment of the actor was cleared long ago," News18 quoted a source as saying.

Head of Production of Neela Films (TMKOC team) Sohail Ramani said, "Delhi Police went back assured that there were no dues from our end towards Gurucharan Singh. We continue to pray for his well-being and hope he is found soon."

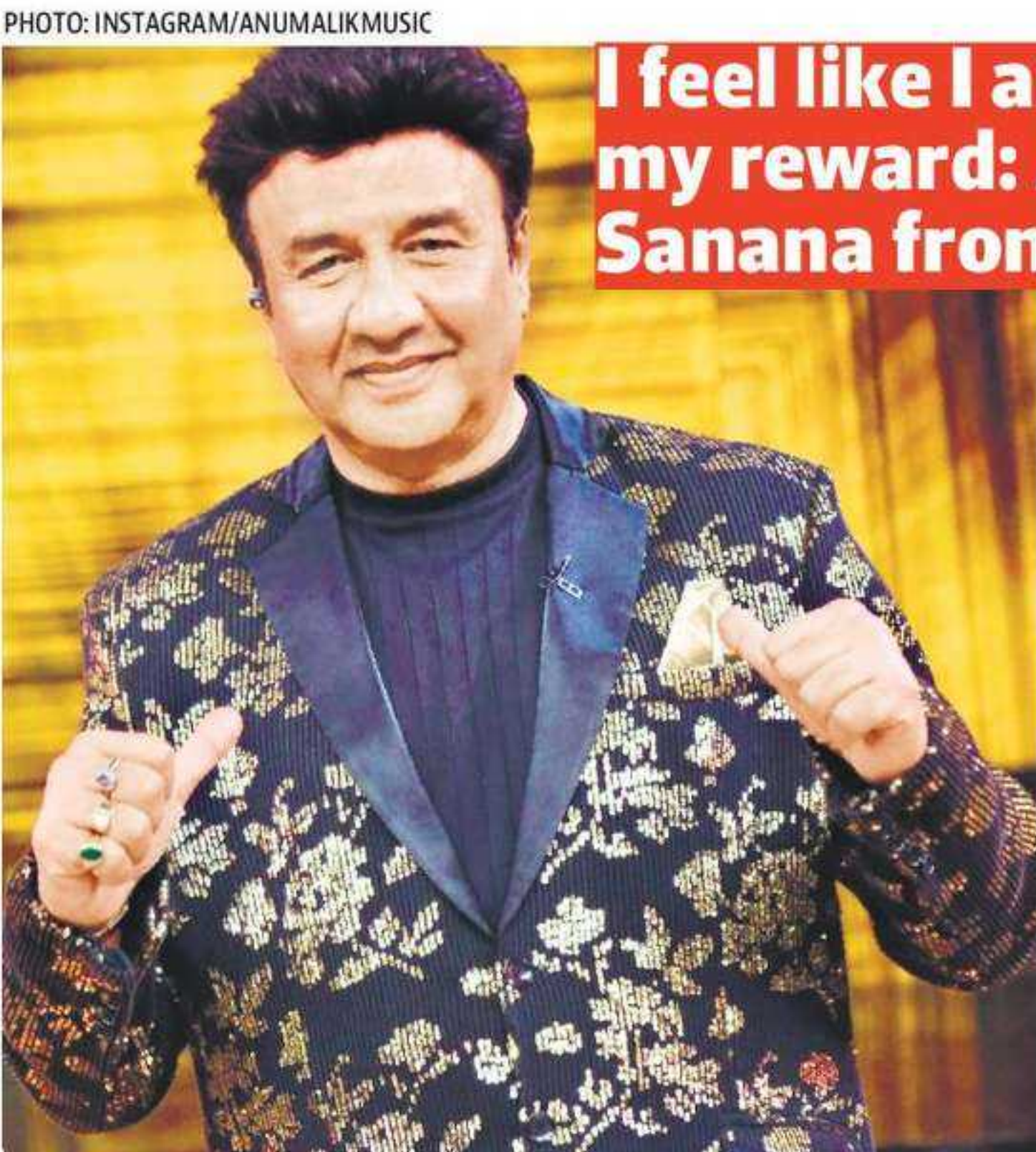


PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/ANUMALIKMUSIC

I feel like I am finally getting my reward: Anu Malik on San Sanana from Asoka trending

Abigail Banerji
abigail.banerji@hindustantimes.com

With over 500K reels and over a million views, *San Sanana* from *Asoka* (2001) is the latest viral sensation. Sung by Alka Yagnik and Hema Sardesai, the song has caught the fancy of social media users all over the world, who are going to great lengths to get ready in traditional Indian avatars while staying on beat.

Composer Anu Malik says, "My daughter Anmol showed me the Reels and said, 'Papa, your song has gone viral'. The



project is very close to my heart because having Shah Rukh Khan and Bebo (actor Kareena Kapoor Khan) in the song was like some pe suhaaga. I must have hummed innumerable tunes to Sivan saab (Santosh Sivan, director), but he was clear that the music has to be very different. I feel like I'm finally getting my reward."

Of late, Indian music has consistently got people grooving on the 'Gram. What does he feel makes this song apt for a different generation? "The kids of today, who are aged 18-25, appreciate a good song. It has got a breezy tune and goes well with people wearing lovely gowns walking the red carpet or doing their makeup," he ends.

▲ Fashion and beauty enthusiasts' newest muse is *San Sanana* from *Asoka* (2001)



PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

Even after winning several awards, if she (singer Neeti Mohan) is not given credit for singing *Chal Tere Ishq Mein*, what's the point?

MUKTI MOHAN, Choreographer

#thatshot

RELISH THE SEASONAL TREATS

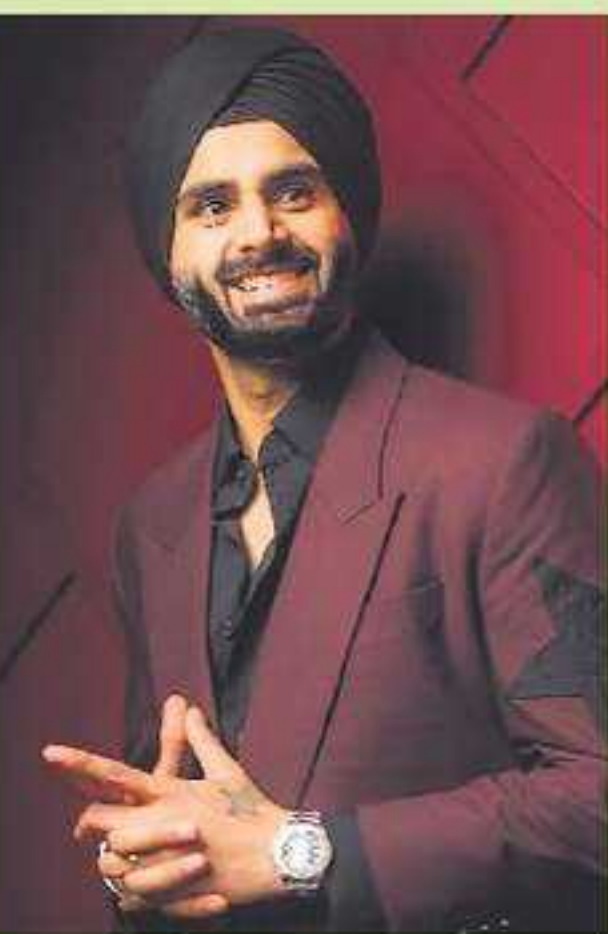
Embrace the vibrant flavours of the season in a summer menu that offers dishes like Chicken Katsu served with Blue Pea Rice and Mango Penang Curry, Pan Seared White Pomfret complemented by Mangosteen and Raw Mango Salsa, among others. Enjoy cocktails and desserts with seasonal delights. **Where:** Woodside Inn, Pali Hill, Bandra (W) **When:** On till May 31



LEMON LOVE
An Italian company, Lemon Snack, is popular for its small lemons that are low in acidity and have edible peels. The antioxidant-rich snack is cultivated for direct eating. TikTok user @lalaleluu shared a video (it has got 9.3M views) after finding the snack at her grocery store in Germany. Now as many people start trying to make it at home, they're using everything, from honey to Tajin to pickling, to make the outer peel edible and emulate the concept.

SANJYOT KEER TO BE SECOND INDIAN CHEF AT CANNES

Sanjyot Keer is set to grace the Cannes Film Festival this year, becoming the second Indian chef to do so after Vikas Khanna. Renowned for his innovative culinary style, award-winning film *Before We Die* and digital platform *Your Food Lab*, Keer is set to make history as the second Indian chef to walk the red carpet of the coveted film event in France.



