



As she becomes the first Indian actor to win a Best Actress Award at Cannes, Sengupta is glad her efforts finally bore fruit

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Anasuya Sengupta scripted history at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, as she became the first Indian actor to win the Best Actress Award in the Un Certain Regard segment for her role in the film *The Shameless*, directed by Bulgarian filmmaker Konstantin Bojanov. "I couldn't believe it was happening! But as I shakily walked to the stage and stood with the artistes I have admired, my heroes, it felt oddly natural to be welcomed with so much authenticity and love. I am so grateful to the jury for seeing my hard work," Sengupta tells us, as she boards her flight back home to India.

The actor has been flooded with congratulatory messages from across the world, including those from Indian actors such as Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt and Arjun Kapoor.

"I am amazed at the love pouring in from so many back home. It makes me proud to make everyone proud. I am so excited about celebrating with my family," she gushes.

The Shameless follows a sex worker, who flees a Delhi brothel after stabbing a policeman. Sengupta dedicated her award "to the queer community".

The actor admits that her journey in showbiz hasn't been easy. Her career began with a supporting role in the 2009 film *Madly Bangalee*, followed by production designing for a decade. She was also a part of *Masaba Masaba* in 2020, and *The Shameless* happened the same year. "I auditioned for it. The director, Konstantin, had reached out. It was a lead role," she reveals, adding, "I have worked so hard for so long, and I'm here to keep doing it more and more. It all feels worth it when I look back."

I SHAKILY WALKED TO THE STAGE: ANASUYA

Anasuya on Payal Kapadia's win:

I am so happy to share this moment with Payal Kapadia, Kani (Kusruti), Chhaya (Kadam) and Divya (Prabha), the team of *All We Imagine As Light*, who have won the Grand Prix. I adore them.



(L-R) Kani Kusruti, Chhaya Kadam, Payal Kapadia and Divya Prabha after the win PHOTO: VIANEY LE CAER/AP

Beyond imagination: Payal on winning Grand Prix at Cannes

On Saturday, Payal Kapadia joined the list of Indian talent who've put India on the global map. She became the first Indian filmmaker to win the Grand Prix award at the Cannes Film Festival for her film *All We Imagine As Light* (AWIAL). In her acceptance speech, she said, "This film is about friendship between three women and often, women are pitted against each other. This is the way society is designed, which is unfortunate. For me, friendship is very important, because it can lead to greater solidarity, inclusivity and empathy towards each other."

Actors Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha and Chhaya Kadam joined Kapadia on stage. She continued, "It was my dream to be selected in the competition. This was beyond my imagination. So, thank you." She thanked her cast and hugged them too. Kapadia said further in her speech, "I'm very nervous, so I wrote something down. Thank you to the Cannes Film Festival for having our film here. Please don't wait 30 years to have another Indian film." AWIAL was the first Indian film in 30 years to enter the main competition for the Palme d'Or.

Santosh Sivan shines at Cannes, too!

Cinematographer and filmmaker Santosh Sivan has become the first Asian to be awarded the Pierre Angenieux Tribute award at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. Actor Preity Zinta presented the award to Sivan at the festival.

'Online platforms don't give you a sense of security these days'

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Rubina Dilaik's X account was hacked recently and she says it was only when her fans brought it to her notice that she got cautioned. "On Friday morning, my fans started sending messages on Instagram, e-mails and some even reached out to my family and friends to let me know that my X account was hacked," says the actor.

The 36-year-old adds, "I was logged out and despite several attempts, I couldn't login again. It asked me some questions for verification, and I was redirected to an e-mail ID that wasn't mine. That's when I understood that my account was hacked. Online platforms don't give you a

sense of security these days." Dilaik says her "topmost concern was to let my fans know about the situation". She explains, "I wanted them to know so that if there was any illegal activity, they shouldn't get trapped. As public figures, we need to have control in our hands. It's high time that we understand that social media has its pros and cons."

It's been a couple of days since the incident happened, and Dilaik hadn't got the access back, till the time of going to press: "I tried many authentication steps to get my account back, but I couldn't."



PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM/ RUBINADILAIK

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's kids are 'sick and tired' of seeing their parents fight

Actors Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's legal battle over Château Miraval, the French winery they co-owned, has started

affecting their children's lives, too. An insider recently told OK magazine that their six kids are exhausted, "sick and tired of seeing their mother and

father at each other's throats." *The Mr. and Mrs. Smith* (2005) co-stars' war over the winery has significantly defined their six kids' lives. Pitt and Jolie share six children — Maddox (22), Pax (20), Zahara (19), Shiloh (17) and twins Knox and Vivienne (15). "The pack is presumably well familiar with the ins and outs of the parents' battle in court," said the insider. Zahara, Shiloh and Vivienne have even notably responded to the clash by dropping their father's last name.

The former Hollywood couple was briefly married from 2014 to 2016, until Jolie filed for divorce, citing irreconcilable differences. Their messy divorce also found its basis in alleged accusations of verbal and physical assault against Pitt. The French winery clause now appears to be a mere appendage of their expansive discord.



