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OF SIDDHANT
CHATURVEDI'S
VACATION IN
DARJEELING
P3



DelhiTimes

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024
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OF INDIA

DATING APPS ADD A TWIST TO
TRADITIONAL MATCHMAKING P4



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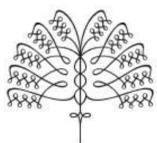
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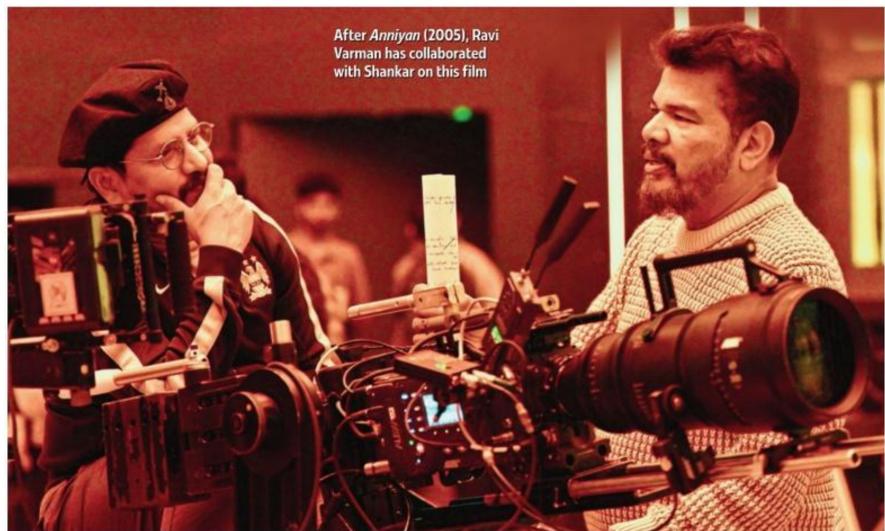
BACK BEAT
DISAPPEARANCE
WAS NOT
A PUBLICITY
STUNT:
GURUCHARAN
P6



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OF INDIA

Hindustani 2 is like our version of a Bond film: Ravi Varman



After *Anniyan* (2005), Ravi Varman has collaborated with Shankar on this film

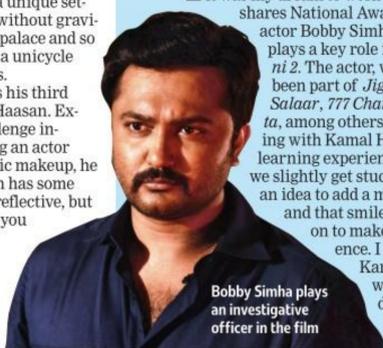
Roopa Radhakrishnan

As cinematographer Ravi Varman, who has films like *Barfi!*, *Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Lee-La*, *Jagga Jasoos* and *Ponniyin Selvan* to his credit, has shot Lyca Productions' *Hindustani 2*, which hits screens on July 12. Talking about working with Shankar again after their 2005 blockbuster *Anniyan*, the cinematographer says, "With Shankar sir, he always defines the boundary. He's very clear and writes what is needed. Within that boundary, I can play, and he will provide all the technology that I may want to recreate his vision, which is so original."

It's complicated to light up a shot when actors are using prosthetic makeup

every scene was an event, with each one having a unique setting, like a place without gravity, a yacht, a gold palace and so on. We even have a unicycle chase," he reveals. The film also is his third one with Kamal Haasan. Explaining the challenge involved in shooting an actor wearing prosthetic makeup, he shares, "Real skin has some moisture and is reflective, but with prosthetics, you get an unnatural shine. It requires sensitive handling of lighting and lensing."

It was my dream to work with Shankar sir: Bobby Simha



Immediately said yes when Shankar sir narrated the film to me, because it was my dream to work with him," shares National Award-winning actor Bobby Simha, who plays a key role in *Hindustani 2*. The actor, who has been part of *Jigarhanda*, *Salaar*, *777 Charlie* and *Petta*, among others, calls working with Kamal Haasan a learning experience. "When we slightly get stuck, he gives an idea to add a minute smile and that smile would go on to make a difference. I learnt from Kamal sir to work on such details," he says.