HEALTHY WRAPS, HAPPY YOU
Love making breakfast burritos or dinner wraps but want a gluten, grain, soy and dairy-free alternative? Gobbleright's Almond Wraps are grain-free and perfect for paneer rolls, frankies, lasagnes and burritos. Crafted to keep your gut happy, they're versatile and satisfying. Simply warm them on a pan for 10 seconds and it's done! **Available at:** gobbleright.com **Price:** ₹455 for a pack of six

COCKTAILS, WITH A SIDE OF STORYTELLING

On World Cocktail Day, we ask bartenders and mixologists about the tales that inspired the drinks they've crafted



INDIAN TEXTILE HISTORY IN A GLASS
"Our Kantha cocktail is a tribute to the embroidery tradition of Kantha stitching from India's east coast. Much like the fabric, the drink blends simplicity with elegance. We use kaffir-infused Bacardi for a bold base, then layer on tropical and citrus notes with pineapple, coconut and liquorice. The edible rice paper garnish, depicting women engaged in the stitch, further reinforces the connection," shares mixologist Shelton Fernandes, Beverage Head of PCO Mumbai.

A DRINK WITH ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Classic literature meets mixology in an immersive experience called Tales of Basque. The cocktail program at Baque, Dehradun, has picked up "timeless classics and taken inspiration from characters, places and stories," says Ankur Chawla, beverage expert and sommelier. "We have tried to bring nostalgia through cocktails. The Wonderland Elixir cocktail is a concoction that mirrors author Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland. The mesmerising blue hue, courtesy of the blue curacao, and gin, with its botanical notes, transports you to a garden of peculiar wonders," he adds.



Sneha Chakraborty

A cocktail is a rich amalgamation of a spirit, sugar, water and some bitters. It is also a story told to the patron by the bartender through time, effort and the 'why' of choosing the ingredients. From paying tribute to a city to remembering fictional characters, these drinks narrate the tales of people and places.



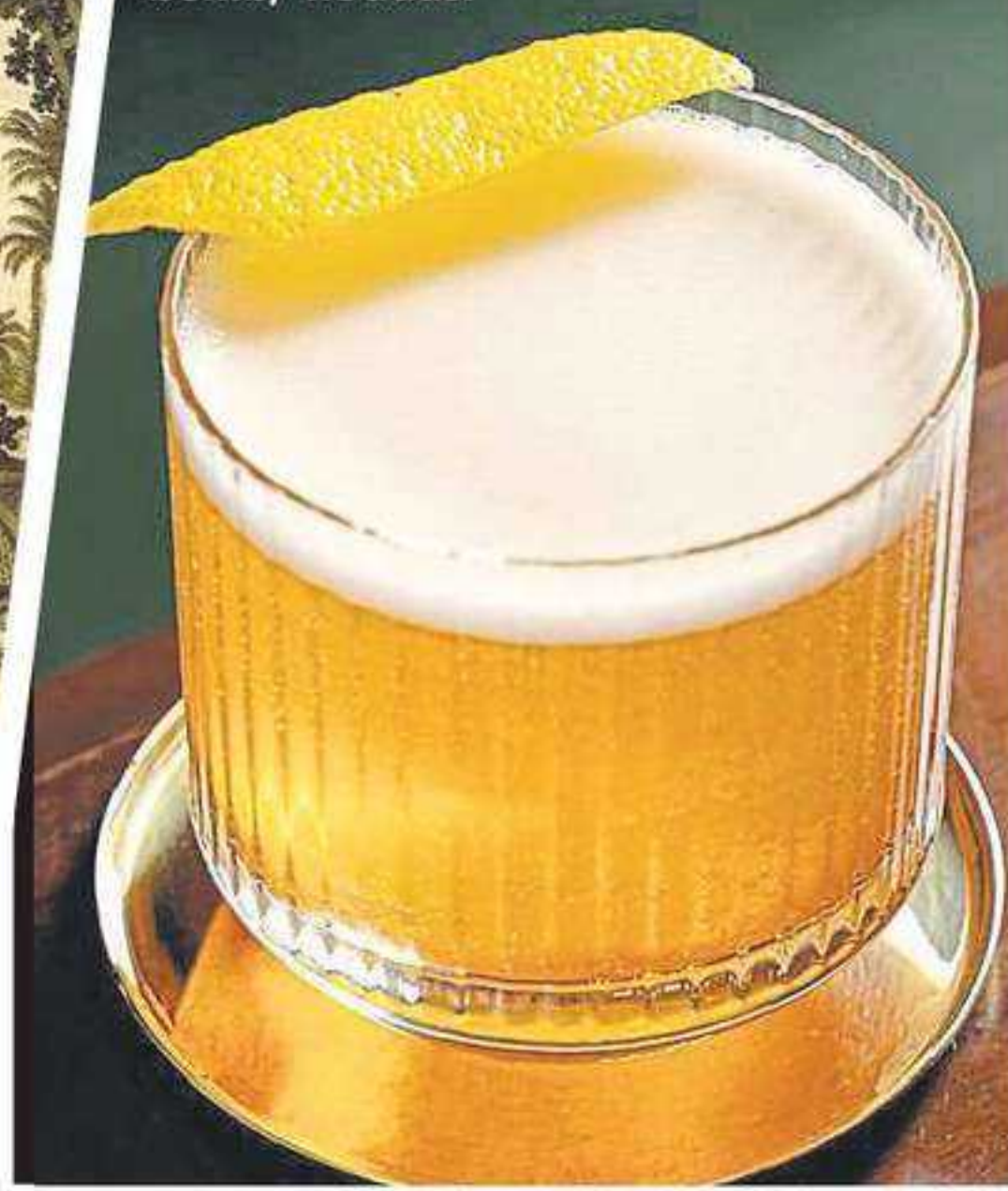
MALABAR MAGIC

In the 17th century, the governor of Malabar authored the book *Hortus Malabaricus*, celebrating the coastal flora's richness and medicinal properties. Now, at Kochi's Hortus — The Garden of Malabar, ingredients featured in the book are incorporated into cocktails. The tangy Zamorin, made from tequila, tamarind, coriander, chilli, and citrus, pays homage to the Zamorin families of Calicut, who ruled the trading hub for six centuries. This cocktail programme also serves as a tribute to the botanical legacy that has influenced mixologists to craft flavours from these botanicals.