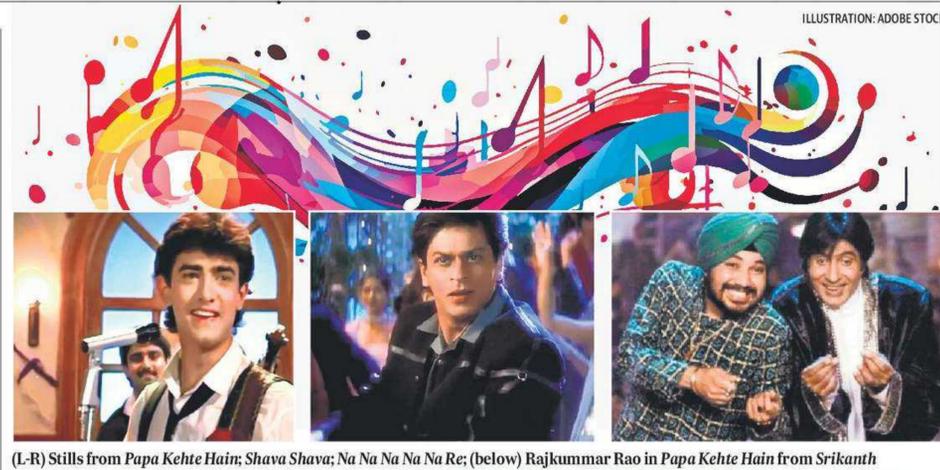
PHOTO: REUTERS
Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt
THE FORMER COUPLE IS LOCKED IN A LEGAL FIGHT OVER CHATEAU MIRAVAL, THE FRENCH WINERY THEY BOUGHT IN 2008

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STOP PRESS



A gig by Nicki Minaj in Manchester was called off after the rapper was detained at the Amsterdam airport on suspicion of possessing drugs. She posted on X that authorities "said they found weed" in her luggage. She said the "pre-rolls" belonged to her security guard and her bag was searched "without consent", reported AFP.



(L-R) Stills from *Papa Kehte Hain*; *Shava Shava*; *Na Na Na Na Na Re*; (below) Rajkumar Rao in *Papa Kehte Hain* from Srikanth



Purane gaane aaj bhi chal rahe hain, kyunki har purani cheez logon ko pasand aati hai.
UDIT NARAYAN JHA, Singer

OLD IS NEW! OKAY BY YOU?

Rishabh Suri

The trend of old songs being remixed or recreated for films has been around for a while. But of late, just hooklines of old hits are being used and we wonder if that's a way to create buzz and get the audience hooked by giving them a dose of nostalgia. *Dekha Tenu Pehli Pehli Baar Ve*, the famous hook from the song *Shava Shava* from the 2001 hit *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham* (K3G) has been used in *Mr and Mrs Mahi*. *Papa Kehte Hain*, the timeless classic from *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak* (1998), has been reinvented for actor Rajkumar Rao's *Srikanth*. The hook *Sona Kitna Sona Hai* from *Hero No. 1* (1997) was used in *Crew*. Singer Udit Narayan Jha, the voice behind both these tracks, acknowledges the power of nostalgia: "Good singing and lyrics are always liked by the listeners. Melody is also important. It's not like today's music doesn't have that. But purane gaane aaj bhi chal rahe hain, kyunki har purani cheez logon ko pasand aati hai."

good music, but this is a shortcut." Singer Sudesh Bhosale, who sang *Shava Shava* and *Na Na Na Na Na Re*, says, "Pichle kuch saalon mein wohi gaane hit hue hain jo purane the, jaise *Aankh Maare* (from the 1996 film *Tere Mere Sapne*, used in *Simmba* in 2018) and *Hungama Ho Gaya* (from the 1973 film *Anhonee* used in *Queen* in 2013). If a film benefits from it, why not?"

Varun Gupta, the brain behind the marketing of many films, including the upcoming *Kalki 2898 AD*, says if one has to revisit old songs, it should be done sensibly: "It helps, but it has to suit the story. You cannot just insert any old song for gaining buzz."

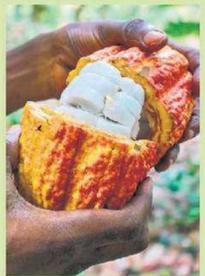
Papa Kehte Hain went so well with the theme of our film. The nostalgia associated with the song [worked in our favour too].
TUSHAR HIRANANDANI, Director of Srikanth

If the composers, singers, lyricists are credited, all's well. But, classics by Mohd Rafi, Lata Mangeshkar and Kishore Kumar shouldn't be touched.
SUDESH BHOSALE, Singer

#thatshot

INDIAN CUISINE GOES GLOBAL

Two Indian restaurants have been named among the world's best for 2024. Listed by the William Reed media company, the World's 50 Best recently unveiled an extended list of the best restaurants, ranking from 51 to 100. Masque, Mumbai and Indian Accent, Delhi made it to the 78th and 89th spots for their creative take on Indian cuisine and use of local ingredients.

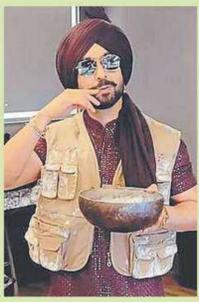


REINVENTING CHOCOLATE

Researchers at ETH Zurich have developed a more sustainable chocolate. While conventional chocolate making methods only use beans, the new recipe incorporates the flesh and parts of the fruit shell. It also replaces powdered sugar with cocoa fruit jelly, making it a healthier treat that also boosts cocoa farming profitability.

