



MALTI'S MUSICAL NIGHT WITH PRIYANKA AND NICK BACK PAGE

# Bombay Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024  
ADVERTORIAL, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY  
PROMOTIONAL FEATURE



#HITCHED: CHARLIE PUTH MARRIES GF BROOKE SANSONE

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## THEATRES SET FOR NATIONAL CINEMA DAY CELEBRATION

Niharika Lal

This Friday, the Multiplex Association of India (MAI) and cinemas across the country have come together to celebrate National Cinema Day again with tickets priced at ₹99. Since its debut in 2022, MAI's National Cinema Day was a way to thank moviegoers by offering tickets at reduced prices. Each year, cinemas collaborate with the MAI to pick a date for the celebration in September-October. This year, it will be held on September 20.



4,000+ screens to participate and celebrate National Cinema Day

National Cinema Day will also have a Kareena Kapoor Khan film festival, which will screen movies like *Chameli*, *Jab We Met*, among other hits of the actress

Apart from new releases like *Stree 2*, older films like *Tumbbad*, *Laila Majnu*, *Khel Khel Mein*, *Veer Zaara* and several regional films will be screened

### 'A DAY OF CINEMATIC BLISS'

While several Hindi films didn't perform as expected this year, audiences still turned out in large numbers for Hollywood films and re-releases. Re-releases like *Laila Majnu* and *Tumbbad* did good business, while *Deadpool vs Wolverine* became the first Hollywood blockbuster of this year. MAI president Kamal Gianchandani says, "*Deadpool* was the fourth highest-grossing film post-COVID and now, it's the first Hollywood blockbuster of this financial year."

The MAI said in a statement, "This special occasion brings audiences of all ages together for a day of cinematic bliss, celebrating the incredible success of multiple films at the box office this year. It's a heartfelt thank you to all the moviegoers."



Hollywood movies like *Deadpool vs Wolverine*, *Transformers One*, and more, will also be screened

This year, our lineup includes a mix of Hollywood and Indian films. The selection includes re-releases, classics, new releases and current box office hits

- Kamal Gianchandani, president of MAI (Multiplex Association of India)

## Justice Hema Committee report could be a game-changer, says Samyuktha

Neha Maheshwri

After making a mark in the South Indian film industry across Malayalam, Tamil, and Telugu cinema, Samyuktha is now gearing up for her Bollywood debut alongside Kajol in *Maharagni*. In a conversation with us, the actress opens up about the landmark Justice Hema Committee report that exposed the issues faced by women in the Malayalam film industry. Excerpts:

**'SETTING UP SOMETHING LIKE THE JUSTICE HEMA COMMITTEE IS A PROGRESSIVE MOVE'** Malayalam cinema is celebrated for its diverse and compelling content, but it has recently come under scrutiny following the release of the Justice Hema Committee report. Welcoming the report, Samyuktha says, "The Malayalam film industry, like any unorganised sector, lacks structure. It's like being lost in a forest, where you have to find your way out, and there are chances that you could be exploited. So,

**Women can be exploited in any industry, not just the film industry. What's crucial is that they shouldn't be afraid to speak out or seek justice for their suffering**

setting up something like the Justice Hema Committee is a progressive move towards improving things. This movement to create a safer, more inclusive space for women must be wholeheartedly welcomed. It could be a game-changer for the future."

**'STRICTER LAWS ARE THE NEED OF THE HOUR; I AM AGAINST ANY OTHER FORM OF TRIALS'**

Samyuktha admits she was not shocked by the findings of the Hema Committee report. She elaborates, "Women can be exploited in any industry, not just the film industry. What's crucial is that they shouldn't be afraid to speak out or seek justice for their suffering. However, the power to pass judgment rests solely with the judiciary, and there shouldn't be any other form of trial outside the court. Every allegation made still needs to be proven in court. It is a complex issue, but the system has to be strong. Stricter laws are the need of the hour to protect women and safeguard their rights."