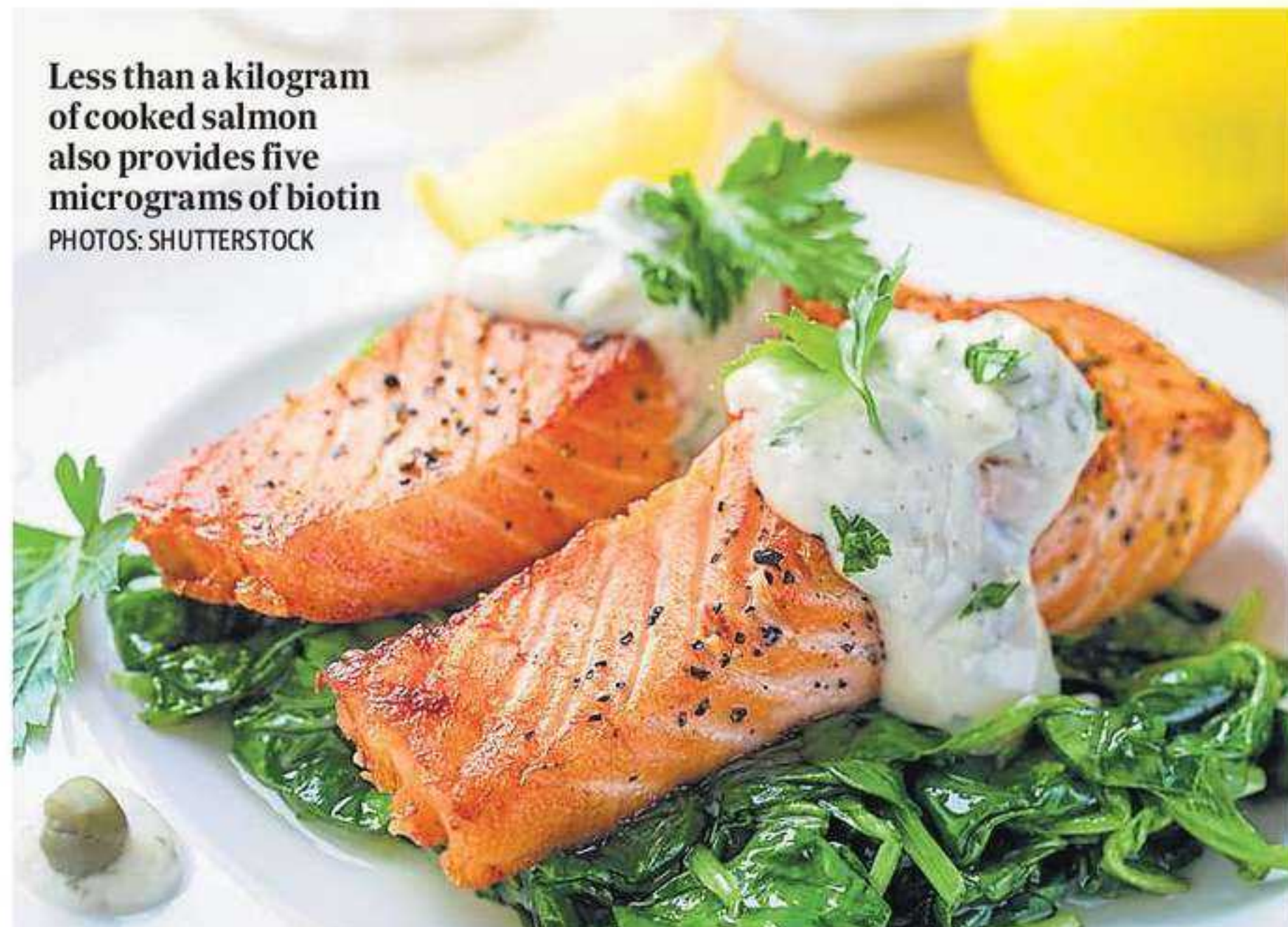
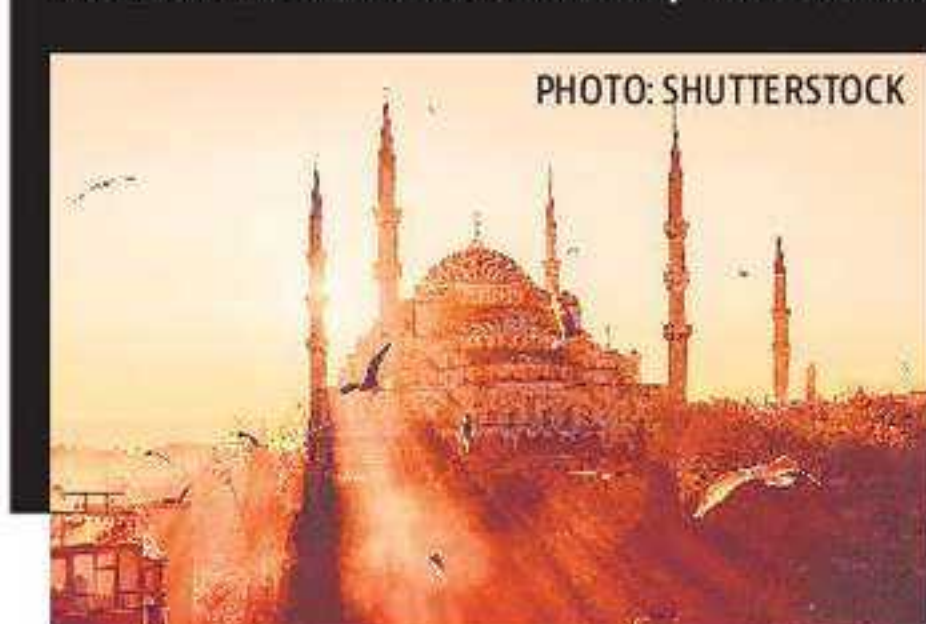
AN ODE TO MUMBAI TAXIS

Ever noticed that objects behind a kaali-peeli cab are closer than they seem? This phenomenon inspires a drink at Bombay Canteen that pays homage to the city of Mumbai. "In Bombay, no matter what time of day, you are invariably stuck in traffic! The Rear View cocktail, inspired by the city's iconic kaali peelis (cabs), comes with innovative ingredients such as black garlic (kaali), honey (peeli), ginger, tequila and a squeeze of lime," reveals Yash Bhanage, Founder and COO at Hunger Inc. Hospitality (The Bombay Canteen). "With no residue flavour of garlic to linger on your palate, this drink is an umami bomb," he adds.



A TURKISH DELIGHT

The Turkish offer the non-alcoholic beverage Lohusa Şerbeti to guests and to women after childbirth. At Rizio, Delhi, bar mentor Viju Raj has crafted a Spiked Lohusa Şerbeti. "Like its traditional version, the cocktail is a crafted using sugar, cinnamon sticks, cloves, red food colouring and water — with bourbon and dash of bitters, served with dehydrated orange peel. These elements are warming and inspire a sense of home and welcome," he elaborates.



Less than a kilogram of cooked salmon also provides five micrograms of biotin
PHOTOS: SHUTTERSTOCK



Avocados in salads and sandwiches help fulfil daily biotin requirement

Biotin for the win: The vitamin that's got it all

WHILE MANY PEOPLE TAKE BIOTIN SUPPLEMENTS, THE VITAMIN IS NATURALLY FOUND IN ITEMS SUCH AS EGGS, ALMONDS, NUTS, SEEDS, MEATS AND SPINACH

▲ Add legumes to stir-fries for an added dose of the vitamin

Want healthy skin and strong hair? Biotin might be what you're looking for. Here's a look at foods that are rich in this vitamin

Shruti Bhattacharya

Vitamins are known to provide essential nutrients to the human body. But there's one vitamin that is particularly known for its beauty benefits. Biotin, also known as vitamin B7 or vitamin H, is a water soluble B-complex vitamin that is said to help in maintaining healthy skin, hair, and nails. This is because of its role in the synthesis of fatty acids, which are crucial for healthy skin cells. It also contributes to the production of keratin, a protein that forms the structure of hair and nails. A biotin deficiency, which is said to be rare, may lead to symptoms such as dry skin, brittle nails and hair loss.

Why biotin?

Biotin is vital for several metabolic activities in the body. It metabolises fat, carbohydrates and proteins, according to a study published in the *Karger Dermatology Journal*.

Biotin-rich foods

- There are a wide array of foods that have ample biotin and can provide numerous health benefits. Take a look at some of them:
- Nuts and seeds:** Nuts rich in biotin include walnuts, peanuts, almonds, sunflower seeds and flaxseeds. They are not only a quick and easy to eat but also offer important nutrients for your skin and hair.
- Sweet potatoes:** They're high in vitamins, minerals, fibre and antioxidants known as carotenoids. They are one of the biggest vegetable sources of biotin. Sweet potatoes can either be baked or cooked till soft. They can be made into fries or mashed potatoes by peeling, boiling and mashing.
- Eggs:** A great source of protein, iron, phosphorus and vitamin B. The yolk has a high concentration of biotin. However, it is necessary to remember that eggs should be fully boiled to reduce the danger of salmonella contamination and improve

- Salmon:** Fatty fish like these are rich sources of omega-3 fatty acids, which are well known for their ability to reduce inflammation in the body. Cooked salmon also provides five micrograms of biotin per three-ounce (less than a kg) serving, making it an excellent source of vitamin B.
- Mushrooms:** A good source of selenium, magnesium and antioxidants. About 5.6 micrograms of biotin is present in every cup of fresh button mushrooms. Try including them in salads, stir-fries, sandwiches, and soups.
- Avocados:** This creamy green fruit contains plenty of biotin. Avocados are flexible and can be added to salads, sandwiches or consumed as guacamole.
- Legumes:** They are high in protein, fibre and minerals. Peanuts and soybeans are two of the category's highest sources of biotin. Legumes are usually cooked and then added to baked dishes or stir-fries. Or, they can be the foundation of salads, meals and curries.

For more such stories, visit [healthshots.com](https://www.healthshots.com)



SUSHMA HOLIDAY HOMES IN KASAU LI



{ DAILY HOROSCOPE }
Monday, May 13, 2024

Dr Prem Kumar Sharma (Astrologer and Vaastu expert) can be contacted at: Delhi: 011-47033152, 40532026 (Sat to Mon); Panchkula: 91-172-2562832, 2572874 (Tues to Thurs); Mumbai: 09716145644 (Last week of every month)

PREMASTROLOGER

PREMASTROLOGER

ASKPREMASTROLOGER

ARIES

MAR 21-APR 20

You will regain fitness through your efforts. Give with an open hand if you want the returns to inundate you. A favourable period begins on the career front. Take help on the domestic front. **LOVE FOCUS:** You are likely to catch someone's eye and kick-start a whirlwind romance. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 22 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Blue

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 23

Good health is assured for all. Those feeling financially insecure will have a reason to cheer soon. Someone is likely to be good to you at work. Your ideas on the home front will be appreciated. **LOVE FOCUS:** Love can make you set out on a romantic adventure. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 5 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Dark Grey

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

Financial worries are set to disappear. Keep a low profile on the work front. A family function may find you in your element. You are likely to enjoy a short trip. This is a good time to purchase property. **LOVE FOCUS:** Be more judicious in your selection on the romantic front. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 18 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Orange