Bobby Simha plays an investigative officer in the film

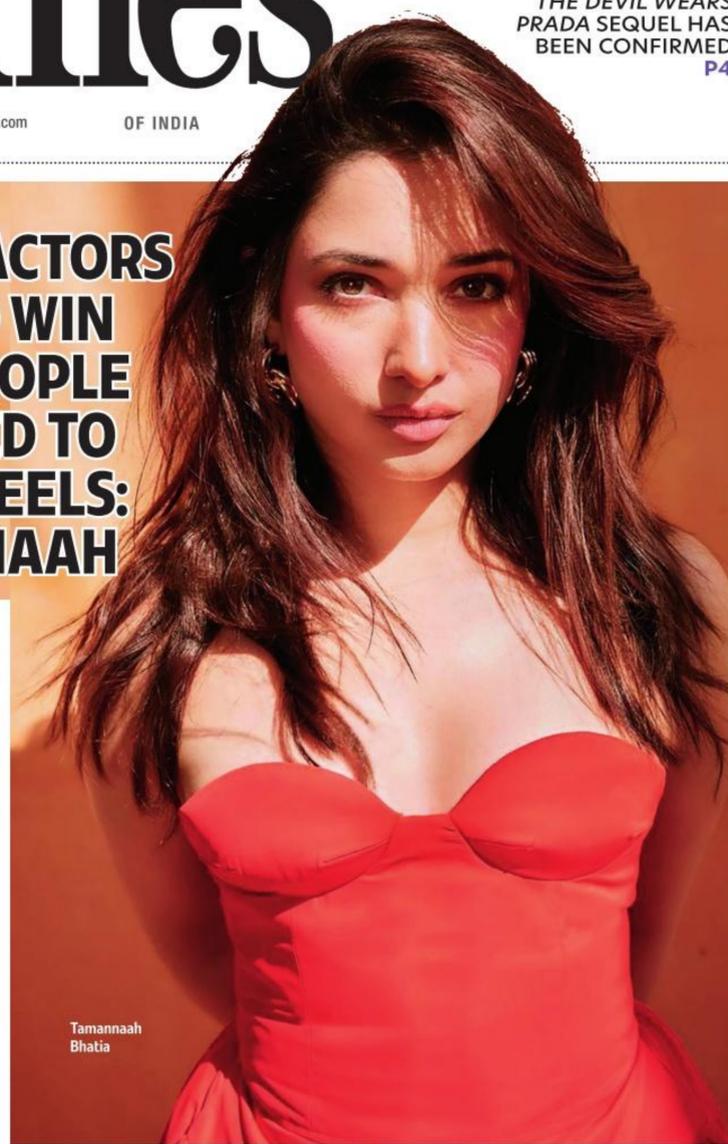
TODAY, ACTORS NEED TO WIN OVER PEOPLE ADDICTED TO 15-SEC REELS: TAMANNAAH

Devika V Menon

Tamannaah Bhatia has worked on movies in several languages across the country. When asked about how her journey has been – from her first film till now – she says it's all about making a choice and then sticking to it, no matter what. "I knew I wanted to be an actor, and I took one day at a time, working towards my dream. I did not over-emphasise any particular decision, but I made a very, very conscious choice of what I wanted to do and I stuck by that, regardless of the circumstances," she tells us in an exclusive interview.

I DID NOT KNOW WHERE MY DECISIONS WOULD TAKE ME
I did not plan the part beyond deciding that I wanted to be an actor. I had no idea where it would take me. Despite the uncertainty, I gave my dream a 100 per cent, and now I feel I pursued something enjoyable.

CONTINUED ON P3



Tamannaah Bhatia

Everything in life, at some point, will get exhausting and tiring. It will get demanding. But, what is the one thing you can do when it gets to that point? For me, it's acting

Hampering my reputation: Armaan Malik on namesake BB contestant



Armaan Malik

Armaan Malik on Monday said he has no connection with a controversial YouTube creator who shares his name and is currently a contestant on the *Bigg Boss OTT 3*. In a post on X, the singer, 28, urged people to stop tagging him in social media posts that have no relation to him.

The contestant has been in the news for being married to two women – Payal and Kritika. Both of his wives joined him on the reality show, but Payal was eventually evicted from the show.



The BB contestant Armaan with his wives Payal and Kritika

"I've been trying to overlook an issue for a while now, but it seems to be getting out of hand at this point and I have to address it," the singer wrote, adding, "A YouTube creator,

earlier known as Sandeep, later changed his name to Armaan Malik and is currently on *Bigg Boss OTT Season 3*. This is causing a lot of confusion, with many people mistakenly tagging me and assuming we are the same person." He further added, "This situation is hampering my reputation and is turning out to be misleading to so many people who have supported me over the years. While I can't stop someone from changing their name and taking up the same as mine, I do request my own community to help me overcome this." PTI

Buzzstop

SALMAN'S FIRING CASE: MUMBAI COPS FILE CHARGESHEET AGAINST NINE

Mumbai Police on Monday filed a charge sheet in a special court against six arrested accused and three wanted persons, including jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, in connection with the firing at SALMAN KHAN's residence in Bandra in April, where two motorcycle-borne men fired five rounds outside Khan's Galaxy Apartment in the early hours of April 14.



PTI

12TH FAIL: THE FIRST FILM TO RECEIVE DELHI FILM POLICY SUBSIDY



With its multiple scenes shot in Mukherjee Nagar, Dilli Haat and INA, *12th Fail* has become the first film to get the Delhi Film Policy subsidy

P6

Distinguish disabling humour from disability humour: SC

Niharika Lal

WHAT HAPPENED

On Monday, the Supreme Court laid down guidelines for sensitive portrayal of persons with disabilities in visual media and underlined the distinction between disability humour and disabling humour. The court observed that creators should be cautious of the difference between disability humour and disabling humour. A Bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala was hearing a plea on disparaging remarks against PwDs in the Sony Pictures' film *Aankh Micholi* which was released last year. The SC said that creative freedom of a filmmaker under Article 19(1)(a) "cannot include the freedom to lampoon, stereotype, misrepresent or disparage those already marginalised"

The Court also referred to training and sensitisation programs, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which includes measures to ensure accurate portrayals after consultation with their rights advocacy groups



A still from *Aankh Micholi*

9 JULY 2024
SC norms against offending disability depiction in films

9 NOV 2023
Hindi Film Mocks Disabled People, Ban It, Says Govt Panel

Nipun Malhotra
@nipunmalhotra

Grateful to the Supreme Court of India for creating guidelines on portrayal of Persons with Disabilities in visual media, following my petition against @SonyPicsIndia for lampooning PwDs in 'Aankh Micholi.'

Creators must check for accurate representation of a medical condition as much as possible. Misleading portrayal of what a condition such as night blindness entails may perpetuate misinformation about the condition
– The Supreme Court

Guidelines by the SC for the onscreen portrayal of PwDs

- Avoid using words that lead to institutional discrimination and contribute to a negative self-image, such as 'crippled,' etc
- Avoid language that overlooks social barriers faced by individuals with disabilities
- Visual media must reflect the lived experiences of PwDs and should not be a uni-dimensional, ableist characterisation
- Ensure portrayals reflect the multifaceted lives of PwDs, emphasising their roles as active community members who contribute meaningfully across various spheres of life.
- Ensure creators verify adequate medical information about an impairment, such as night blindness, to prevent discrimination
- Portrayals should not be based on myths or stereotypes, such as the notion that individuals with impairments possess enhanced sensory superpowers, as this is not universally applicable
- Decisions should be made with awareness of uniform participation, adhering to the principle of 'nothing about us without us'