Samyuktha

## Bhushan Kumar is delighted with Raaj Shaandilyaa's vision, the two are set for a long-term partnership



Raaj Shaandilyaa and Bhushan Kumar collaborated recently on the movie *Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video*

The internet has been buzzing with one-liners from the trailer of *Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video*. At the centre of it is the exclusive partnership between producer Bhushan Kumar and director Raaj Shaandilyaa. This collaboration, built on trust and creative freedom, will bring the audience fresh, real-life stories and entertaining films.

In the coming years, Raaj Shaandilyaa will direct, write and produce several films with Bhushan Kumar. The duo aims to entertain cinema lovers across the globe with rooted, desi family entertainers.

Talking about their partnership, Kumar says, "I'm really happy with

From the beginning, I knew Raaj's idea was strong, and I'm glad I supported it. I will be collaborating with him on more films as we both share a passion for good cinema

— Bhushan Kumar

what Raaj has created. From the beginning, I knew his idea was strong, and I'm glad I supported it. I will be

collaborating with him on more films as we both share a passion for good cinema that entertains movie lovers."

Shaandilyaa shares, "Bhushanji is not just a producer, he's a true partner who gives me creative freedom to focus fully on my work. His support makes everything easier, and I'm excited to partner with him on more projects. Being at T-Series feels like home, as he understands the craft of cinema and stories from the Indian heartland."

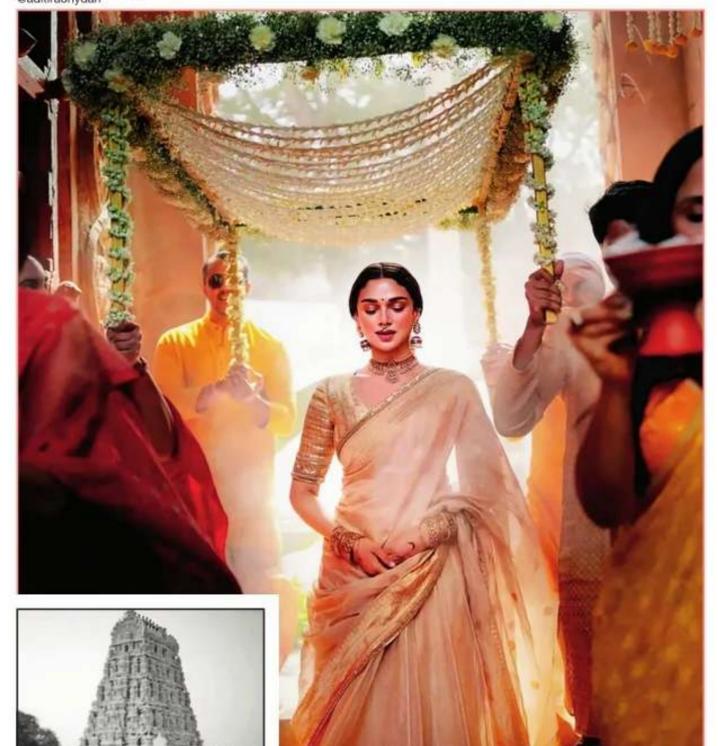
As the two continue their cinematic journey together, it would be interesting to see what they create next. Their partnership promises to bring enjoyable and meaningful stories to audiences.



P2

## Royal connect: Why Aditi chose this historic temple for her nuptials

@aditiraohydari



Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth's wedding was an intimate affair and the Ranganayakaswamy Temple, a symbol of Aditi's maternal family's connection to the Wanaparthy Samanthan, provided a fitting backdrop to their union. In an interview with *Vogue* before the wedding, Aditi had said that "the wedding will be centred around a 400-year-old temple in Wanaparthy that is of significance to my family."

CONTINUED ON 3

## First photo of Titan wreckage released by the US Coast Guard



### What happened

On June 18 last year, five people - OceanGate CEO Stockton Rush, British explorer Hamish Harding, British-Pakistani businessman Shahzad Dawood and his son Suleman and French diver Paul-Henri Nargeolet - died after the Titan submersible imploded due to intense ocean pressure off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada. The vessel was en route to see the Titanic wreckage

For the first time since the tragic incident, the US Coast Guard has released an image of the ill-fated OceanGate Titan submersible. The photo shows its tail cone resting on the ocean floor at a depth of 12,500 feet.