TAURUS

APR 21-MAY 20

Getting serious about your health will be a step in the right direction. Financial planning may be required. Day appears favourable for those looking for a job. You may find yourself at the receiving end of a family squabble. **LOVE FOCUS:** Some of you are likely to have a lot of fun with a lover. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 18 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Pink

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEP 23

Maintaining fitness will come easy as you opt for a lifestyle change. Past investments will make you financially secure. You are likely to derive satisfaction from work. A good time is foreseen in your social circle. **LOVE FOCUS:** You are likely to enjoy a ride with your lover. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Yellow

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 21

Those recuperating will need to be a little more patient. Luck favours you on the financial front. You may remain busy organising a professional event. On the academic front, things may begin to turn in your favour. **LOVE FOCUS:** Love life promises to remain stable. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Red

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 21

An old ailment threatens to play up. Good handling of clients promises to win them over. Family life will cruise along smoothly. You will enjoy a leisure trip with someone close. **LOVE FOCUS:** A candlelight dinner or gift is in the offing. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 6 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Brown

LIBRA

SEP 24-OCT 23

Neglecting health may put you in a lot of trouble. An impending expenditure may cause worries. A cut in salary can be expected by some. Commuting may become stressful. **LOVE FOCUS:** Love life is likely to get rejuvenated through your efforts. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Cream

AQUARIUS

JAN 22-FEB 19

The elderly may take some more time for recovery. The financial situation is set to get strengthened. Those planning to move houses will manage to find a suitable one. **LOVE FOCUS:** Tread carefully. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 11 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Purple

CANCER

JUN 22-JUL 22

A family reunion is on the cards. Recognition is likely for some on the professional front. You may find it difficult to get rid of an old medical problem. A financial venture may get you involved. **LOVE FOCUS:** Romance is likely to figure in your list of priorities. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 4 **LUCKY COLOUR:** All Shades of Green

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

A minor ailment is likely to be cured through a home remedy. Read the fine print in a financial negotiation to avoid getting a raw deal. Delegation will be the easiest way out at work. **LOVE FOCUS:** It is up to you how satisfied you want to be in love. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 11 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Peach

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

Buying something big is on the cards. Networking is your answer to seeking professional opportunities. Someone in the family may volunteer to share your workload. **LOVE FOCUS:** The chance of spending time with lover today is possible. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 1 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Magenta

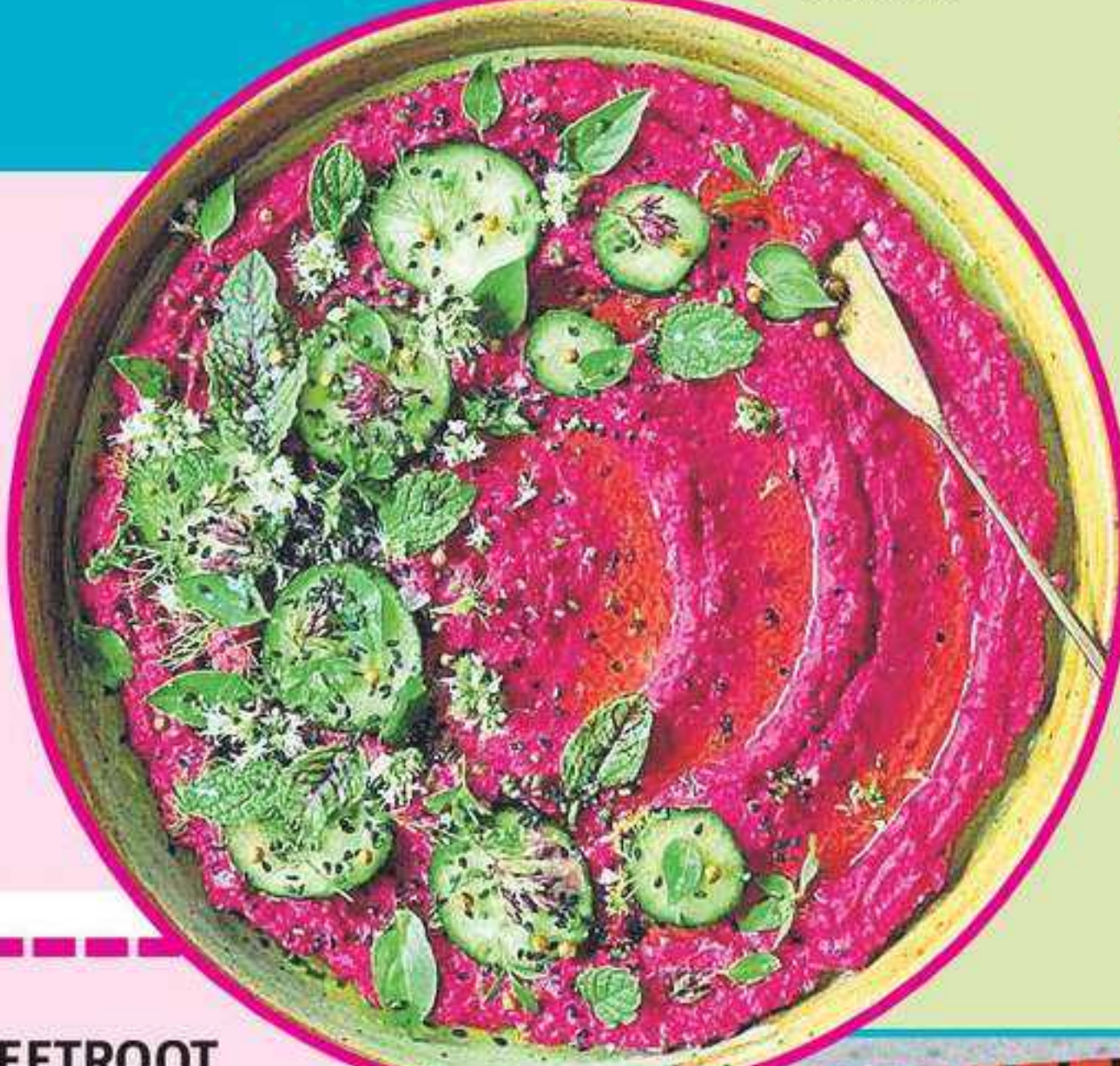


A HYMN FOR HUMMUS

A fan of this chickpea-based Middle Eastern dip? Take things a step further as we deep dive into it and celebrate International Hummus Day today

AVOCADO HUMMUS

Not a fan of beige food? Avocados can make everything better. Cut an avocado and add it to a mixer along with chickpeas, tahini, garlic and olive oil. Mix it till it comes together in a light green creamy dip. Add yoghurt and coriander to make it more creamy.



BEETROOT HUMMUS

This vibrantly pink hummus makes for a great addition to a charcuterie board and the colour is au naturel. Along with chickpeas, tahini, garlic, olive oil and lemon, add peeled and cut up roasted beetroot and blend it.

RED LENTIL HUMMUS

Swap out the chickpeas for red lentils, which lends a nuttiness flavour to this dip. Soak and boil the lentils. Add it to a blender, along with lemon juice, oil, tahini, garlic, and give it a whirl till it is smooth. You can garnish with a sprinkle of paprika.

HUMMUS' HEALTH BENEFITS

- Hummus makes for a healthier option than mayonnaise, cheesy dip, etc. It is also packed with a wide variety of vitamins and minerals, including manganese, copper, folate, and iron.
- It has anti-inflammatory properties due to its ingredients like olive oil, tahini.
- It is a source of dietary fibre that promotes the growth of healthy gut bacteria, as chickpeas produces butyrate — a kind of fatty acid that helps feed cells in the gut. The fibre helps to stay full for a longer time.
- Hummus contains resistant starch, is high protein and fibre which makes it low in glycemic index, thereby maintaining blood sugar levels.
- Hummus' good fats help reduce the risk of heart disease and lowers total cholesterol levels.
- It makes for a great alternative for those with allergies, are vegan, lactose intolerant, or have celiac disease.

Inputs from Maitry Gala, Senior Nutrition Therapist, Fortis, Mulund

BAHARATI HUMMUS

- INGREDIENTS**
- Chickpeas, boiled - 150gm
 - Red bell pepper, roasted - 100gm
 - Dry red chilli - 50gm
 - Coriander seeds - 5gm
 - Caraway seeds - 1gm
 - Cumin seeds - 5gm
 - Olive oil - 50gm
 - Red wine vinegar - 10gm
 - Black pepper - 1gm
 - Celery - 10gm
 - Garlic, peeled - 10gm
 - Salad oil - 60gm
 - Ice cubes - 3
 - Tahini paste - 60gm
 - Baking soda - 1gm
 - Salt, to taste

METHOD

- Soak deseeded Kashmiri dry chillies overnight.
- To make the harissa sauce, in a pan, add olive oil, along with whole garlic, coriander seeds, caraway seeds, cumin seeds, chopped celery, sliced onion and roasted red bell pepper. Cook it till slightly golden brown.