DILJIT'S LOVE FOR SHARDAI

Giving a new idea for foodies to get some respite in summer was singer Diljit Dosanjh as he shared a video recently making shardi on the 'gram. Ahead of his Orlando (US) concert, he can be seen making the desi refreshing thandai drink that is perfect as you crave for a cold beverage in this heat. The staple drink will not just improve your spirit, but will also help you feel fresh.



MANGO INDULGENCE

Experience the essence of summer with a mango menu, featuring mango desserts and refreshing drinks. Indulge in mango-inspired desserts like Ruby Chocolate & Mango Mousse Delight, Mango Matcha Cheesecake to mango mocktails like Aam Ka Panna, Mangocolada and cocktails such as the Mango Passion and others. **Where:** Hotel Marine Plaza, Marine Drive **Price:** ₹500 onwards

A SUMMER OF CULINARY DELIGHTS

With temperatures peaking this summer, noted chefs share their favourite recipes to beat the heat



Cityfoodies on Monday

For all the food buzz, follow on Insta: @delhihoodies.htcity



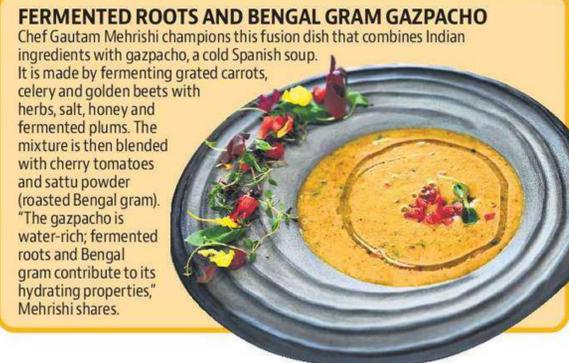
WATERMELON CURRY

Chef Sunil Chauhan recommends Tarbooz ki Sabzi or watermelon curry from the arid regions of Rajasthan and Gujarat. "It is prepared by combining watermelon cubes with spices such as cumin seeds, coriander, turmeric and red chillies," says Chauhan. "The curry replenishes water levels and regulates body temperature. Being nutrient-rich, it also boosts the immune system and protects against sun damage," the chef explains. "The spices used prevent bloating and keep the digestive tract cool, which is often strained in summer," he adds.

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

PAKHALA BHATA

Chef Harpal Singh Sokhi highlights Pakhala Bhata, a fermented rice dish that originated in agrarian societies in Odisha. It is now integral to Odia cuisine and is recognised during the Pakhala Dibasa festival, celebrated in March. "It is prepared by soaking cooked rice in water and allowing it to ferment overnight," Sokhi says. "Consumed with an assortment of side dishes such as boiled veggies, fried fish, or condiments, this cooling meal is a staple during summer," he adds.



FERMENTED ROOTS AND BENGAL GRAM GAZPACHO

Chef Gautam Mehrishi champions this fusion dish that combines Indian ingredients with gazpacho, a cold Spanish soup. It is made by fermenting grated carrots, celery and golden beets with herbs, salt, honey and fermented plums. The mixture is then blended with cherry tomatoes and sattu powder (roasted Bengal gram). "The gazpacho is water-rich; fermented roots and Bengal gram contribute to its hydrating properties," Mehrishi shares.



PUNJABI KADHI

Chef Ajay Chopra suggests Kadhi, a quintessential Punjabi dish. "The yoghurt-based curry, thickened with gram flour (besan), is cooked with water, turmeric and a tempering of mustard, cumin, fenugreek seeds, and curry leaves. The pakodas made from gram flour and spices are fried separately and added to the kadhi towards the end of cooking," Chopra explains. Punjabi Kadhi reflects the agricultural and dairy culture of Punjab and has evolved into comfort food enjoyed across the state. "Unlike heavier curries, Punjabi Kadhi is light and easy to digest, making it appealing in summer when heavy foods are less desirable," he adds. The gram flour also provides additional protein and dietary fibre, while the spices are known for their anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties. "Certain spices such as fennel seeds and coriander seeds have a cooling effect on the body, especially when added to tadka, which helps cool down the body and provide relief from the heat," Chopra says.



MANGO RABDI

Chef Akshat Parihar's go-to dish for summer is this North Indian dessert, with a seasonal variation. "During summer months, when mangoes are in season, this flavourful dessert is a refreshing treat," Parihar says. Milk-based desserts are a great pick-me-up in summer, while mangoes are rich in vitamins A and C which help boost immunity. "The addition of mangoes to rabdi not only enhances flavour but also doubles energy and hydration," notes the chef.