During a hearing held on Monday, OceanGate's former engineering director, Tony Nissen, presented alarming new details. He disclosed a series of safety concerns. According to Nissen, the submersible had been left exposed to weather and elements during storage for seven months and was never subjected to third-party safety inspections. During the Titan submersible's final dive, contact with the crew was lost after an exchange of messages regarding the submersible's depth and weight as it descended. One of the last messages from the Titan's crew to the Polar Prince, sent before the submersible's implosion, read, "all good here," according to a visual re-creation shown earlier in the hearing.

# WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN INTEREST IN CAT LADIES?

Mihir Bhanage

When Taylor Swift endorsed Kamala Harris for US president with a 'Childless Cat Lady' sign off, it was a retort to Donald Trump's running mate JD Vance's now-viral statement. Vance, in a 2021 interview, had referred to Democrats as "a bunch of childless cat ladies who are miserable at their own lives and the choices that they've made".

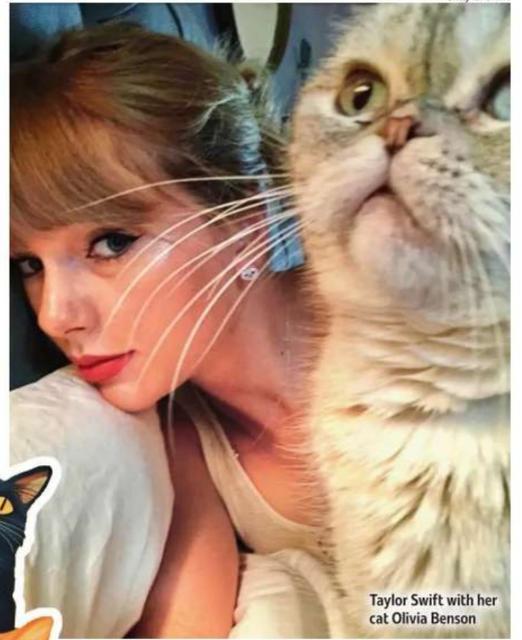
After this statement of Vance resurfaced ahead of the US Presidential campaign this year, it began discussions about the 'childless' or oft-used 'crazy' cat lady tropes. We explore how pop culture references and years of association have given the term cat lady a negative connotation, and how, in 2024, the stereotype is being shattered, with a big push from Taylor Swift.

### Adding fuel to the fire

As is the case with a lot of stereotypes, they are either propelled by pop culture references or gradually find a place in them. Be it Dr Eleanor Abernathy, aka 'Crazy Cat Lady' from *The Simpsons*, a delusional lady who has over a dozen cats, or Angela Martin from *The Office*, who is portrayed to be obsessed with her cats, or Robert De Niro as a granny named Margie in a *Saturday Night Live* sketch called *Christmas with the Cat Lady*, the examples are many. These character portrayals have only made the term stick to a not-so-positive perspective of independent, accomplished or strong-willed women.

### Who's a 'crazy cat lady'?

American psychologist Mark Travers, in a publication, wrote, "The 'crazy cat lady' myth portrays single women who own multiple cats as eccentric, neurotic or socially isolated. It suggests that women prioritising their cats over human relationships may have difficulty connecting with others and suffer from mental illnesses. The term is often used in a derogatory or dismissive manner."



Taylor Swift with her cat Olivia Benson

### Origins

Ancient history, particularly Egyptian, has ample references of cats being revered and looked at as guardians from evil. However, things changed in the Middle Ages in Europe as people started linking cats to witchcraft and dark practices, ultimately labelling women who had cats as crazy. As calls for voting rights, opportunities at workplaces and a shift in perception of women started in the 20th century, those opposing all this made the most of the crazy cat lady identity, using it to push back freedom and opportunities for women.