- Then, add soaked red chilli to it and cook it.
- Cool the mixture and grind it into a fine paste in the mixer.
- Boil chickpea with salt and add a pinch of baking soda.
- Cool the chickpea mix and put it in a blender.
- Add harissa sauce, ice cubes, salad oil, tahini paste and blend it together.
- Garnish with chopped parsley and olive oil.

Inputs by Chef Ajay Thakur, Corporate Chef, Bayroute

Abigail Banerji

abigail.banerji@hindustantimes.com

Earlier this year, two students in the US grew chickpeas in simulated moon dust, answering the question — what would humans eat as they journey across space? It seems like we will have hummus with pita chips to munch on. On International Hummus Day today, this chickpea-based dip takes centre stage. Translating to chickpeas in Arabic, hummus originated in Syria and a 13th-century cookbook contains one of the first mentions of it.

Traditionally, eaten with pita bread, it can also be paired with falafels and a simple salad made of tomato, onion and cucumber. It makes for a tasty dip that appeals to a variety of palettes.

Chef Makarand Samant, Kyma BKC, says, "Hummus can be served in different styles, as a dip in small plates, along with assorted Crudites." Elevate it by spreading on toast with avocados or with micro-greens.

Alternatively, use it as a sauce for pasta or spread it on a flatbread for a Middle Eastern-style pizza.

Mohit Bulchandani, Founder, Seeds of Life, says, "The versatility of hummus allows you to transform everyday meals into flavourful, nutrient-rich experiences. Consider adding it in the base of grain bowls. Blend it with roasted vegetables or herbs for vibrant sauces."

CARROT HUMMUS

Packed with nutrients, this dip is delicious to eat with a salad or with pita bread, and looks pretty to boot. Wash and roast the carrots to enhance its natural sweetness. Whiz the carrots with the chickpeas and hummus ingredients. Garnish with sumac.

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



HUMMUS IN A COCKTAIL?

Bayroute serves up a cocktail aptly named 'Hey Bartender...There Is Hummus In My Drink'. Ask mixologist Sonali Mullick what was the inspiration behind this bizarre combination and she says, "While curating the menu, we were experimenting with a variety of Middle Eastern ingredients like za'atar, sumac, dates, tahini, etc. This is when we came up with the idea to try out cocktails keeping hummus and baba ghanoush as the base." A creamy and smooth beverage, it's enhanced with tequila.



Meet Mona Patel, the mystery mogul at Met



Mona Patel (right) and Anna Wintour

Akshay Kaushal

akshay.kaushal@hindustantimes.com

Businesswoman Mona Patel caught the world media's attention post her debut at the Met Gala 2024 in New York (US). Patel, who looked nothing short of a wood nymph in the Iris Van Herpen gown, turned many heads as she sauntered down the red carpet. Styled by Zendaya's designer Law Roach, Patel wore a body-hugging gown with kinetic sleeves featuring petals that fluttered in slow motion.

WHO IS THAT GIRL?

Patel is a business tycoon with a \$100 million empire. She hails from Vadodara in Gujarat and is married to Dr Chintan Desai, who is a surgeon by profession. She began her studies at Gujarat University and moved to the US in 2003, where she completed her Master of Science degree at the University of Florida.

In 2017, Patel launched an NGO

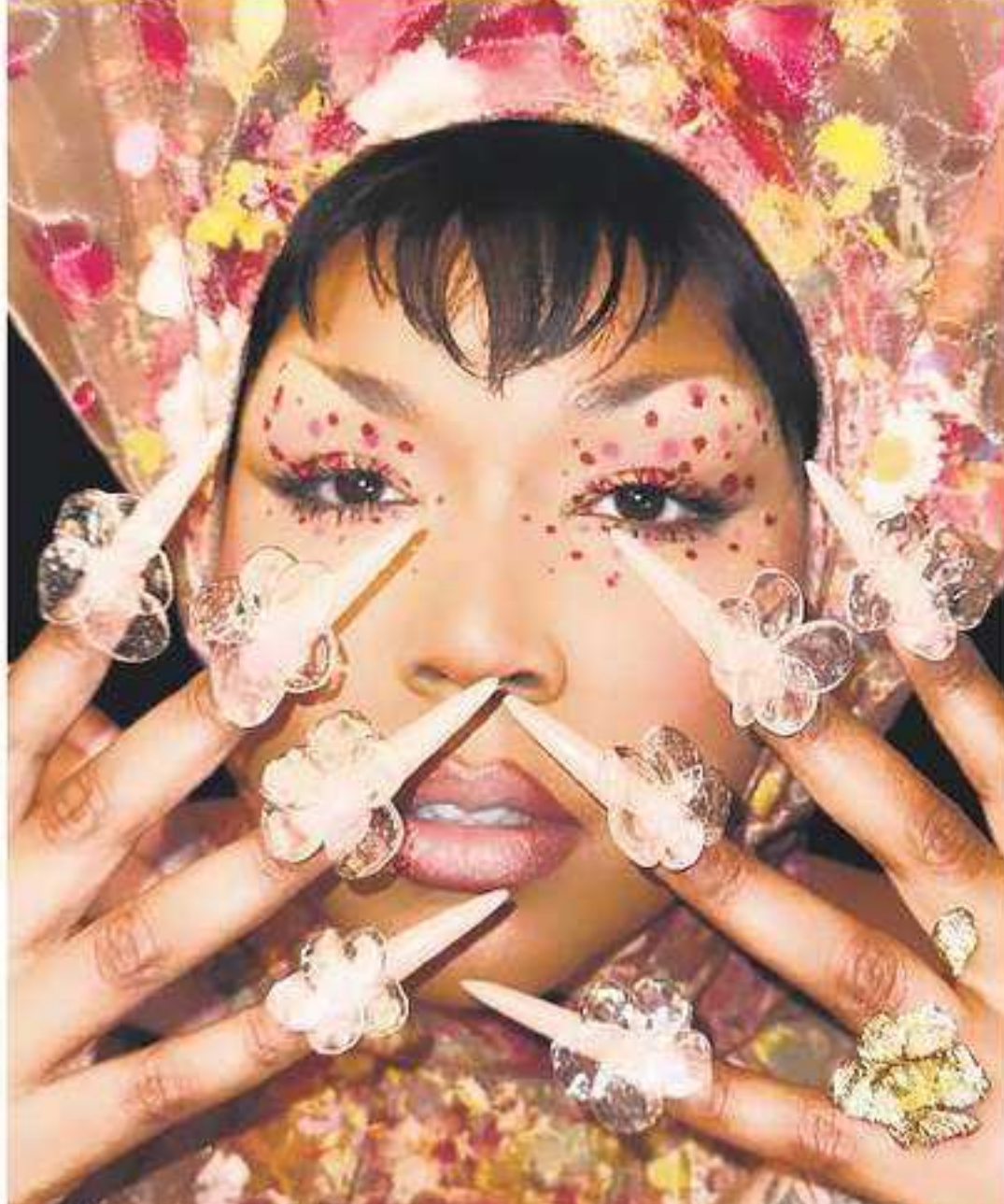
called Couture For Cause. She has also been a regular at several international fashion weeks, and her Instagram page stands as proof. Patel made her Cannes Film Festival red carpet in 2023.

LANDING THE INVITE

Anna Wintour, Editor-in-Chief of the American Vogue and a renowned public figure, is responsible for making the guest list for the Met Gala. The criteria for entry depends on a variety of factors, privy to Wintour only. But leaving an impression on Wintour can certainly be assumed as one of the deciding factors.

Patel first met Wintour at the 2020 screening of *Emma*. Sharing a photo with Wintour, she took to Instagram and wrote, "My first interactions with the legendary Anna Wintour at the screening of *Emma* last night will be a memorable moment in my life."