Salad days: Four easy recipes to add to your summer menus

VEGETABLE MACARONI SALAD

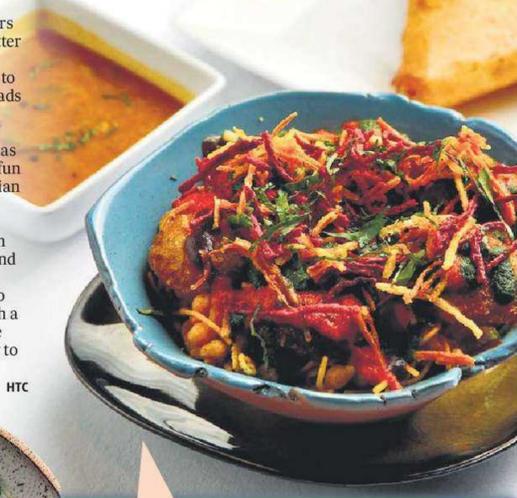
- Ingredients:**
- 1 cup elbow macaroni
 - 2 small tomatoes, cubed
 - 1 carrot, grated
 - 2 green chillies, chopped
 - ½ cup paneer, crumbled
 - 1 tsp coconut oil
 - Salt to taste
 - Pasta dressing as required

- Method:**
- Boil the macaroni until cooked thoroughly. Drain and let it cool.
 - In a mixing bowl, combine the pasta, tomatoes, carrot, green chillies and paneer.
 - Season with salt according to your taste.
 - Drizzle dressing over the mixture and add coconut oil for a subtle boost of flavour.
 - Gently toss everything together until well combined.
 - Serve immediately, or let it set for a while to let the flavours meld together before serving.

As summer swelters on, there's no better time to add a refreshing touch to your meals and make salads a part of your daily diet.

Close out the month of May, which is celebrated as Salad Month, with some fun recipes and a vibrant Indian twist.

These recipes bring together a medley of fresh vegetables, zesty spices and tangy dressings, making them a perfect addition to your summer menu. With a few kitchen staples, these salads are quick and easy to whip up and are sure to impress.



CARROT KOSAMBARI

- Ingredients:**
- 2 carrots, grated
 - 1 tbsp coconut oil
 - ½ tsp mustard seeds
 - 1 tsp urad dal
 - 1 whole dry red chilli
 - 2 sprigs of curry leaves
 - 2 tbsps grated coconut
 - Salt to taste

- Method:**
- Begin by heating coconut oil in a pan over medium

- heat.
- Once the oil is hot, add mustard seeds and allow them to splutter.
- Next, add urad dal, red chilli and curry leaves to the pan.
- Add in the grated carrots and salt, mixing everything well.
- Sprinkle grated coconut over the mixture and give it a thorough mix before serving.

RADISH AND CUCUMBER SALAD

- Ingredients:**
- 1 radish, thinly sliced
 - 1 cucumber, thinly sliced
 - Handful of mint, chopped
 - 1-2 green chillies, finely chopped
 - ¾ cup pasta dressing
 - Salt to taste

- Method:**
- In a mixing bowl, combine the radish, cucumber and mint leaves.
 - Season the mixture with salt and mix thoroughly.



- Pour pasta dressing into the salad.
- Gently toss until all the ingredients are evenly coated. To maintain freshness, add the pasta dressing right before serving.

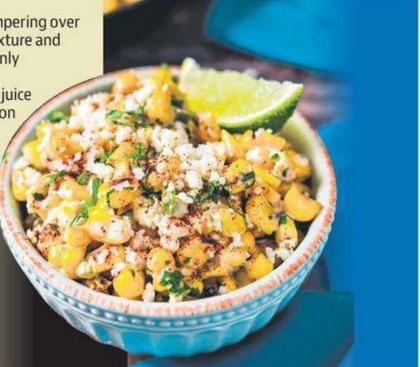
SWEET CORN KOSAMBARI

- Ingredients:**
- 1 ½ cups sweet corn
 - ¼ cup pomegranate seeds
 - 2 green chillies, chopped
 - ½ cup grated coconut
 - 1 tsp coconut oil
 - ½ tsp mustard seeds
 - Juice of half a lemon
 - Salt to taste
 - A pinch of turmeric
 - Curry leaves

- Method:**
- Boil the sweet corn in a saucepan, using enough water to cover. Add a

- dash of salt and turmeric to maintain colour and for 3-4 minutes or until they turn tender.
- Rinse the corn to remove any excess turmeric, then drain and set aside.
- In a mixing bowl, combine the sweet corn, pomegranate seeds, green chillies, coconut and salt. Mix thoroughly.
- In a separate tadka pan, heat coconut oil over medium heat. Add mustard seeds and allow them to sizzle. Add curry leaves and sauté before turning off the heat.

- Pour the tempering over the salad mixture and stir until evenly distributed.
- Squeeze the juice of half a lemon over the salad and give it a final mix.



SUSHMA
HOLIDAY HOMES IN KASAU LI



{ DAILY HOROSCOPE }
Monday, May 27, 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

A financial issue is likely to be in your favour. Things seem favourable on the health front, as you manage to maintain your workout routine.

LOVE FOCUS: You may decide to get dictated by the heart, rather than the mind and have a great time!
LUCKY NUMBER: 1 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Green

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 23

Those seeking monetary help may be met with partial success. A new health routine may give health benefits right away. Haste makes waste, so take things one at a time and be deliberate in your work.

LOVE FOCUS: Love life may require rekindling to keep passions alive.
LUCKY NUMBER: 6 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Brown

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

A new diet may not give the expected results, so mix it with exercise too. Helping someone out on the professional front will be in your interest. An initiative to organise an event or function will be appreciated.

LOVE FOCUS: Those looking for love may find cupid smiling on them!
LUCKY NUMBER: 6 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Cream

TAURUS

APR 21-MAY 20

Health is satisfactory for those regular in workouts. A professional move can find you in a comfortable situation, but you will need to play your cards really well.