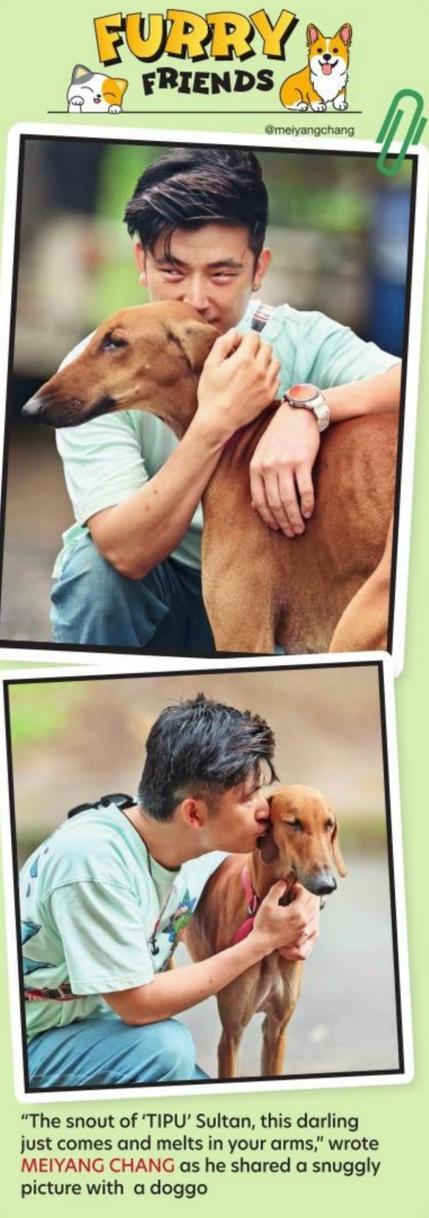
BACKGROUND

In January, the Delhi HC refused to entertain a PIL moved by Nipun Malhotra, a disability rights activist, whose grievance was that the film *Aankh Micholi* had derogatory references to people with disabilities. He sought direction from the producer of the film to make a short awareness movie about the hardship faced by PwDs



and create awareness about the subject. He also sought a direction upon the producer to ensure an equal opportunity policy is formulated in conformity with the Rights of Persons With Disability (RPWD) Act and encourage employment of people with disabilities. The Delhi HC had said that courts generally do not interfere once the CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification) gives a certificate to a film and that creative freedom should be cherished, and not curtailed. The matter reached the SC after the Delhi HC dismissed the plea.

CONTINUED ON P2



Film doesn't pity or look down upon the characters: Makers

CONTINUED FROM K1

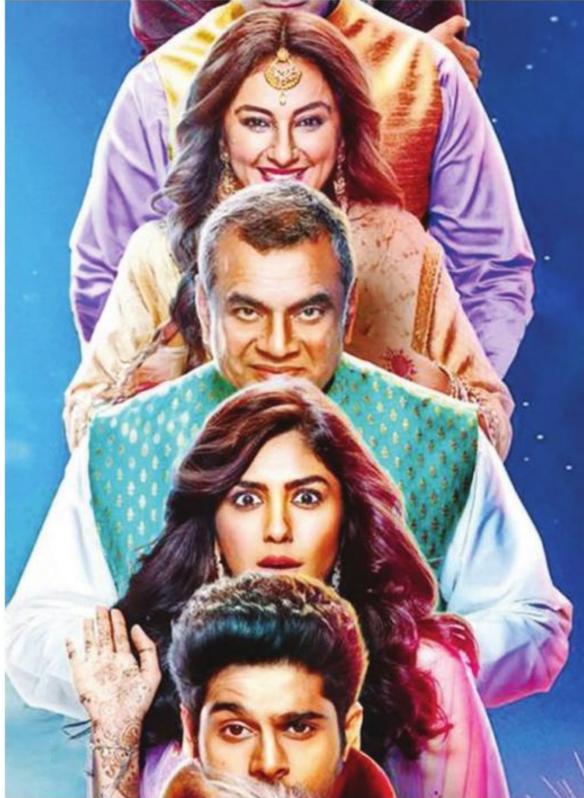
The objection to the portrayal in Aankh Micholi

Nipun Malhotra, a disability rights activists' grievance was that the film *Aankh Micholi* had derogatory references to people with disabilities. These include misrepresentation of the condition of night blindness derogatory references to a person with Alzheimer's as "bhulakkad baap" a hearing-impaired person as a "soundproof system" a character with speech impairment as an "atki hui cassette"

He submitted that the film portrays a family of persons with various disabilities and revolves around their attempts to conceal their disabilities in a bid to come across as a 'normal family'.

Senior Advocate Sanjoy Ghose with Advocates Jai Anant Dehadrai and Pulkit Agarwal appeared for Malhotra.

Advocate Sanjoy Ghose had tweeted, "Perhaps in a first, the CJ viewed a movie clip in Court. As the trailer played out on the huge screen, there were titters & laughter. However the CJ said "you are seeing this from an 'ableist' perspective. The impact on a disabled viewer would be entirely different!"



The depiction is neither stereotypical nor derogatory: Sony

Sony Pictures stated that the overall message of the film was one of 'overcoming the challenge of disability'. Stating that the film sought to depict the struggles faced by persons with disabilities and their families and in an effort to overcome them. The film, they claimed in the reply, sought to dislodge the idea that disability obstructs

a fulfilling life. It also said, "The introduction of the characters in the trailer is protected by the freedom of speech and expression. The depiction is neither stereotypical nor derogatory. The film does not pity or look down upon the characters but depicts their agency and skills."

There's no magic in our monsoons anymore

What road were Raj Kapoor and Nargis walking down, singing *Pyar Hua Iqar Hua...*, twirling that umbrella? How was infrastructure not falling around them? How was the water on the road not up to their waist? Why were cars not honking madly around them, stuck in traffic for hours? What world was that?