Dreamy 3D manicures that nailed it at the 2024 Met Gala

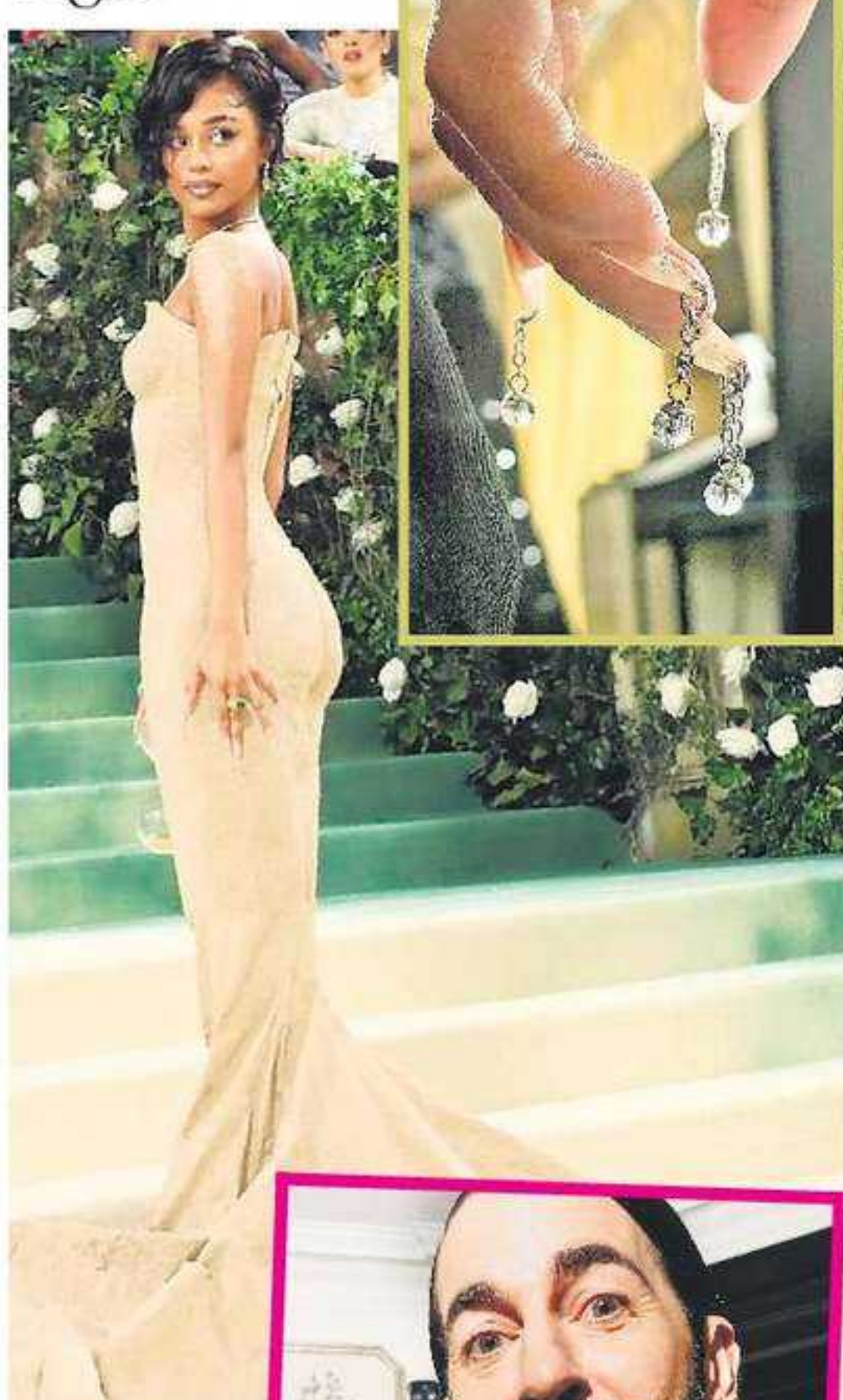


▲ Singer Lizzo's vase dress was accompanied by majestic 3D floral nails with translucent petals by manicurist Eri Ishizu

► Elegant and ethereal, the 3D twist to singer Tyla's French manicure by Coca Michelle featured delicate fluid chains that formed water droplets at the tips

Compiled by Vitti Joshi

Everything was bolder and better at the year's Met Gala in New York (USA), and nails, too, played a striking role. Here, we take a look at some 3D manicures that stole the show on fashion's biggest night



Designer Marc Jacobs led the way with extra-long square nails that were bejewelled with emerald and silver on a shiny black base, courtesy of nail artist Lily Nyugen

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



PHOTOS: AFP AND INSTAGRAM

DISS-ERTATIONS: HIP-HOP'S LATEST BEEF EXPLAINED

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM AND X

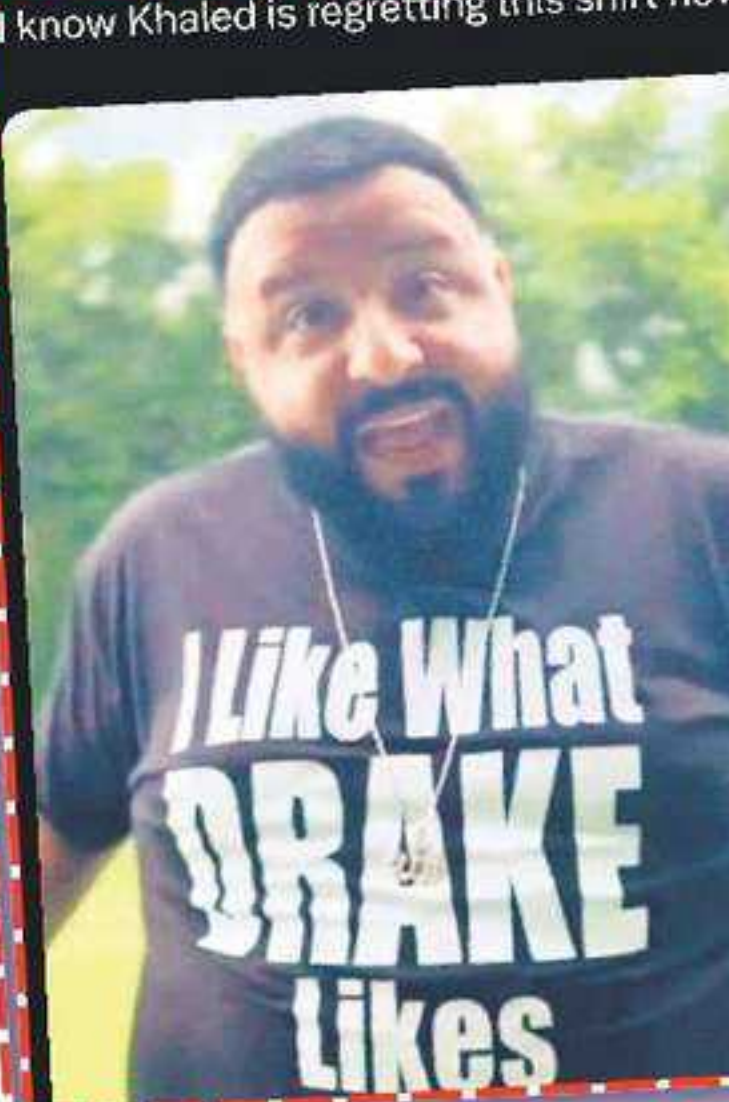
Hey, Drake, they're not slow/Rabbit hole is still deep, I can go further, I promise

With pointed barbs and back-to-back diss tracks, the feud between Kendrick Lamar and Drake has become one for the books. Here's a timeline of the beef and how it unfolded

I'm happy I could motivate you, bring you back to the game/ But just let me know when we're gettin' to the facts

When she thinks Kendrick better than Drake

The Wikipedia page for the Drake/Kendrick Lamar beef is formatted like it's a war between two countries



gordon @gordonramashray drake and kendrick (2024)

Ketan @PAREEKKETAN

Kendrick vs Drake will be resolved By Anant bhai himself!

Hip-hop fans were in for a wild ride as the beef between rap icons Kendrick Lamar (aka KDot) and Aubrey Drake Graham (aka Drake), became exceedingly thorny last week. Although the two teamed up for hits like *Buried Alive Interlude* and *Poetic Justice*, the bromance soon soured. Things went south in 2013 after Lamar critiqued several fellow rappers on Big Sean's chartbuster, *Control*. Things heated up last year when Lamar was mentioned on a Drake song for the first time ever. The track, *First Person Shooter*, featured rapper J Cole, who sang: "Is it K-Dot? Is it Aubrey? Or me? We the big three like we started a league/ but right now, I feel like Muhammad Ali."

Timeline

MARCH 22, 2024: KDOT FIRES BACK

Months after *First Person Shooter*, Lamar responded with a surprise feature on Metro Boomin and Future's *Like That*, and dismissed J Cole's notion of the big three. He asserted, "It's just big me."

APRIL 5, 2024: 7 MINUTE DRILL

Tensions skyrocketed when J Cole dropped *7 Minute Drill* as part of his mixtape, *Might Delete Later*. Cole accused Lamar of being an "attention seeker" and dismissing his latest release as "tragic." Cole later apologised to Lamar and the track was soon taken off streaming.

APRIL 13, 2024: DRAKE CHIMES IN

Drake took aim at Lamar with the leaked track, *Push Ups*. He mocked the rapper's height and his work with pop stars Taylor Swift and Maroon 5, singing, "Maroon 5 need a verse, you better make it witty/ Then we need a verse for the Swifties."

APRIL 19, 2024: 'TAYLOR' MADE?

Days later, Drake released *Taylor Made* (suggesting Lamar owed his success to Swift) which used AI voice imitations of emcees Snoop Dogg and the late Tupac Shakur. The track earned him a cease and desist from Shakur's estate.