LOVE FOCUS: On the romantic front, you may find lover a bit reserved, find out why.
LUCKY NUMBER: 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Maroon

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEP 23

Previous investments will help make you financially secure. Good health is assured through own efforts. The professional front is likely to remain satisfactory.

LOVE FOCUS: You may plan something exclusive on the romantic front, as a surprise for beloved.
LUCKY NUMBER: 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Magenta

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 21

Your lifestyle is likely to improve with increased earning. Good dietary control and an active life will ensure that you retain good health. Someone's help will prove most welcome on the family front.

LOVE FOCUS: Love life promises to remain stable.
LUCKY NUMBER: 22 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Peach

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 21

Taking up a regular fitness routine will help you get into shape. This is a good day to impress those who matter on the professional front.

LOVE FOCUS: A love at first sight situation may occur and kick start a budding romance.
LUCKY NUMBER: 5 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Orange

LIBRA

SEP 24-OCT 23

A change in lifestyle promises to bring you back on the road to perfect health. A good break can be expected by those seeking suitable jobs.

LOVE FOCUS: At times, you crave some time alone with lover and today may be that day, so enjoy!
LUCKY NUMBER: 8 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Grey

AQUARIUS

JAN 22-FEB 19

Some of you may opt for meditation to calm your mind. Giving suggestions at work will swing the opinions of higher ups in your favour.

LOVE FOCUS: Stagnation may start to creep into your love life, so do something about it.
LUCKY NUMBER: 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Golden

CANCER

JUN 22-JUL 22

Your performance today at work may set an example for others to follow! The day seems ideal for a long journey and will help you regain equanimity.

LOVE FOCUS: Setting up a romantic evening with the one you love cannot be ruled out.
LUCKY NUMBER: 3 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Yellow

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

Self-discipline may help you achieve peak physical fitness. On the work front, you may be all set to start something new. Guests are likely to brighten up the home front. Travelling for business is indicated.

LOVE FOCUS: Those waiting to meet the one they love will get the opportunity soon.
LUCKY NUMBER: 2 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Silver

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

A much-awaited cheque is received today. Health is satisfactory through your own efforts. If you are a working mother, you may find it difficult to balance home and office, but this will be temporary.

LOVE FOCUS: Waning interest in love life needs urgent resurrection.
LUCKY NUMBER: 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Saffron



Golfer Diksha Dagar: I'm not comfortable being called a para-athlete

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Athlete Diksha Dagar's name is now synonymous with golf, but few realise that she wields a pen as effortlessly as she does a golf club to tee-off. The second-year BCom (Prog) student at Delhi University's (DU) School of Open Learning (SOL) recently tied for the 24th position in the 2024 Amundi German Masters.

Despite her accolades, Dagar expresses discomfort with being labelled a paralympian. "I am not so comfortable being called a para-athlete," says the 23-year-old who was conferred the Arjuna Award this January.

She also recently made history as the first Indian golfer to compete in 100 tournaments on the Ladies European Tour (LET) and is currently on another international tour, striving to bring more laurels to her country. With such impressive feats, the athlete feels strongly about being pigeonholed.

Born with profound deafness, Dagar relies primarily on lip-

reading or sign language to communicate. "I don't think any athlete wants to be referred to [as disabled]. It's like being labelled as someone lesser and being put in a box. But there is no other option, and there seems to be no other way (to compete)," she asserts.

Despite this, she refuses to let her disability hinder her commitment to the sport, making her the only golfer to participate in both the Olympics and the Deaflympics.

I don't think any athlete wants to be referred to as disabled. It's like being labelled as lesser and being put in a box. But there seems to be no other way (to compete).

DIKSHA DAGAR,
Athlete

where she has won two medals. "The biggest challenge [as a hearing-impaired person] is when people have different accents, especially on international tours. But overcoming that is as important for me as excelling in my discipline," she explains.

Reflecting on her student life, which is often overshadowed by consecutive tournaments, Dagar calls SOL an "inclusive space" for differently-abled athletes. "When I'm at DU, I feel there are opportunities available to us," says the Haryana-born Army kid. "We're the selected few, so we're better off than most physically challenged people in other parts of the country. I'm trying to make the most of it... Being a professional athlete, my academics often take a backseat. But it's a well-deliberated decision. That's where an institution like SOL is helpful; it's why I can play 100 LET tournaments," she says, adding, "However, there is a need for athlete-specific courses in DU to ensure inclusivity for athletes who don't want their academics to suffer."

Kjo ka tha birthday bash

Filmmaker Karan Johar rang in his 52nd on Saturday, in a star-studded evening. Here's a dekko



ILLUSTRATION: ADOBE STOCK



Manish Malhotra



▲ DJ Amann Singh Nagpal and Karan Johar

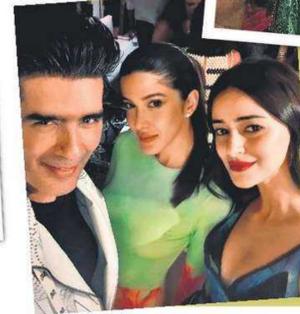
▲ Kajol



(I-R) Soha Ali Khan, Angad Bedi, Natasha Dalal, Karan Johar, Neha Dhupia, Varun Dhawan



▲ Soha Ali Khan and husband Kunal Kemmu with Karan Johar



▲ Manish Malhotra, Shanaya Kapoor and Ananya Panday

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

SWINGING SIXTIES

Model Elsa Hosk embraced '60s glam to complement her backless Saint Laurent dress. Her hair was styled in a high ponytail, with wispy strands for some softness. The key detail? Her ponytail was curled upwards from the bottom, to add volume and a retro vibe. To achieve a similar look, create a high ponytail with some strands to frame the face. Curl the bottom of the ponytail using a curling iron for that signature '60s bounce.