What tricks has cinema played on us all these years with the mystique of the monsoon, the smell of moist earth, the romance of the soft drizzle, the uniquely cinematic setting of a downpour on chiffon, the long drive on wind-swept, pristine, non-crowded roads surrounded by lush green trees? How did all that happen? Did AI exist before we knew of it?

How do we even go out to search for this filmy version of the rain - the *rimjhim baarish*, the *paani ki phuhaar*, the *sawan* that brings its *aag*, the *bheegi bheegi* vibes? Has it all been washed away with the drain water flowing on the road outside our doors?

Is there anything we can do that is really charming and monsoon-ish other than ordering *pakodas* and washing them down with a hot cup of tea, and maybe post a few pictures on the gram of that unique combination with appropriate hashtags to tell everyone how truly, utterly bewitching the beauty of the weather is, while we are frantically checking, behind that cinematic scene, if our vehicle parked in the basement has been submerged yet.

Our politicians, our administrators, our contractors have stolen the romance of the monsoon and have transformed this season into a trashy medley of things collapsing, places flooding, commutes getting nightmarish in the urban spaces. But we don't hold them accountable for it. If you try to escape to more remote locations, reckless and relentless 'development' ensures that the romantic hill drive has the ever-present threat of the roads being just swept away. That sunroof you have opened to take in the picturesque drive may well be the opening a falling rock needs to make you truly connect to nature.

If Raj Kapoor and Nargis were to walk outdoors in the monsoon in modern-day India, twirling that umbrella, there would be a very different context to '*Kehta hai dil, rasta mushkil, maloom nahi hai kahaan manzil*' - they would barely make it home if the rain continued for another half an hour, the *rasta* would be extremely *mushkil*. The eloquent, touching, haunting lyrics are no longer relatable to our realities. We have been reduced to elementary school lyrics - rain, rain, go away. WPH is just for today.



Agree? Disagree? Got a POV idea? Write to us at: pov@timesofindia.com

LEISURE

EVENTS

EXHIBITION
India Habitat Centre:
Anterman - An exhibition of paintings by Archana Jha. Today, Convention Centre Foyer, IHC

India Habitat Centre:
Pancha-Bhutas - An exhibition of paintings by Apurba Biswas. From July 11-15, Convention Centre Foyer, IHC

Email us at tims.delhitimes@timesgroup.com

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

4	2		7					
	5							
1		5	2	3				4
		1	4			9		
	7			9		8		1
3								
7		4	3	5				2
	1				9			3

HOW TO PLAY
 Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column, every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

TIMES HITORI

3	5	2	9	6	4	6	3
3	8	2	9	7	2	6	4
6	6	1	8	6	5	3	3
8	9	8	1	3	6	8	2
3	3	8	2	4	9	1	5
5	7	2	4	6	3	6	1
4	4	9	3	1	7	5	6
9	2	9	5	9	1	9	7

HOW TO PLAY
 1. A number may appear just once in each row or column. Eliminate repeat numbers by darkening cells. (see example)
 2. Darkened cells must never be adjacent in a row or column.
 3. Unmarked cells must create a single continuous area, undivided by darkened cells.
 4. Every time you darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated.
 5. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled. (e.g. 6 4 6)
 6. A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends. (e.g. 6 6 6)

Example

8	5	5	7	3	5	4	6
4	5	1	6	7	6	5	2
2	5	7	1	5	4	6	8
5	6	2	4	3	7	6	3
2	7	5	5	1	7	2	7
1	6	6	4	3	5	7	
7	8	4	6	2	3	3	7
8	4	5	2	3	5	7	1

LOOP THE LOOP

RULES
 • Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
 • Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B).
 • Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
 • You can't draw lines around zeroes.
 • Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

HOW TO BEGIN:
 Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
 Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a deadend (Fig B).

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

By Andrew Walker 10/07/2024

ACROSS
 1 Tea in masala chai, perhaps
 6 Indeterminate but small amount
 10 Partner
 14 Stockpile
 15 Mischief-making Norse god
 16 "Stat!" letters
 17 Shoes for employing the kiddie pool?
 19 Upscale
 20 Avis rental
 21 "... hallowed be ___ name"
 22 Matter of will?
 24 ___ urchin
 25 Ring-tailed mammal
 27 Shoes that prevent slipping in the shower?
 33 Place to kick back
 34 Cheri who played Judge Judy on "SNL"
 35 ___ de los Muertos
 36 Catches with a lure
 39 Main ingredient of 54-Across
 41 Barely scrape (out)
 42 Minor squabble
 44 Plot devices?
 45 Shoes for attending a gala?
 49 Aquamarine, for one
 50 Lucy of "Elementary"
 51 "Deadwood" territory
 54 South Asian stew
 55 "The Greatest" memoirist
 58 Not protected by defenders
 59 Shoes that coordinate with a bright green ensemble?
 63 Audition goal
 64 "Family Guy" mom
 65 Like farm country
 66 Google Play downloads

DOWN
 29 By and large
 30 Cool beans or warm fuzzies
 31 TV's younger Dr. Crane
 32 Lip
 33 Leak slowly
 37 Until now
 38 Spirited gathering?
 40 Drive-___ car wash
 43 "¿Qué ___?": Spanish greeting
 46 Steakhouse options
 47 Blenheim
 48 Edmonton NHL team
 51 "The Lost City of Gold" explorer
 52 Per item
 53 Iodine-rich seaweed
 54 Home office need
 55 Taj Mahal site
 56 Head up
 57 Many a Caribbean country
 60 "Payment forthcoming" note
 61 ASMTist's need
 62 "Like I didn't know!"

GARFIELD

EVER NOTICE HOW IT TAKES TWO WEEKS TO LOSE A POUND?

AND ONLY TWO SECONDS TO GAIN IT BACK

ARCHIE

INTERESTING! DO YOU CONSIDER IT CUBIST, LIKE PISSAO?

OR FUTURIST, LIKE DUCHAMP?

NEITHER, REALLY...

... ARCHIE JUST WON'T SIT STILL!

SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to each square/circle, to make four ordinary words

LVAEE
 LLORT
 AEESNU
 EORSDV

One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an ___ - William Feather (9)

HOW TO PLAY
 Now arrange the letters in the circles to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing word as indicated

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SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

5	6	9	7	1	9	2	4	8
8	4	2	6	9	2	5	1	6
2	9	1	6	7	6	8	7	3
5	2	8	1	6	7	3	9	4
9	1	4	2	9	6	9	2	6
7	6	9	4	8	1	2	5	3
8	9	6	9	2	6	1	3	5
6	7	2	2	1	4	9	6	8
4	3	1	7	8	6	2	9	5

LOOP THE LOOP

TIMES HITORI

2	1	5	6	7	6	6
1	6	1	5	6	7	4
1	6	9	2	8	5	6
2	9	6	1	6	8	6
2	9	6	1	6	8	6
1	6	1	5	6	7	4
1	6	1	5	6	7	4
2	1	5	6	7	6	6

SCRAMBLE
 Answer: Leave, troll, unrase, drows
 look upon it as an adventure. - William Feather

SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
 03-average | 04-good | 05-outstanding

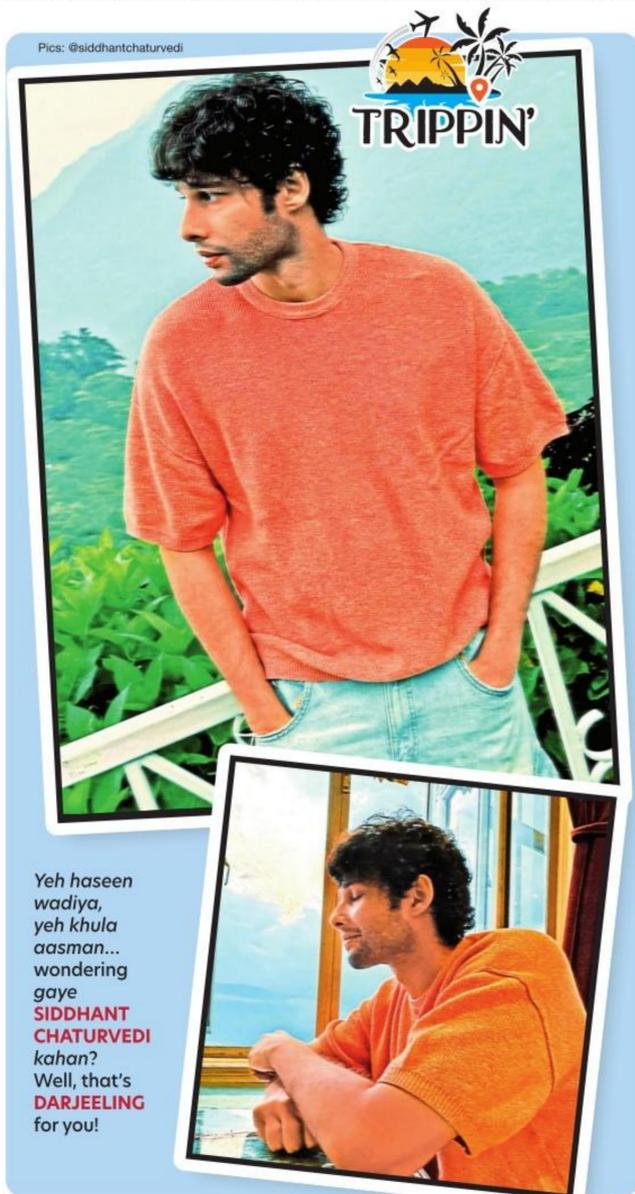
How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

Letters: O, L, T, K, U

DENNIS THE MENACE

"ARE YOU TRYING TO BE ANNOYING?"

"NO, IT COMES NATURALLY."



Pics: @siddhantchaturvedi

TRIPPIN'

Yeh hasene wadiya, yeh khula aasman... wondering gaye SIDDHANT CHATURVEDI kahan? Well, that's DARJEELING for you!

Found myself through the characters I have played: Tamannaah

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

'WE ARE STRIVING TO GRAB PEOPLE'S ATTENTION'

Technology has been moving fast. There was a time when it was only cinema. Then multiplexes came through. After that, OTT happened, with long-format in OTT trending now. There are so many other things that we have been dabbling with. Now literally, as creative people, our biggest competition is the 15-second videos online, because we are striving for people's attention who are used to watching 15-second videos.

'I DO NOT THINK TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE A CAUSE OF CONCERN'

Times are changing and we should, too. Technology should not be a problem. It is the responsibility of every individual to make sure

that they use it better, and not let technology use them. It's made by us, so we should be able to control it. Having said that, the fear is about the younger kids who are born with this. We've seen both with and without, so we understand that, but I don't know how it is for the current generation kids.

'I AM NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE FORMAT OF THE WORK, AS LONG AS IT IS IMPACTFUL'

I am working in an untitled Tamil film, and a Telugu movie called *Odele*. At the same time, I am also doing an OTT show called *Partners*. So, the idea is to just focus on what that piece of content is that I am a part of. I'm not worried about the format. I'm just trying to see whether it has something new for me to do. Are people going to see a new and better version of me? Also, bonus points if it has some kind of emotional grounding, which tells an impactful story.

'I ENJOY PREP PERIODS FOR A ROLE'

I have dubbed for my movies in Telugu, and I am yet to start in Tamil. Recently, for my role in *Babli Bouncer*, I had to train to get the Haryanvi accent right. So as actors, we train as and when the part demands it. I enjoy prep periods of everything, as it gives you an insight into what the character is. It's the fun part of the process when you're just kind of getting to understand what's going on. Having said that, everyone's process is very different.

'I do not think of fame as a disability of some kind'

I don't think there is any downside to fame; it is actually very empowering. It's all about the way you look at it. I think I've only felt more and more empowered because of being somebody who has some kind of influence. I would feel bad for myself if I thought fame was a disability of any kind. This industry and this work do make you give up on a certain kind of life, but then, any other thing I would do would have its own pros and cons.