### Reclaiming #CatLady

From t-shirt slogans to social media hashtags, cat ladies are turning the negative connotation on its head and reclaiming it with a touch of sassiness. Thousands of videos of women posing with their cats have resulted in cat lady being a celebrated identity. This, besides the fact that cats themselves are social media celebrities. Then there's the Cat Lady Aesthetic trend which has people styling their homes as per their and their cats' needs, even sporting outfits with cat motifs and slogans.



AI-generated pics for representational purposes only



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Robert De Niro as a cat lady in an SNL sketch; (below) Crazy Cat Lady from *The Simpsons*

### A 'Swift' change

Taylor Swift's post after Tuesday's US Presidential Debate isn't the first time that the global sensation has proudly displayed her affinity to cats. She regularly posts pics of her cats on social media and has been credited to being one of the reasons for the changes in perception of women with cats. Following Swift's post, actress Aubrey Plaza too posted a pic with her cat in support of Democrats. Singer Stevie Nicks posted a pic with her dog, seconding Swift's views and signing off with 'Childless Dog Lady' on the post.



Actress Aubrey Plaza posted this pic with a caption in support of Democrats, on Instagram



Singer Stevie Nicks followed Taylor's example and posted a pic with her dog

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# Here's why Aditi Rao Hydari chose this temple for her wedding with Siddharth

CONTINUED FROM K 1

## UNDERSTANDING THE FAMILY CONNECTION TO THE WANAPARTHY TEMPLE

Aditi's mother, classical singer Vidya Rao, is the daughter of Janumpalli Rameshwar Rao, the last titular Raja of Wanaparthy (from 1944 until 1971). As per the Telangana government website, the temple was built by the Rajas of Wanaparthy Samsthanam in the 18th century. Wanaparthy was an important vassal state of the Nizams of Hyderabad. On her paternal side, Aditi is the great-granddaughter of Muhammad Saleh Akbar Hydari, a former Prime Minister of Hyderabad.

### GOLDEN HERITAGE

Inspired by the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple in Srirangam, Tamil Nadu, the Ranganayakaswamy Temple is said to have once been adorned with pure gold. Even today, the temple remains a testament to its historical grandeur, with gold paintings and a mystical lake.

### Royal lineage: The Rao family's ties with the Rajas of Wanaparthy



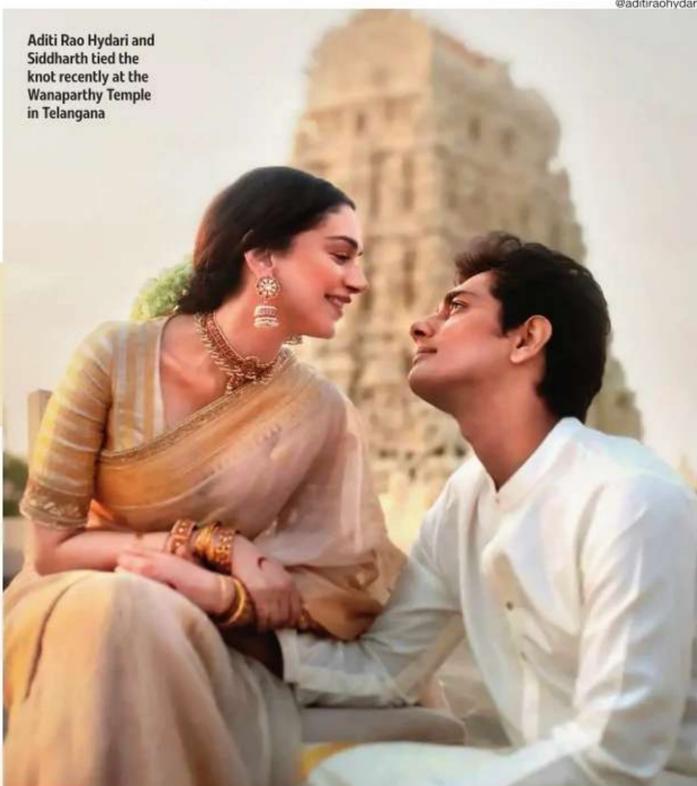
Raja J Rameshwar Rao

**Regal affiliation:** Her maternal lineage ties her to Raja J Rameshwar Rao, the last king of Wanaparthy, and an important vassal state of the Nizam of Hyderabad.



