

Payal scripts history, bags twin Golden Globes nods

Payal Kapadia has scripted history at the 82nd Golden Globe Awards by becoming the first Indian director to be nominated in the Best Director—Motion Picture category. She was nominated for her debut fiction feature, *All We Imagine As Light*. The film also scored a nomination in the Best Motion Picture in a Non-English Language category. The 38-year-old reacted to the nomination and expressed her gratitude in a statement: "I'm deeply honoured by this



A still from *All We Imagine As Light*

nomination...This is a celebration of everyone who worked so passionately on the film. To everyone in India, *All We Imagine As Light* is still in theatres — please go watch it

and support us!" Soon after the announcement, congratulations began pouring in for Kapadia. Actor Anil Kapoor tweeted, "What a monumental recognition of Indian cinema and the storytelling prowess of

@PayalKapadia86! So incredibly proud!" Filmmaker Hansal Mehta, who has long supported the movie as India's "official selection for the Oscars", too, took to X: "India's official selection for the Oscars secures 2 nominations at the Golden Globes. Best non-

English language film and best director for *All We Imagine As Light* and Payal Kapadia (sic)."

Director Kiran Rao, whose film badge *Laapataa Ladies* is the official entry from India in the Best International Film category at the 2025 Oscars, also congratulated Kapadia. She wrote: "Christmas has come early this year... Brava Payal!"

All We Imagine As Light had won the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival in May, becoming the first Indian film to achieve the milestone. It was also awarded recently at the Gotham Awards. HTC



Payal Kapadia

PHOTO: X



Curiosity definitely didn't kill the cat, as proved by these searches. From orange peel theory to pornstar martini, here's what India was busily finger-tipping on Google this year. What got your attention?

#yearinsearch2024

NO CAP, THESE GOOGLE SEARCHES MADE THE MOST NOISE



TOP TRENDING PEOPLE

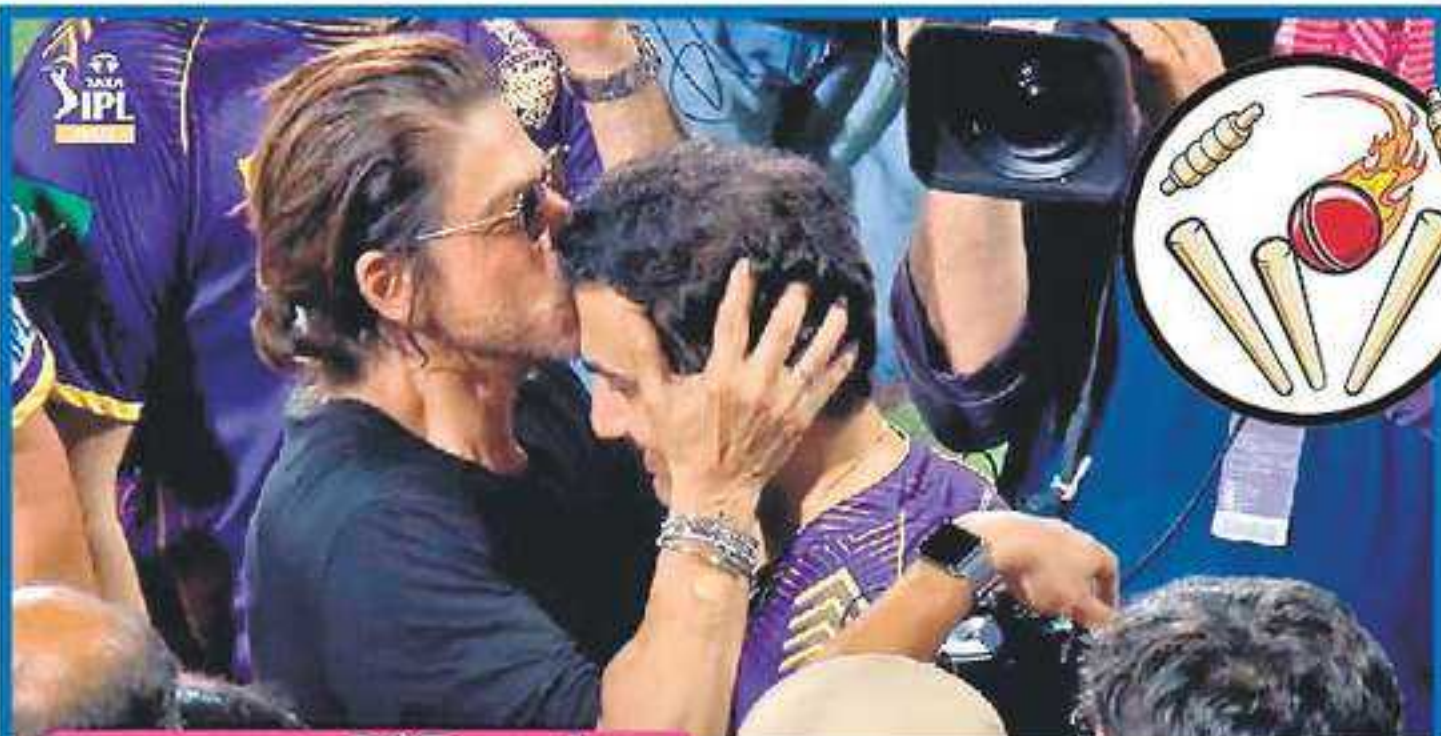
- Vinesh Phogat
- Nitish Kumar
- Chirag Paswan
- Hardik Pandya
- Pawan Kalyan
- Shashank Singh
- Poonam Pandey
- Radhika Merchant
- Abhishek Sharma
- Lakshya Sen