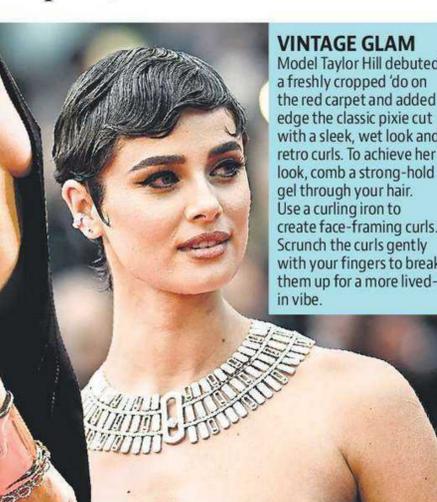
PHOTOS: AFP AND INSTAGRAM

MAKING WAVES BY THE RIVIERA: BEAUTY @ CANNES

The 77th Cannes Film Festival in France saw celebrities put their best fashion foot forward and experiment with beauty and hair trends. From finger waves to chic updos, here's a dekko at the standouts

Compiled by Kriti Shukla

PHOTO: SCOTT A GARRETT/AP



VINTAGE GLAM
Model Taylor Hill debuted a freshly cropped 'do on the red carpet and added edge the classic pixie cut with a sleek, wet look and retro curls. To achieve her look, comb a strong-hold gel through your hair. Use a curling iron to create face-framing curls. Scrunch the curls gently with your fingers to break them up for a more lived-in vibe.

A PERFECT KNOT
Actor Anya Taylor-Joy's coiffure, crafted by stylist Gregory Russell, rivalled the elaborate detail of her Dior gown. The sculptural updo featured a surprising twist: a giant, looping infinity symbol intricately woven into the hair. To steal her look, create a sleek high bun and secure it firmly with bobby pins. Incorporate details like a simple braid or ribbon woven into the updo to keep things playful and interesting.



HEPBURN-ESQUE
Combining two classic styles effortlessly, actor Jacqueline Fernandez sported a look that was both current and chic. She paired some clip-on bangs for an instant fringe moment while a mid-height bun, reminiscent of Audrey Hepburn's signature updo, kept her hair out of her face. For a hairdo that's equal parts relaxed and polished, style your hair into a mid-height, messy bun. Then, clip in your bangs, ensuring they blend seamlessly with your natural hair. Finally, adjust the bangs to your desired style and secure any loose strands with bobby pins for a flawless finish.



WINGED TO PERFECTION
Sporting sculpted side bangs with a wet-look finish, actor Thalia Besson upped the drama with a dark glam lipstick and winged eyeliner. To steal her 'do, start with damp hair and apply a generous amount of styling gel or mousse, focusing on the roots and lengths. Use a comb to slick the hair back for a deep side part. For the bangs, use a hairdryer with a nozzle attachment to achieve a smooth, wet finish.



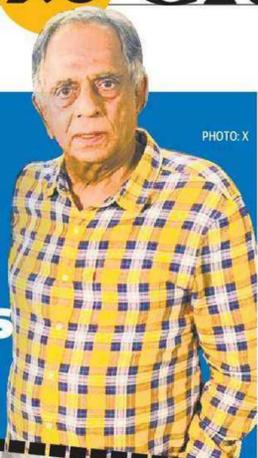
OLD WORLD MAGIC
Cannes was awash in shimmering makeup this year and Diane Kruger wasn't one to miss out. The actor went all-out with a blue, shimmering glam look to match her sparkling Versace gown. Her glam squad gave her a smoky blue eye using sparkly eyeshadow, and emphasised the drama with a black kohl liner. The rest of her look was subtle, with a nude pink lip and a flawless base that balanced out the bold eyes.

STARRY EYED
Actor Aishwarya Rai Bachchan sported electric blue smoky eyeshadow to match her blue gown while mascara and filled-in brows defined her eyes. A matte base with a soft pink blush made for a radiant look, which she finished off with a glossy nude lip. For a similar makeup, experiment with colourful eyeshadow that complements your attire. Start with a neutral base and blend the shadow outward from your lashline, diffusing the intensity of the colour for a smoky finish.



PHOTO: CLODAGH KILCOYNE/REUTERS

Omkara was passed because Saif was in it: Pahlaj Nihalani uncorks can of worms from CBFC tenure

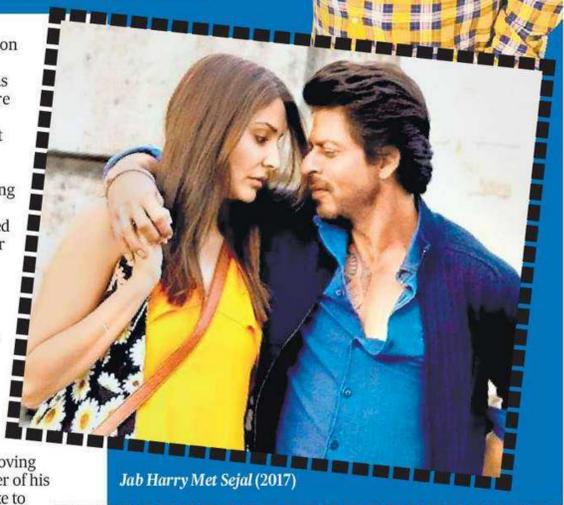


Filmmaker and former chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification, Pahlaj Nihalani has opened up on his controversial tenure at the helm of the censor board.