Vidya Rao

**Got it from her mama:** Aditi's mother, classical singer Vidya Rao, is the step daughter of Raja J Rameshwar Rao.



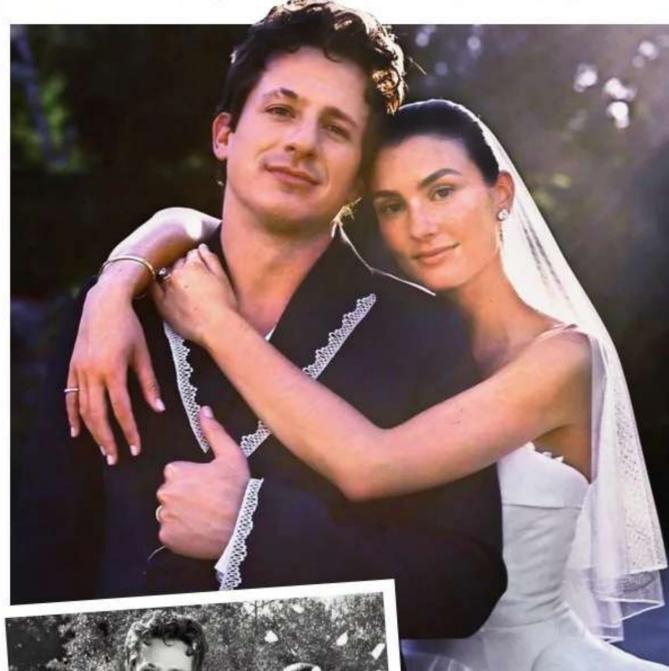
Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth tied the knot recently at the Wanaparthy Temple in Telangana

The Wanaparthy Samsthanam continues to manage the temple. The temple complex also features a stepwell and a hidden three-storey art gallery underneath

- Crishna Kyasani, founder Green Team Wanaparthy

TNN with inputs from Shweta Watson

## #HITCHED: CHARLIE PUTH MARRIES GF BROOKE SANSONE



Charlie Puth exchanged vows with his longtime girlfriend Brooke Sansone in an intimate wedding ceremony at his family's estate in California. Sharing pictures, the singer wrote "I love you Brooke...I always have, with you I am my very best. I promise I'll love you everyday in this life"



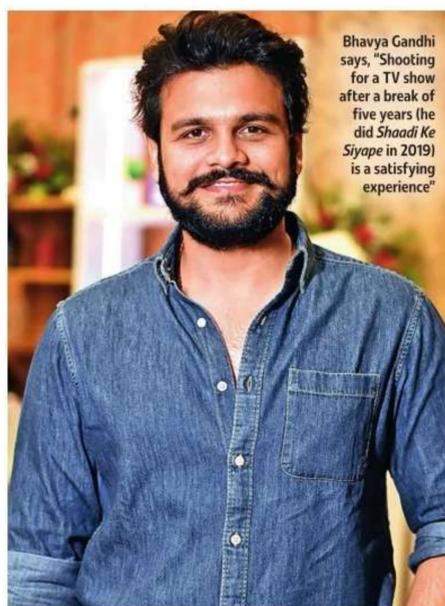
@shoaib2087



Dapper dad **SHOAIB** Ibrahim shared some cute pictures with his son Ruhaan and wrote: Style mein rehne kaaa...