Pornstar Martini

MARTINI IS A PASSION-FRUIT-FLAVOURED COCKTAIL, MADE WITH VANILLA-FLAVOURED VODKA, PASSO, PASSION FRUIT JUICE, AND LIME JUICE.

TOP TRENDING RECIPES

- Pornstar Martini
- Mango Pickle
- Dhaniya Panjiri
- Ugadi Pachadi
- Charnamrit
- Ema Datshi
- Flat White
- Kanji
- Shankarpali
- Chammanthi



TOP TRENDING OVERALL

- Indian Premier League
- T20 World Cup
- Bharatiya Janata Party
- Election Results 2024
- Olympics 2024
- Excessive Heat
- Ratan Tata
- Indian National Congress
- Pro-Kabaddi League
- Indian Super League



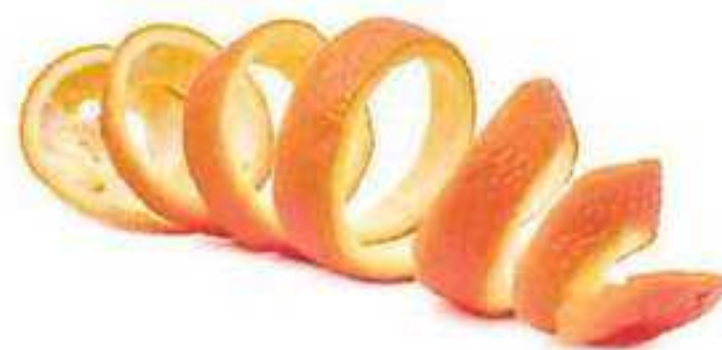
TOP TRENDING SPORTS EVENTS

- Indian Premier League
- T20 World Cup
- Olympics
- Pro Kabaddi League
- Indian Super League
- Women's Premier League
- Copa America
- Duleep Trophy
- UEFA Euro
- Under-19 World Cup

TOP TRENDING 'NEAR ME' QUESTIONS

- AQI
- Onam sadhya
- Ram mandir
- Sports bars
- Best bakery
- Trendy cafes
- Polio drops
- Shiv temple
- Best coffee
- Hanu-Man movie

pyaar jhootha tha jataya hi kyun,



santra na chilna tha toh aaya hi kyun.