Tamannaah Bhatia

If working 12 hrs daily is an issue, don't do TV: Sanjay

Masumi Shah

Sanjay Gagnani, best remembered for his role as Prithvi Malhotra in *Kundali Bhagya*, recently joined us for a quick chat. He reveals various factors influencing his decision to work on a TV project and talks about sustaining a career in the TV industry.

'CHANNEL AND PRODUCTION HOUSE MATTER TO ME WHILE CHOOSING PROJECTS'

Sanjay left *Kundali Bhagya* in March 2023, and hasn't picked up any TV project since then. He shares, "I have a certain criteria for the kind of roles I want to play. Factors like the channel, the production house, the role, and content matter."

On sustaining in the TV industry, he adds, "There are actors who have given superhit shows, but haven't been able to get projects lately. Then there have been actors who haven't been able to show their craft efficiently, but are still doing work back-to-back. Talent and hard work don't always guarantee projects. Luck also plays an important role."

Talking about doing regional projects, he adds, "As long as I am fluent in a particular language, and that project is content-driven, I will take it up. But I have to be able to present my character authentically because language is the first thing that connects with you."

'I'm lucky my spouse understands the TV industry'

I wonder what would have happened if I had married someone who was not from the industry. You meet so many people every day, and there are beautiful faces around you all the time. So, only understanding between partners can work here. And this goes for both men and women. I've been fortunate to marry my best friend (Poonam Preet). Since she has been an actor, she gives me a lot of space.



Ancela Jamindar

Sanjay with wife Poonam Preet

Sanjay Gagnani

I laugh when actors say that TV ke liye 12-16 ghante shoot kar rahe hai... If it's a problem, better switch to a 9-to-5 job

Technology shouldn't be a problem. It's the responsibility of every individual to make sure that they use it better, and not let tech use them

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DATING APPS ADD A TWIST TO TRADITIONAL MATCHMAKING

Matchmaking apps are taking over the traditional domain that the likes of Seema Taparia have dominated for years

Anukriti Sharma

Finding the right life partner is no cake walk but help is coming from an unexpected source – dating-turned-matchmaking-apps! Uday, an assistant manager at a start-up, and Esha, a marketing consultant, who found a potential life partner in each other via such an app. Likewise, Roohi, a management trainee, and Akshay, a sales manager, preferred it over Seema aunty-esque Indian matchmakers to find each other. Turns out, these apps are not just about casual flings or brief partnerships anymore.

Prioritising compatibility

Snehil Khanor, founder of one such app, explains, "On any matrimonial site, the first few things that people are asked are caste, family wealth etc, which has become a turn off for youngsters. People are prioritising compatibility more now." Agreeing, Pragya Parimita Naik, brand and content growth manager of another app, says, "Our users like it because communicate without any involvement of the family." AI plays a pivotal role in matching profiles based on compatibility, trait queries, etc.



Dating + Matrimony = Dattrimony?

There are dating apps and there are matrimonial apps. But there's the sweet spot in between – the matchmaking app. These platforms market themselves as going beyond mere swiping, focusing on compatibility, shared values, and genuine connections to help users find their perfect match.



Seema Taparia in a still from *Indian Matchmaking*. Youngsters are taking matters in their hands when it comes to finding a match now



Studies suggest that people in the 28-38 age group are opting to register on matchmaking apps

The idea is not to isolate parents while making big decisions, but ensure transparency while connecting with the right partner. Matrimonial apps or meets arranged by parents don't allow you to be your authentic self

— Peeyush Khandelwal, chartered accountant, who met his partner via such an app

When your parents shortlist someone and you end up liking them, compatibility takes a backseat as kundali matching, financial status, etc. take priority. When you find someone on your own, you can discuss important things without inhibitions

— Sakshya Chauhan, who met his partner through such an app



Before you meet someone:

- Do a vibe check
- Do a video call or a phone call for 15 mins
- Always opt for a crowded spot, not a secluded place
- Check LinkedIn to substantiate the crucial info shared with you and to know if they are working actively
- Use Google lens or scan the picture to check authenticity

(As shared by Radhika Mohta, a matchmaker and relationship coach)

How to combat fake profiles?

Getting conned on apps is a pertinent issue among people, according to 2024 research by McAfee. Almost 77% of Indians reported encountering fake profiles or AI-generated photos on dating platforms or social media, while 39% fell victim to romance scams. To weed out dishonest users, most apps now:

- Charge a fee
- Ask users to answer a detailed questionnaire before or after registering
- Verify identity using Aadhar Card or other documents
- Monitor profiles with automated alerts and human moderators
- Flag suspicious content and warn against off-platform communication attempts



A reality show *What The Love* Karan, saw Karan Johar play mentor to six single people, and help them find love



ENTERTAINMENT

After 18 years, The Devil Wears Prada sequel has been confirmed



A still from *The Devil Wears Prada* (2006)

>> Recently, Meryl Streep, Emily Blunt, and Anne Hathaway reunited on stage for this year's SAG Awards, reports *The Hollywood Reporter*



About 18 years after *The Devil Wears Prada* was released, it has now been confirmed that the comedy-drama film is getting a sequel. According to news reports, writer Aline Brosh McKenna is penning a would-be follow-up to the hit film, which is being developed and produced by Wendy Finerman, who was also behind the original. Although no deals have been finalised, a follow-up to the 2006 coming-of-age comedy has long been discussed. No deals for the cast are in place yet. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, the 2006 film, based on the book of the same name, follows Andy (played by Anne Hathaway), a recent college journalism graduate who lands one of the most coveted jobs in publishing as the assistant to Miranda Priestly (played by Meryl Streep), an Anna Wintour stand-in. Andy navigates the world of magazines and high fashion with the help of her fellow assistant (played by Emily Blunt).