In an interview with TV-radio host Siddharth Kannan, the 74-year-old, whose tenure with the board was riddled with issues, made the shocking claim that actor Sharmila Tagore, who had earlier been the chief, passed *Omkara* (2006) because it starred her son, actor Saif Ali Khan. "During Sharmila Tagore's tenure, *Omkara* was passed because her son Saif Ali Khan was in it. People in the board accepted bribes to pass certain films without cuts. They went against the guidelines, I just made sure the rules were followed," said Nihalani, who was the CBFC chief from 2015 to 2017.

He also alleged that it was actor Shah Rukh Khan who agreed to removing the word 'intercourse' from the trailer of his 2017 film *Jab Harry Met Sejal*. "I spoke to Shah Rukh about this, he said, 'Cut it'. There was only one cut. I told him to send another version or accept the cut, and he said, 'Okay, cut it'. The media targeted me because I was controversial," Nihalani said.

On the long-drawn controversy around the 2016 film *Uda Punjab* (over profanities and depiction of drug use), Nihalani added, "I never allowed myself to be pressured by the government. I passed films on merit alone. They didn't want the title 'Uda Punjab' to be passed, and I threatened to resign. I don't have any regrets. I've done my work with honesty."



Jab Harry Met Sejal (2017)



Omkara (2006)



PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH

Indresh Malik (inset) with Sonakshi Sinha in *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*

Nose ring scene in Heeramandi is Indresh Malik aka Ustad ji's fave

Akhya Shriti

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After playing the role of Ustad ji in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*, actor Indresh Malik is basking in the recent success of the show. Feeling "blessed and thankful", Malik talks about his favourite moment, his experience with the cast and more.

In the show, Malik shared the screen with several established artistes including Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha and Richa Chaddha, among others. What did it feel like to work with such an experienced ensemble? "There was no feeling of intimidation, and I am not being diplomatic. It was all

teamwork," responds Malik and adds, "It's like when different flowers are put together and you get a beautiful garland — they all should match each other to stick together."

Ask if there's any one particular scene that he is proud of, and the actor shares how it's tough to choose one. Nonetheless, he responds, "The scene where Fareedan (Sonakshi Sinha) puts the nose ring on me is my favourite. It carried a lot of shades and vulnerability without any dialogue. It also portrays the character's emotional side, after he realises that someone loves, respects and accepts him for who he is."

Talking about Ustad's feminine traits, Malik explains how Bhansali conceptualised the character. "The multifaceted nature of my character was a combination of the demand of the script, Bhansali sir's vision and the need to bring an authentic character to life," shares the actor, known for films such as *Maska* (2020) and *Gumraah* (2023).

He continues, "Ustad ji's backstory remains a mystery till the end. We can only speculate about the pain and exploitation that he may have endured. This environment, coupled with the constant presence of the courtesans in Heeramandi, might explain his feminine mannerisms. They are also likely to be on a journey of self-discovery, grappling with desires and struggling to define their identity."



Are Nyrraa and Nishant back?

Navya Kharbanda

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Actors Nyrraa M Bannerjee and Nishant Malkani often make headlines for their alleged relationship. Although rumours of their romantic involvement have persisted over time, the duo never officially accepted it and maintained the stance that they were "just friends". However, recently in February, Bannerjee discussed their split and stated that they would still remain best friends and that everything would be okay. Now, we have learnt that things are more than okay between the two.

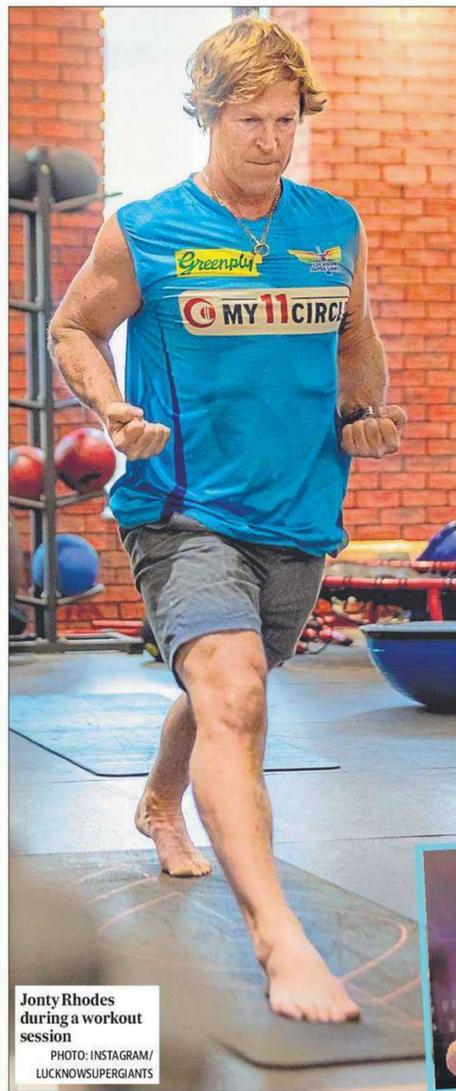
"Nishant moved out of their house when they broke up back in February. The relationship wasn't working out because they are quite similar in the way they handle things, which led to clashes," the source shares, adding that the two are back together after three months. "They had been trying to make things work all this time. And finally decided to patch up earlier this month, right before Nyrraa's birthday. He was there for the party, and the two posed for many pictures too," the insider adds.