TOP TRENDING MEMES

- Orange Peel theory
- Gen Z Boss
- Blue Grinch Knee Surgery
- Very Demure Very Mindful
- Hamster

PHOTO: PTI

Dharmendra summoned by Delhi court in Garam Dharam Dhaba cheating case

The Patiala House Court in Delhi recently issued summons against veteran actor Dharmendra, 89, and two others in a cheating case related to the Garam Dharam Dhaba franchise. The summons is based on a complaint filed by Delhi-based businessman Sushil Kumar, who alleged that he was lured into investing in the franchise. "The evidence on record prima facie indicates that the accused persons induced the complainant in furtherance of their common intent and the ingredients of offence of cheating are duly disclosed," the judge said in the order passed on December 5. The next hearing is on February

20, 2025. According to the complaint, the co-accused approached him on behalf of Dharamendra in April 2018 with an offer to open a franchise of Garam Dharam Dhaba on NH-24/NH-9, Uttar Pradesh. He was promised 7% profit on the investment of ₹41 lakh. Kumar issued a cheque for ₹17.70 lakh in September 2018, which was later encashed. In November 2018, he also purchased a land at the location for the franchise. However, he alleged that the accused stopped responding shortly afterwards. Kumar has also alleged that he was threatened with dire consequences if he attempted to contact them again. HTC