Maybe more lead roles: Cage clarifies retirement plans

In a recent interview, Nicolas Cage discussed his plans for retiring from acting, shedding light on his previous statements about his future in the film industry. In a 2023 interview, Cage mentioned he was "starting to cement" his retirement plans, stating to *Vanity Fair*, "I may have three or four more movies left in me. I do feel I've said what I've had to say with cinema... I think I took film performance as far as I could."

However, during a new interview with *The New Yorker*, when questioned about his retirement, the Longlegs actor clarified, "Well, I did two or three very supporting roles. So maybe three or four more lead roles. Maybe that's more of what I was saying," noting that he viewed his role in *Longlegs* as a supporting one.



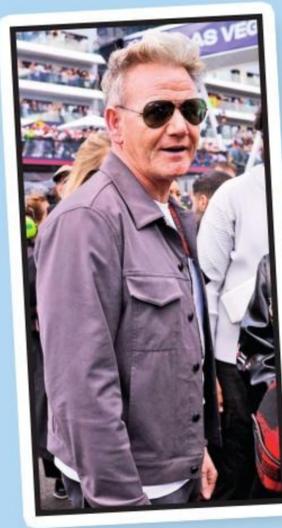
Nicolas Cage

A track of stars at Formula 1 British Grand Prix



GALLERY

From Emilia Clarke to Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones, many from tinsel town witnessed Lewis Hamilton's recent victory at the 2024 Formula 1 British Grand Prix, hosted at Silverstone Circuit in Northamptonshire, England



Gordon Ramsay



Brad Pitt



Paris Hilton

Emilia Clarke

According to news reports, Brad Pitt and Ines de Ramon were also spotted at the race. A day before, he was seen on Silverstone Circuit during the filming of an F1-inspired movie

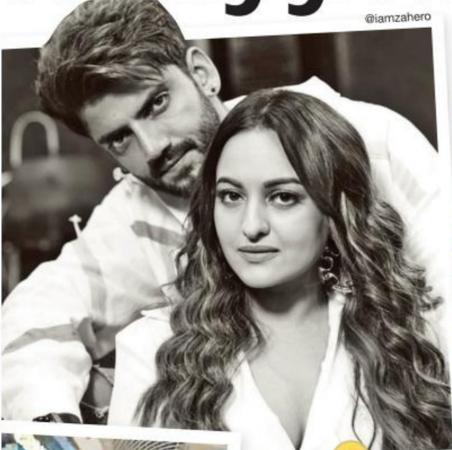


>> Lewis Hamilton holds the record for the most British Grand Prix wins

<< Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones



Zaheer to Nick: These men are setting green flag goals for us



Sonakshi Sinha recently called hubby Zaheer Iqbal 'the greenest flag ever'. Here are some other men who also fit the bill



Ayushmann Khurrana and Tahira Kashyap

They've been married for over 15 years, and it was during Tahira's battle with breast cancer that Ayushmann's strength of character shone through. "He's been very supportive... There is a certain profile that the actors' wives also have, thankfully neither does my husband expect that of me (to look a certain way) nor do I. He doesn't have any problem with me being bald and neither do I," she said on a chat show.



Zaheer Iqbal and Sonakshi Sinha

The two of them went against the tide and had a civil marriage without any of the band-baja-baraat of a Bollywood wedding. In a video she posted on Insta, which shows Zaheer carrying her heels and smiling, Sonakshi called him the greenest flag ever.

Nick Jonas and Priyanka Chopra

In their six years of marriage, he's shown repeatedly that he's always in her corner. In an interview, Priyanka said, "He is my cheerleader. He is the most secure man I have ever been with. He gets really excited at my wins."



Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma

Hot off the pitch after the World Cup win, Virat credited Anushka for the success. Sharing this photo on Insta, he wrote: "None of this would remotely be possible without you my love." Fans have also gone gaga over how he called his family from the cricket ground right after India's victory.

— Compiled by Aakanksha Ahire

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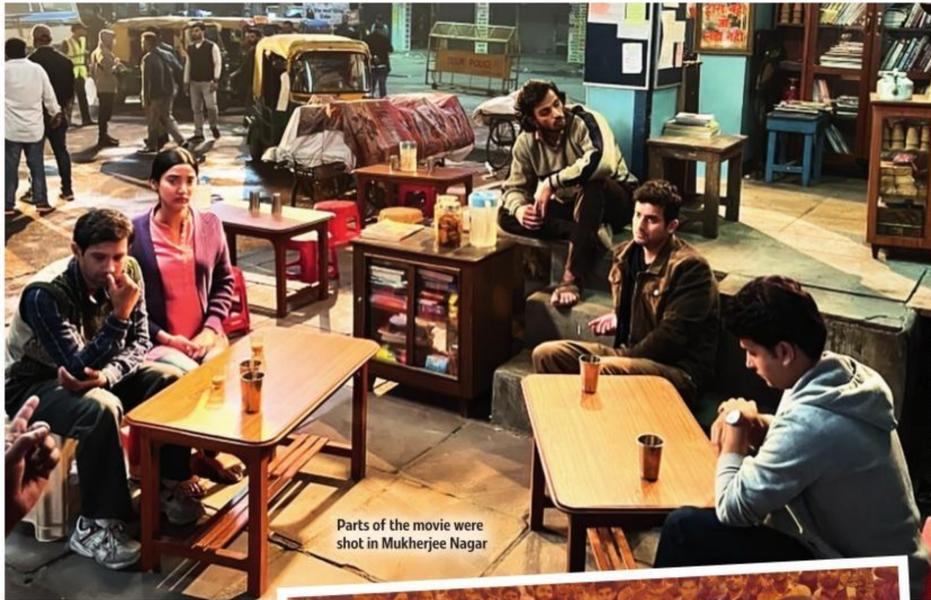
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12th Fail: First film to get Delhi Film Policy subsidy



Parts of the movie were shot in Mukherjee Nagar

Niharika Lal
Vikrant Massey-starrer *12th Fail*, which portrays the real-life story of IPS officer Manoj Kumar Sharma and is set and shot in Mukherjee Nagar, is the first film to receive a subsidy under the Delhi Film Policy, 2022.