This time around, the source says, the couple wants to take things slow. "They don't want to rush into their relationship again. Hence, he (Nishant) is not moving back with her. They are keeping it private and low-key so that it's easier to make things work."



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/NISHANTSINGHM_OFFICIAL

JONTY: HEALTH AND FITNESS IS NOT ABOUT BOLLYWOOD



Jonty Rhodes during a workout session

PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/LUCKNOWSUPERGIANTS

The LSG fielding coach says for him, fitness is not about hitting the gym and having six-pack abs

Deep Saxena

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Former South African cricketer and Lucknow Super Giants' fielding coach Jonty Rhodes spells out his fitness mantra that goes beyond gyms and six-pack abs.

"In India, the big health perception is not centred on athletes, but Bollywood. For many, even today, fitness is about biceps and six packs. And, for most of them, it's unachievable. So, they don't even bother to give it a try. But for me, it's about a healthy lifestyle. My wife, a yoga teacher, says nutrition is the key. Also, as an architect, she knows that you can't just have a great wall and a roof. You need a strong foundation, walls and a roof — all must be well connected. And that's what yoga says and for me, too, the overall wellness is essentially important," he says.

Known as the best fielder in the world of cricket, he adds, "You can't just go to the gym, exercise and fix everything. If your nutrition is a miss, your lifestyle is out of place and you're just exercising, it

I don't take the elevator. I like to walk up the stairs.

JONTY RHODES, Former cricketer and LSG fielding coach

won't help. Things will crumble down. The wellness journey is more about understanding the environment that I'm in and how I make my day the best day possible."

Rhodes says it's all about striking a balance and making sure you know what not to do. "Today, maybe I've only got time for a 10-minute walk, but then I make sure that I have my masala chai with no biscuit. They serve you tea and there are always two cookies. So don't eat the cookies. I don't take the elevator. I like to walk up the stairs. When we travel a lot at the airports, all the players are on the escalators, and they have a trolley bag. But I carry my bag and I walk up the stairs, because it's the small things that matter," he says.

He adds that it's the quality of the workout that matters the most. "It's not about getting a gym instructor or spending an hour in the gym. But you can always walk a little further than the previous day. So, health and fitness are not Bollywood, it's not about athletes. It's just what makes you healthier today than you were yesterday," Rhodes ends.



#instastyle



(L-R) Neeti Mohan and son Aryaveer, Shreya Ghoshal and son Devyaan and Sunidhi Chauhan and son Tegh

It was a one-of-a-kind musician mums' reunion when singer Neeti Mohan shared snaps with singers Sunidhi Chauhan accompanied by her son Tegh, and Shreya Ghoshal with her son Devyaan, from his third birthday bash. Actor Raveena Tandon was at her Sunday best as she posted pics on the 'gram with the caption, "Summer Sundays... never without my jasmines in the hair ever". For actor Mouni Roy, it was all about the sun, sand and fun as she vacationed in Bali, Indonesia.



PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

▲ Raveena Tandon



◀ Mouni Roy

Sidhant's tribute to H'wood composer John Ashton Thomas

Deep Saxena

After his indie song *Beparwah*, composed on a poem penned by writer Ruskin Bond, singer-composer Sidhant Kapoor is looking forward to the release of the international album *Gateway to India*, for which he had collaborated with Hollywood composer-conductor late John Ashton Thomas.

The grandson of late singer Mahendra Kapoor, the 33-year-old says, "Through a music label, I got in touch with Thomas, who contributed to the Oscar-winning score of *Black Panther* (2018) and worked on more than 160 other films. We made six compositions between November 2020 to September 2021 via video calls. Unfortunately, he passed away

on October 4, 2021. After that, everything was put on hold, and then we decided to bring out the album as a tribute to the legend."

Kapoor recorded the songs in London. He says, "A year later, we recorded a song at the iconic Abbey Road Studios where legendary bands and singers have recorded their albums. We paid tribute to Thomas. Also present with us was the musician's daughter Holly and our conductor Gavin Greenaway, who have been associated with films such as *The Dark Knight* (2008) and *Interstellar* (2014). Last year, we recorded the Indian part in Mumbai."

Kapoor, who has composed and sang for international TV shows and operas, including



Sidhant paying tribute to John Ashton Thomas in London

the feature film *Ms. Marvel* (2022), says, "The album is a testament to the fusion of Indian music on a grand scale, seamlessly blending the richness of traditional Indian instruments with the grandeur of a western orchestra."

He adds that he is working on a music composition with a difference. "It's the first electronic tabla created by London-based musician Kuljit Bhamra, and we are collaborating on a project," the musician ends.