## 'I was sceptical about playing a negative role'



Bhavya Gandhi says, "Shooting for a TV show after a break of five years (he did *Shaadi Ke Siyape* in 2019) is a satisfying experience"

Bhavya Gandhi, who played Tapu for nine years in *Tarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah*, is back on television in a negative role. The actor, who is playing an antagonist in *Pushpa Impossible*, shares, "I got a text from JD (Majethia) sir that there is an interesting development in the show. I was initially sceptical about playing a negative role, fearing that I would be typecast from here on. But I realised that if someone didn't typecast me after playing a character (Tapu) for almost a decade, why would anyone typecast me for this character? I don't want to break my image as Tapu, as it has given me a lot. But I want people to see me playing other characters too."

Bhavya, who is playing a psychotic character in *Pushpa Impossible*, says, "Dilip Joshi (his co-star in *Tarak Mehta...*) sir taught me how to get out of the character. He told me, 'As soon as the shoot begins, wear your costumes and become the character. And *jaise hi cut suno*, you leave it behind and be yourself.'"



Bhavya in the TV show *Pushpa Impossible*

— Kanksha Vasavada

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## MALTI'S MUSICAL NIGHT OUT WITH PARENTS PRIYANKA & NICK

Malti Marie seemingly checks out the mic for her dad (left) Nick before he goes on stage



It may have been Nick Jonas' birthday, but it was his daughter Malti Marie Chopra Jonas who enjoyed the evening the most - her parents' Instagram posts are proof of it. On Monday eve (September 16) the entire family headed to London's O2 Arena for a Jonas Brothers concert. After the show, both Nick and Priyanka Chopra shared pictures from the event.

In his post, Nick shared a carousel of behind-the-scenes and on-stage pictures of the concert and wrote, "Thank you for all the love yesterday... Couldn't have asked for a better start to 32 (sic)." Donning a printed white dress, Malti could be seen hanging out with dad and uncle Joe Jonas during the soundcheck. In fact, it looks like she took it upon herself to test the mic before her father began the gig.



Chopra-Jonas fam's night out: Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas with their daughter Malti Marie

### PC's flashback moment

Priyanka, on the other hand, shared a birthday tribute for her singer-actor husband first, and in the second post, she wrote an emotional note about returning to O2 Arena after being crowned Miss World 2000 there 24 years ago. "I was crowned Miss World at this arena 24 years ago. It was called the Millennium Dome back then... To be back here watching my husband and his brothers perform with my daughter, family and friends is such a full circle. Life has been good. Gratitude," she wrote, adding that she would never forget that night.



Malti's sound check with (right) uncle Joe Jonas



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# Wedding called off... was it a publicity stunt?

Abdu Rozik reacts to rumours about his engagement being fake

Former *Bigg Boss 16* contestant and musician Abdu Rozik, who announced his engagement to an Emirati girl, Amira, on April 24, has broken up with his fiancée. At that time, Abdu had said that they would be tying the knot on July 7. So, what went wrong? The Tajikistan singer says, "There were cultural differences and so we felt it was best to call off the wedding. We did make a public announcement, but sometimes things don't go as planned. It's all a part of life. We have both learnt from the experience and are moving forward."

Incidentally, there were rumours from day one that the engagement was just a publicity stunt because the pictures circulated did not show the girl's face. Even those close to him had not met the girl. Ask Abdu about this, and he says, "I understand why people might have doubts. I have never done anything for publicity, and the engagement wasn't fake. I don't need this kind of publicity. It is sad that people think this way, but the engagement was genuine. Sometimes, public perceptions don't align with reality. I remain completely focused on moving forward positively."

— Tanvi Trivedi



@abdu\_rozik

I understand why people might have doubts. I have never done anything for publicity, and the engagement wasn't fake. I don't need this kind of publicity



Abdu Rozik; (left) picture the singer had shared on Instagram when he announced his engagement in April

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Josh Gad; (right) the actor voiced Olaf's character in the *Frozen* series

## Josh Gad reflects on *Frozen's* Olaf: 'I'd change that voice'

Josh Gad recently revealed a "big mistake" he made while voicing Olaf in *Frozen*. During an interview at Fan Expo Canada, Gad shared, "If I could do it all over again, I would've created a different voice. It's very weird being in a supermarket and having a child slowly turn their head at me." Despite his regrets, Gad acknowledged that people seem to enjoy his voice. Gad voiced Olaf in *Frozen* (2013), its 2019 sequel. He's set to return for *Frozen 3* in 2027, as well as a fourth film. Gad recounted learning about the sequels while on vacation, saying, "Nobody thought to call us up and be like, 'Oh, by the way, we're doing two sequels to your movie(s).'"