APRIL 30, 2024: LAMAR LETS LOOSE

Lamar's track, *euphoria*, was the first

in a series of no-holds-barred diss tracks. He accused Drake of being a "master manipulator and a habitual liar, too" and suggested that the rapper's behaviour would make Tupac "turn in his grave." It soon broke records to become one of the most-streamed rap songs ever.

MAY 3, 2024: 6:16 IN LA

In his follow-up, *6:16 in LA*, Lamar refuted every accusation shot at him, singing, "I think somebody lying/ Smell somebody lying," and then attacked Drake's team at his music label, OVO Sound. But what took the cake was Jack Antonoff's production credits. Antonoff is a long standing collaborator and close friend of Taylor Swift — which fans interpreted as Lamar's response to *Taylor Made*.

MAY 4, 2024: 'FAMILY MATTERS' GET UGLY

A day later, Drake released a new single titled *Family Matters*, putting Lamar and his fiancée, Whitney Alford's relationship on blast. He accused the Compton rapper of cheating on and mistreating Alford, saying, "When you put your hands on your girl, is it self-defense 'cause she's bigger than you?"

MAY 5, 2024: MEET THE GRAHAMS

Lamar continued the attacks on Drake, releasing *Meet The Grahams* hours after his rival dropped *Family Matters*. He addressed Drake's son, Adonis, as well as his parents Sandi and Dennis Graham. Lamar accused Drake of being an absentee father and hiding another child (a daughter) before comparing the rapper to Hollywood producer

Harvey Weinstein, who was accused of multiple instances of sexual abuse.

MAY 6, 2024: NOT LIKE US

Lamar then released *Not Like Us*, where he called Drake a "certified paedophile" and warned his rival about potential jail time: "Say, Drake, I hear you like 'em young," he rapped. "You better not ever go to cell block one."

MAY 7, 2024: THE FINALE (FOR NOW)

Drake responded with *The Heart Part 6*, (a reference to Lamar's series of singles titled, *The Heart*). The rapper expressed frustrations over Lamar's allegations: "I'm way too famous for the sh*t you just suggested." Drake also claimed that he fed false information to people, hoping that Lamar would use it in his tracks.

MORE BAD BLOOD



2PAC VS. THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.

The rivalry between Tupac Shakur (2Pac) and Christopher Wallace (The Notorious B.I.G. or Biggie) is one of the most notorious conflicts in hip-hop history. The feud shaped a crucial period of rap music but tragically culminated in the premature deaths of both rappers.



NAS VS. JAY-Z

In the late '90s, both Nas and Jay-Z were rising stars in the hip-hop scene. The two started beefing after Jay-Z dissed Nas' album *Street's Disciple*. Nas' harsh response with the track *Ether* ignited a heated lyrical battle that had the hip-hop world on edge as both rappers tried to one-up each other.



50 CENT VS. THE GAME

This infamous rivalry started in 2005 when 50 Cent booted The Game from the hip-hop group, G-Unit. The feud, which continued for over a decade, devolved into personal attacks and even shootings. The two buried the hatchet after The Game apologised in 2016.



PUSHA T VS. LIL WAYNE

The feud began in the early 2000s after Lil Wayne's mentor, Birdman, refused to pay Pharrell Williams — Pusha T's friend and close collaborator — for a beat. Things escalated when he criticised Lil Wayne for copying his musical stylings in the song, *Mr Me Too*. Wayne retaliated by tweeting, "F**k Pusha-T" and released his own diss track, *Ghoulish*.



THE JONASES HAIL SHRI RAM

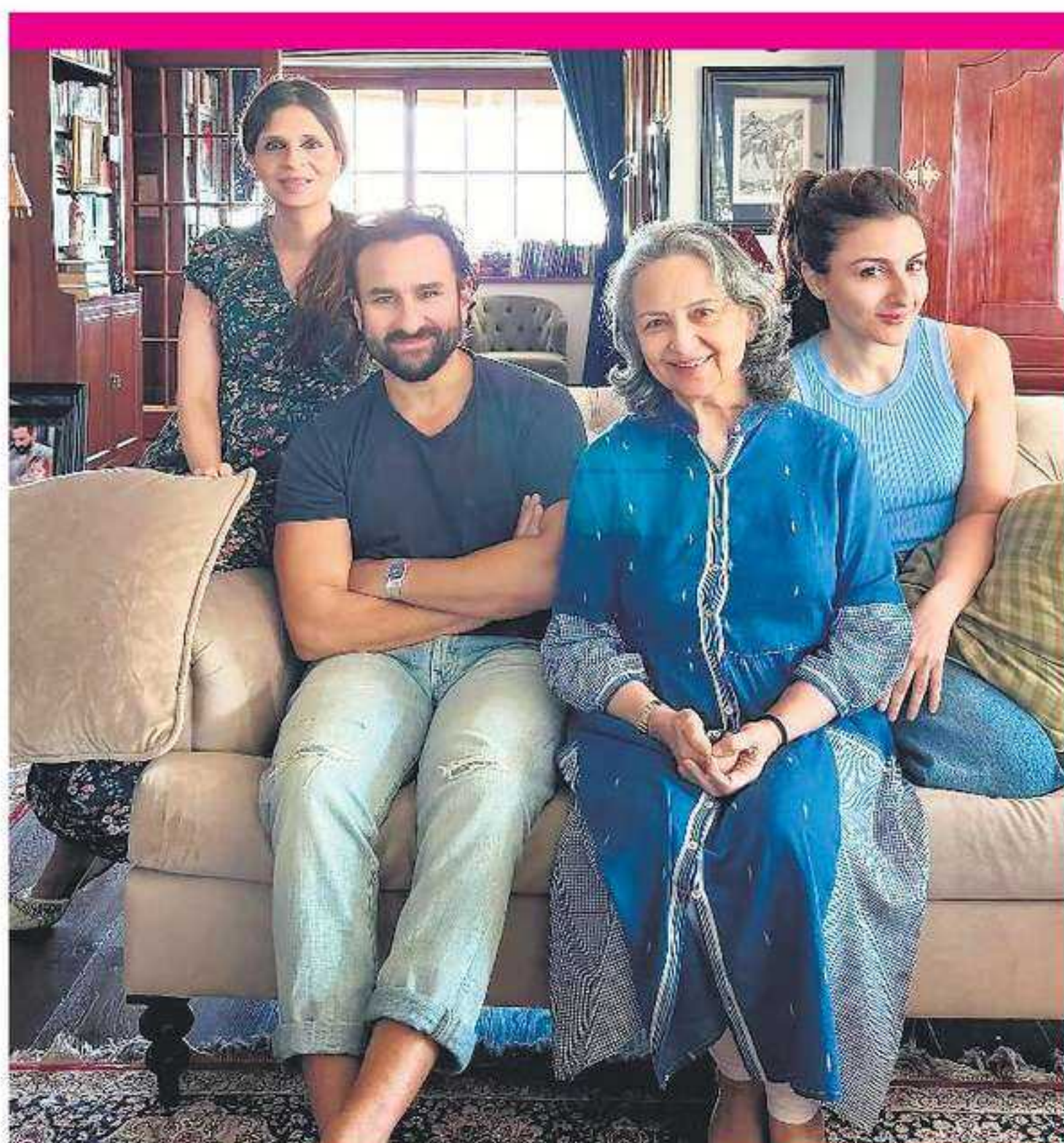
Over a half a million devotees attended the consecration of the Shri Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. Actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas was spotted at the site — believed to be the birthplace of Shri Ram — with husband, singer Nick Jonas, daughter Malti and mum Madhu during a recent visit to India. PeeCee and fam were photographed as they attempted to get two-year-old Malti to say "Ayodhya."

SHILPA SHETTY AND FAM GO TEMPLE HOPPING

Actor Shilpa Shetty Kundra has been on a temple-visiting spree recently. She visited the Kedarnath temple in Uttarakhand for Akshaya Tritiya with sister, actor Shamita Shetty. Right after, the sisters visited Vaishnodevi, with their parents Surendra and Sunanda and Shilpa's toddler daughter Samisha. Kundra and mum Sunanda also paid their respects at Assam's Kamakhya Temple.