A source from Delhi Tourism says, "We are in the process of finalising it. The film was praised for its authenticity and was shot not just in Mukherjee Nagar, but also at Dilli Haat, INA, and multiple other locations across the city. *12th Fail* will be the first film to receive this subsidy."

Delhi Tourism, the nodal agency for film shooting permissions, introduced its film policy and single-window clearance in 2022. One of the major points of the film policy is the subsidy, with a maximum cap of ₹3 crore. A source says, "We are evaluating the amount that we will be giving to the film." Several other films have also applied for subsidy.



Vikrant Massey in the *12th Fail* poster

Film shoots in Delhi

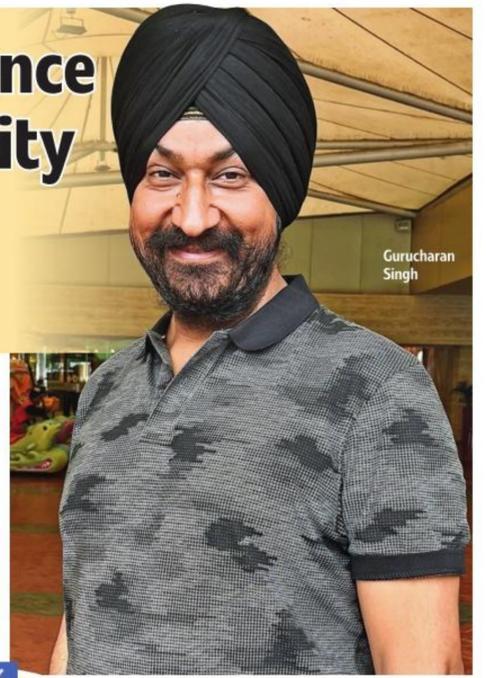
Despite Delhi being a favourite filming location for both Indian and foreign filmmakers, shooting in Delhi has had its challenges over the years. In the last six to seven years, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's Film Facilitation Office has been working in Delhi to streamline the process, which is now evident in the increasing number of film shooting applications (over 100 applications have been received).

Maximum cap on the overall subsidy is ₹3cr

The subsidy will be given based on a point system. It will be evaluated according to four categories - number of shoot days, screen time, Delhi-based skilled crew and support resources, and qualified below-the-line production costs borne in Delhi.

12th Fail was praised for its authenticity and was shot not just in Mukherjee Nagar, but also at Dilli Haat, INA, and multiple other locations across the city

My disappearance wasn't a publicity stunt, clarifies Gurucharan



Gurucharan Singh

Hasti Doshi

In April this year, *Tarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah* actor Gurucharan Singh shocked everyone when he suddenly went missing. On April 22, he was scheduled to fly from Delhi to Mumbai, but never boarded the flight. Subsequently, a kidnapping case was filed by the Delhi Police after his father, Harjit Singh, lodged a complaint. Nearly a month after going missing, the actor returned home on May 18.

Following his return, Gurucharan told the police that he had been dealing with some personal issues and had embarked on a spiritual journey. Since his return, there has been a lot of curiosity around where he was and what made him disappear from his house for several weeks. Speaking exclusively to us, Gurucharan, who is currently in Mumbai for some personal work, said, "Since the pandemic, there have been many things that affected me. I left Mumbai and went back to Delhi in 2020 as my father was undergoing surgery. After that, I tried starting many businesses on my own, but none of them worked out - either the work wasn't done properly or the people I collaborated with disappeared. So, because of all this, my finances got badly affected and I was very disturbed."

'I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SPIRITUAL'
Gurucharan added, "I have always been spiritual because of my parents and at this point in life when I was feeling low, I turned towards God. I went on a spiritual journey and had no plans of coming back. But God gave me a sign and that made me return home. Many people think I planned my disappearance for publicity, but that's not true."

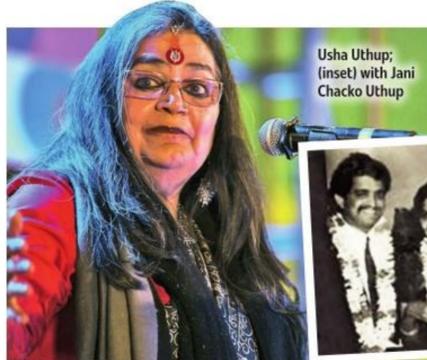


Since the pandemic, there have been many things that affected me. I tried starting many businesses on my own, but none of them worked out. We also had a property dispute going on

If I wanted publicity, I could have given interviews to talk about the pending dues for my work in *Tarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah*. I could have used social media to do that, but I didn't. Even after coming back home, I didn't give any interviews, but now I am speaking up because I want to clarify certain things that people are saying about me."

'I AM ASKING PEOPLE FROM THE INDUSTRY TO SUPPORT ME'

Now that the actor is back, he has been looking for interesting work. "I am asking people from the industry to support me. I am back and want to do a lot of work. I also want to pay off all the loans and debts that I have, one by one. That can happen through my work, and I am ready to work hard. I have realised that I can continue my spiritual journey even while fulfilling my other responsibilities in life," he shared.



Usha Uthup; (inset) with Jani Chacko Uthup

Uthup's husband, 78, passes away

Usha Uthup's husband Jani Chacko Uthup died in Kolkata on Monday, their family said. Jani, 78, complained of discomfort while watching TV at their residence. He was rushed to a nearby hospital but was declared dead, they said. A massive cardiac arrest was the trigger for the death, they added.

Jani, the second husband of Usha, was associated with the tea plantation sector. They first met at the iconic Trinca's - a restaurant and bar in Park Street, Kolkata - in the early '70s. Besides Usha, Jani is survived by a son and a daughter. The last rites were held on Tuesday, the family said.

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