## LEISURE

### SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

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

**HOW TO PLAY**  
Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and 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

**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)

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

**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	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 Jared Cappel 19/09/2024

**ACROSS**  
1 Satisfied sounds  
5 Comforting text during a bad storm, say  
11 Popeyes rival  
14 Political coalition  
15 Econ. figure used to highlight income inequality  
16 Every last one  
17 "Totally falls apart"  
19 20-20, say  
20 Surgical tube  
21 "Deal!"  
22 Offshore  
23 Radiate happiness  
25 "Floating lunar particles"  
27 Hollywood VIP  
30 Doc's order  
31 Bygone space station  
32 Wine category  
35 Breakaway groups  
39 "Gravity powered nourishment"  
43 Anesthetic of old  
44 Praise  
45 Musician Yoko  
46 Debtor's letters  
48 Words on some missing posters  
51 "Tips to the next dollar, say"  
56 Wolfe of fiction  
57 Professionals who work from home about a quarter of the time?  
58 Asian language  
60 Channels of communication  
63 "me guess..."  
64 Audio technique, or a feature of the answers to the starred clues  
66 "Me" problem  
67 Terrarium pet  
68 "Night" author Wiesel  
69 Juan, Puerto Rico

**DOWN**  
2 Building blocks  
2 Bushes  
3 Residential delivery?  
4 Act divisions  
5 Critical hosp. area  
6 Department store department  
7 Genesis city  
8 Speed skater Ohno  
9 Swifties, e.g.  
10 Word with public or private  
11 Fried Japanese cutlet  
12 Takes a high way  
13 Spiked shoe  
18 Saves or assists  
22 Said more  
24 Griffin who created "Jeopardy!"  
26 Loch \_\_ monster  
27 Québec pal  
28 \_\_ roller  
29 Instagram video  
33 2andMe material

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

P	A	T	S	B	O	O	S	T	R	E	A	P
O	V	E	N	A	T	H	O	S	A	L	L	A
P	I	L	L	O	W	T	A	L	K	T	E	S
S	A	L	P	L	A	N	P	I	V	O	T	
U	T	I	L	E	W	A	S	H	O	A	R	D
P	E	T	U	N	I	A	I	O	S	T	A	U
M	E	N	E	M	T	D	O	N	E			
S	P	R	A	Y	B	U	T	T	E	R		
A	Y	E	S	F	O	B	J	O	N			
P	A	N	S	E	L	O	P	T	I	M	U	M
C	L	O	C	K	W	O	R	K	O	M	A	N
L	E	R	O	Y	U	B	E	R	M	C	S	
A	L	I	A	B	O	D	Y	D	O	U	B	L
S	A	T	S	E	N	E	M	Y	N	A	I	R
S	W	A	T	L	O	R	E	S	E	S	P	Y

### GARFIELD

BEWARE OF DOG  
BEWARE OF CAT

MY SIGN ISN'T AFRAID OF YOUR SIGN  
YEAH, WELL, MAYBE IT SHOULD BE

### ARCHIE

FOR THIS MEDITATION TECHNIQUE, I MUST EMPTY MY HEAD OF ALL THOUGHTS!  
WELL, THAT SHOULD BE EASY FOR YOU! T H A R ! H A R !  
OH, IT'S TOUGHER THAN YOU'D GUESS!

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See what the stars have in store for you - according to your moon sign.

### 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: F, E, H, R, S, R

### DENNIS THE MENACE

"I TOOK THE LACES OUT OF MY SHOES... NOW I HAVE SLIP-ONS."