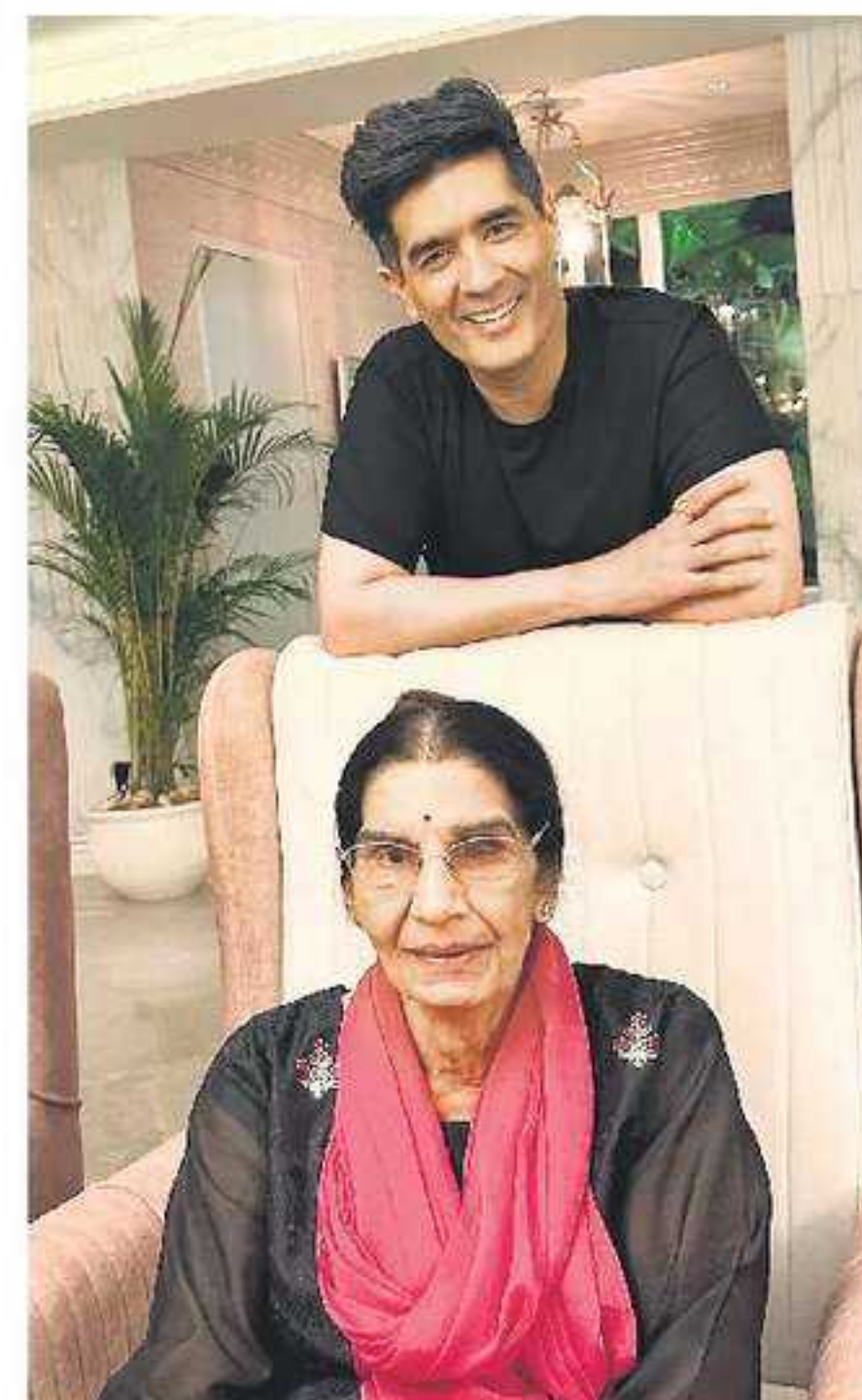
PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



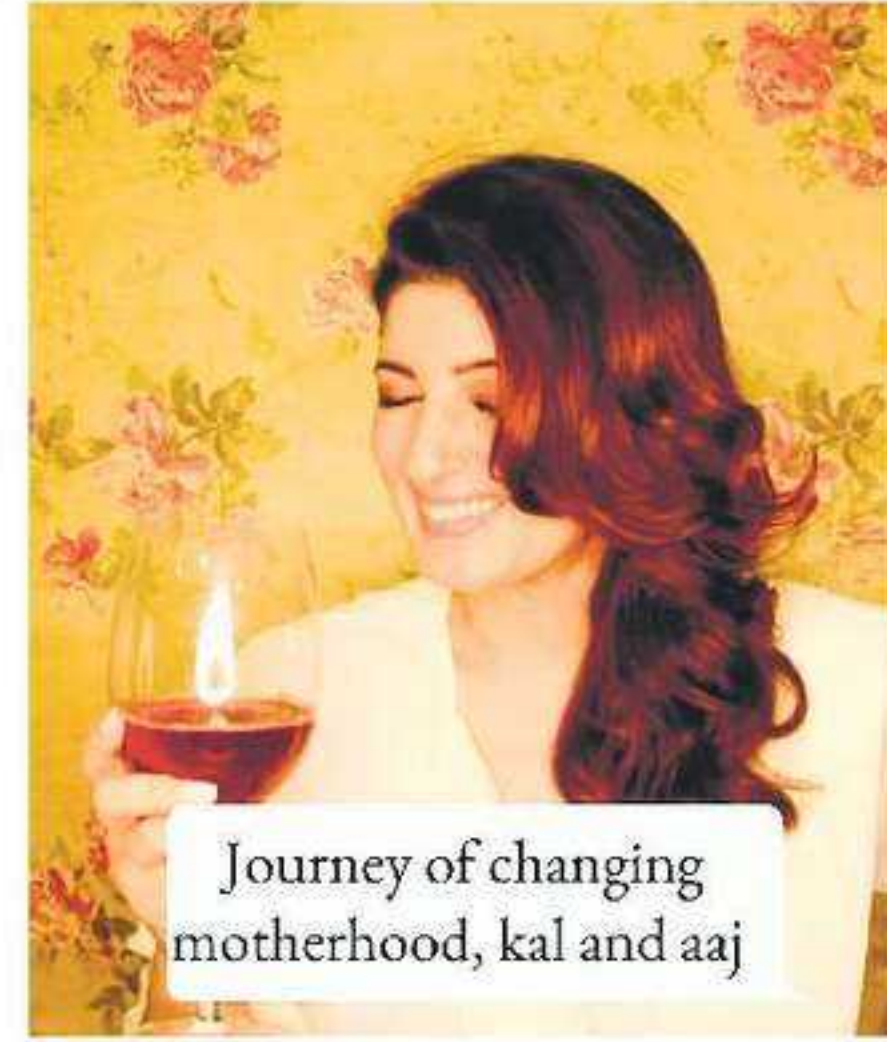
B'wood is thankful for mums

As parts of the world celebrated Mother's Day on Sunday morning, these celebrities took to Insta to share special messages for their mums. Here's a dekho

Actor Soha Ali Khan posted a picture with siblings, actor Saif and jewellery designer Saba Pataudi with their mum, actor Sharmila Tagore. She also included some sweet glimpses of the two generations enjoying motherhood PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



Designer Manish Malhotra took a moment to express his love and gratitude for his mother over a morning cuppa



Pay tribute to her own mum, actor Twinkle Khanna penned a thoughtful note to advocate for gentle parenting



Actor Sonam A Kapoor shared a lovely pic with son Vayu. Taken by her husband, businessman Anand Ahuja, it was a sweet glimpse into a touching moment between mum and baby



AURA CLEANSING FOR MANISHA KOIRALA

During a recent visit to her home country, Nepal, actor Manisha Koirala took time to pay homage at the Linga Bhairavi Devi Temple in Kathmandu. Koirala, who battled depression after her fight with cancer, immersed herself in an aura-cleansing process called the Klesha Nashana Kriya to ward off negative energy.

Want to heed to the call of divinity? Take a cue from these celebs to plan your travel around spiritual growth and enrichment

Compiled by Vitti Joshi



KL RAHUL SEEKS BLESSINGS AT MAHAKAL

Cricketer KL Rahul sought Shiva's blessings ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) in March. The Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) captain paid a visit to the famous Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh with his parents and wife, actor Athiya Shetty. The temple is one of the 12 jyotirlingas in the country and the only one that faces south. The cricketer and his family partook in the bhasma aarti, a ritual that not only helps devotees connect with Shiva, but is believed to rid the mind and body of impurities.

RAVEENA TANDON AND THE TWELVE JYOTIRLINGAS

On a mission to visit all 12 jyotirlingas — representations of Shiva — in India are actor Raveena Tandon and daughter Rasha Thadani. The mother-daughter duo recently made the trip to the Bhimashankar Jyotirlinga Temple in Pune. Located in the Sahyadri hills of Maharashtra, it originates from the river Bhimarathi or Bhima, which is believed to be formed from Shiva's Bhima Shankara form during his battle with the demon Tripurasura. Comprising a mix of old and new structures in the Nagara style of architecture, the temple is also a popular destination for trekkers.



Actor Neha Dhupia posted heartwarming pics with her mother, simply captioning the post "Maa". She also shared glimpses of her life as a mum with photos of her kids, Mehr and Gurq