### SCRAMBLE

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

OWNED  
GHIST  
AETDM  
ABFLRY

— the gentle art of enhancing your charm by pretending not to be aware of it. - Oliver Herford (7)

**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

in what you are doing too, so be smart and keep them informed.

**VIRGO:** Gifts, benefits, or other opportunities may come through visits, short trips, messages, emails, or they could come through contacts with siblings, classmates, and neighbours. Some sort of positive news or announcement is likely to be part of the picture.

**LIBRA:** Social activities are under favourable stars at the moment, so don't be afraid to get out into the world and make new friends. You may not be the most open and outgoing member of the zodiac but you have your moments.

**SCORPIO:** You tend to be less practical than you are idealistic, dreamy, and sensitive. Some of you may find the mundane concerns of life too boring to grab your attention! Some may feel less confident, as their direction in life is suddenly uncertain; others may attune themselves to a stronger spiritual purpose.

**SAGITTARIUS:** The need to be appreciated by others, and the need for togetherness with others, comes into play. A love affair may begin now. New contacts with others may also occur.

**CAPRICORN:** The more you worry about something the more power you give it to disrupt your life, so make a conscious decision to put it out of your mind and never think about it again. By far the best way to deal with your fears is to ignore them.

**AQUARIUS:** You're a practical person by nature, and much of your life is about tangible, bottom-line concerns. But now is the time to break out of that pattern. You might consider these thoughts impractical, but indulge them anyway.

**PISCES:** Talking with other people, especially new acquaintances, is an engaging pastime today. It gives you a sense of discovery, as if, by connecting with a perfect stranger, you'll get a glimpse into a new world. Being overly inquisitive may put them off.

### POV

## Love thyself. These women are telling you how

There is more to self-love than spending hours perfecting the glassy skin and thigh gap. And legendary women who are wearing their battle scars and tummy rolls proudly, are showing us how to do it, instead of trying to fix what ain't broke.

So when a Demi Moore - who epitomised peak Hollywood with all its glamour, sensuality and sensationalism - speaks of the "violence" that women have against their bodies, you cannot but sit up and listen.

In a recent interview, the 61-year-old star of *Striptease* and *Indecent Proposal*, the world's highest paid Hollywood actor at one time, called out the culture that legitimises the unnatural pursuit of youth, forcing women to the point of emotional 'bankruptcy'. Acceptance, validation and success for women, has always been tied to their ability to conform to standards of beauty and desirability defined by the male gaze, she says. Her views are not very different from that of Kate Winslet, as she storms her way through award-winning roles, unafraid to let the world see her body the way it is.

As more and more older women liberate themselves from 'industry' and 'influencer' enforced fetters of beauty, there is an equally large number of impressionable, younger ones, who bite the bait. Cosmetics majors are now targeting pre-teens, obsessed with skin-care routines and products they can do without. Social media is buzzing with beauty and health influencers brandishing products and regimes that promise everything from flatter abs to better sleep, Korean skin to perfect teeth.

Mental health experts are talking about cosmeticorexia, an addiction to beauty products and regimes while health experts are red flagging unscientific diets and magic pills peddled freely on social media.

It is thus imperative that women who have been there, done that, are heard, seen and acknowledged. That we cheer for every Winslet, Moore and even a Vidya Balan, as we enable an inclusive culture that celebrates women just the way they are.

In her latest biopic that's winning accolades in the fest circuit, Winslet plays the role of a supermodel-turned war correspondent for *Vogue*, Elizabeth Miller. As she transforms from being an object of desire to a woman of grit, Lee is heard saying: "I would rather take a picture than be one." A line that's bound to strike a chord with every woman who has ever stood before a mirror and hated what it showed her.

Agree? Disagree? Got a POV idea? Write to us at: [pov@timesofindia.com](#)

### SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

**TIMES SUDOKU**

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

**LOOP THE LOOP**

**TIMES HITORI**

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

**SCRAMBLE**

Answer: Modesty - the gentle art of enhancing your charm by pretending not to be aware of it. - Oliver Herford

Words: Endow, sight, mated, barfy