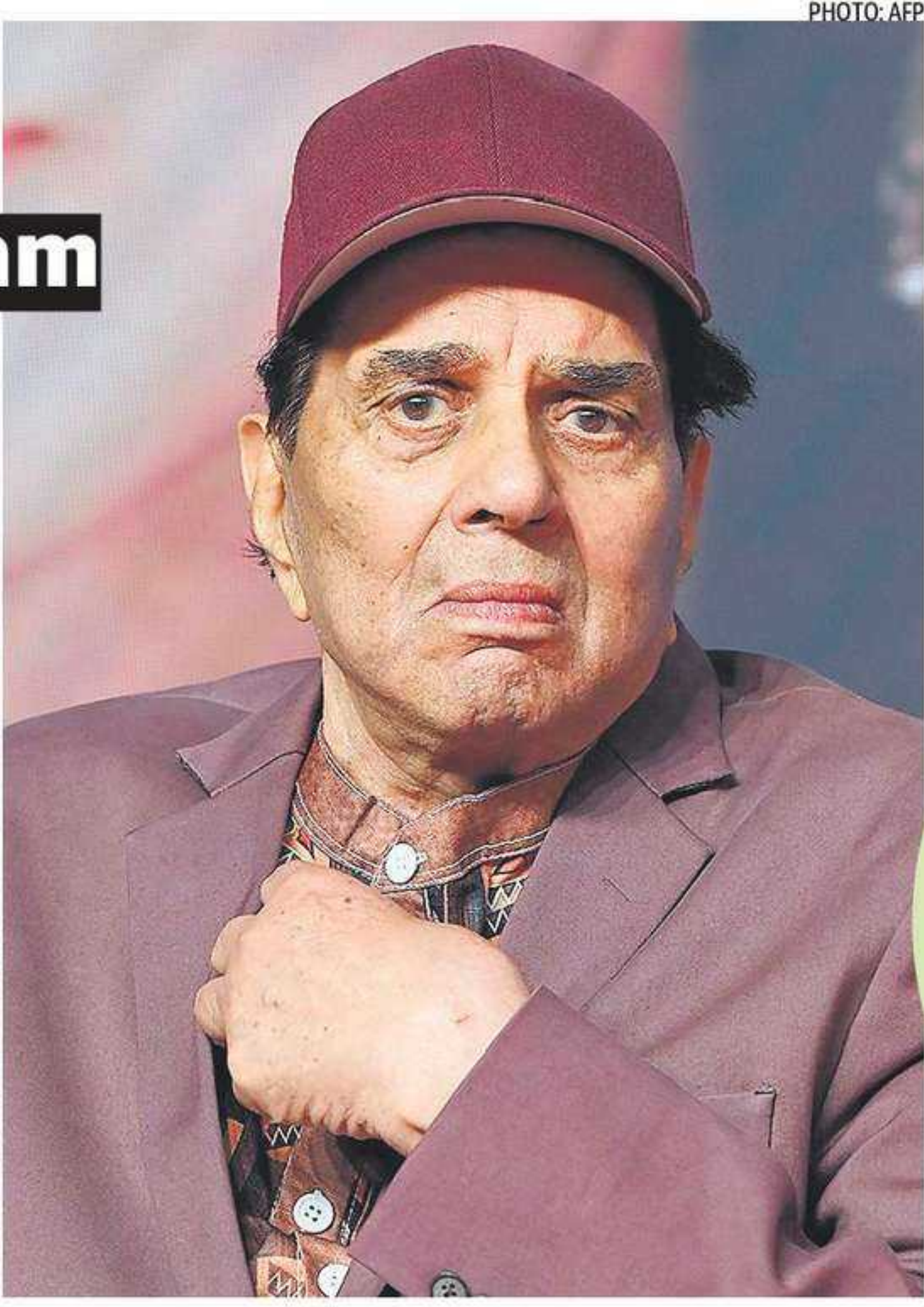


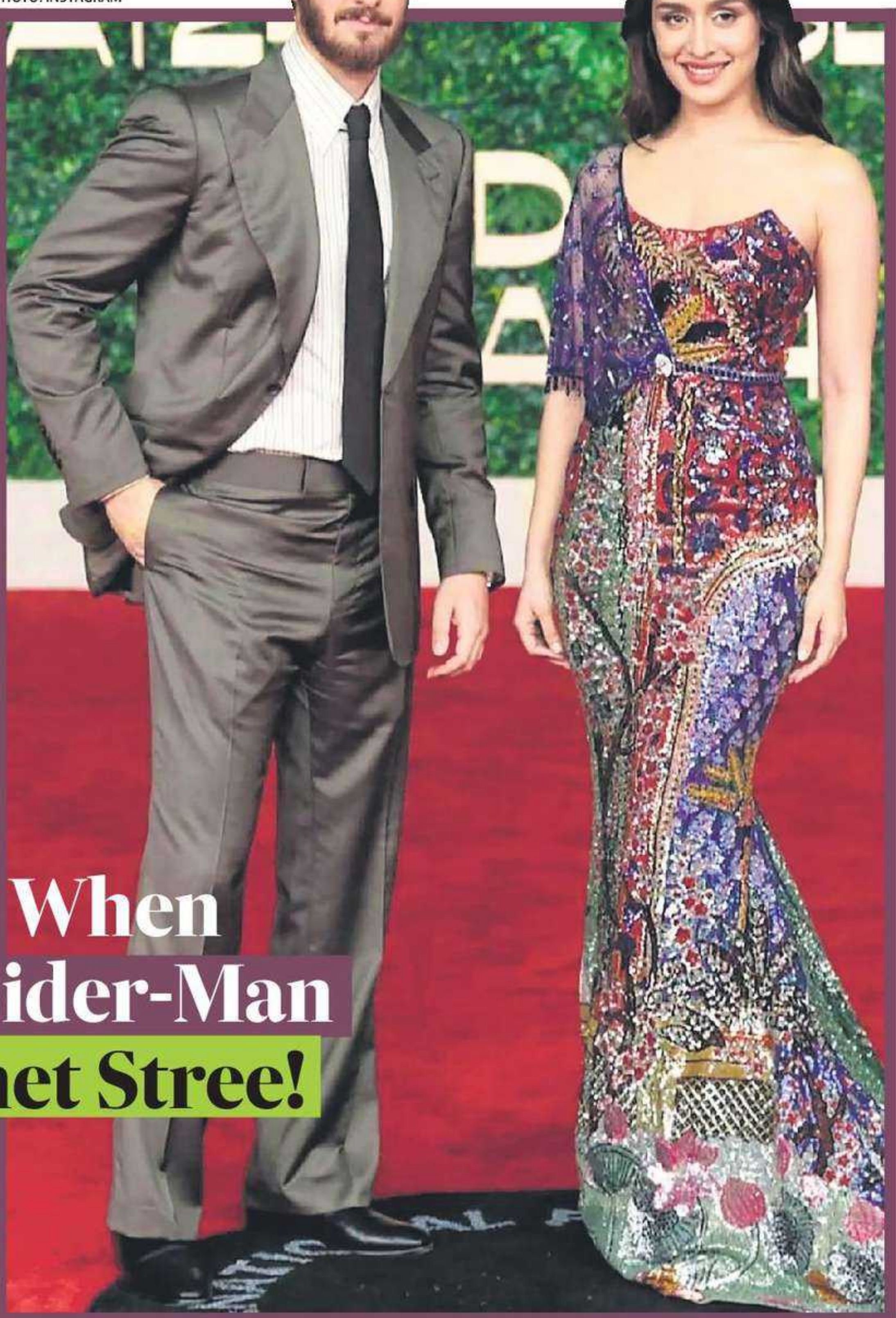
PHOTO: AFP

STOP PRESS



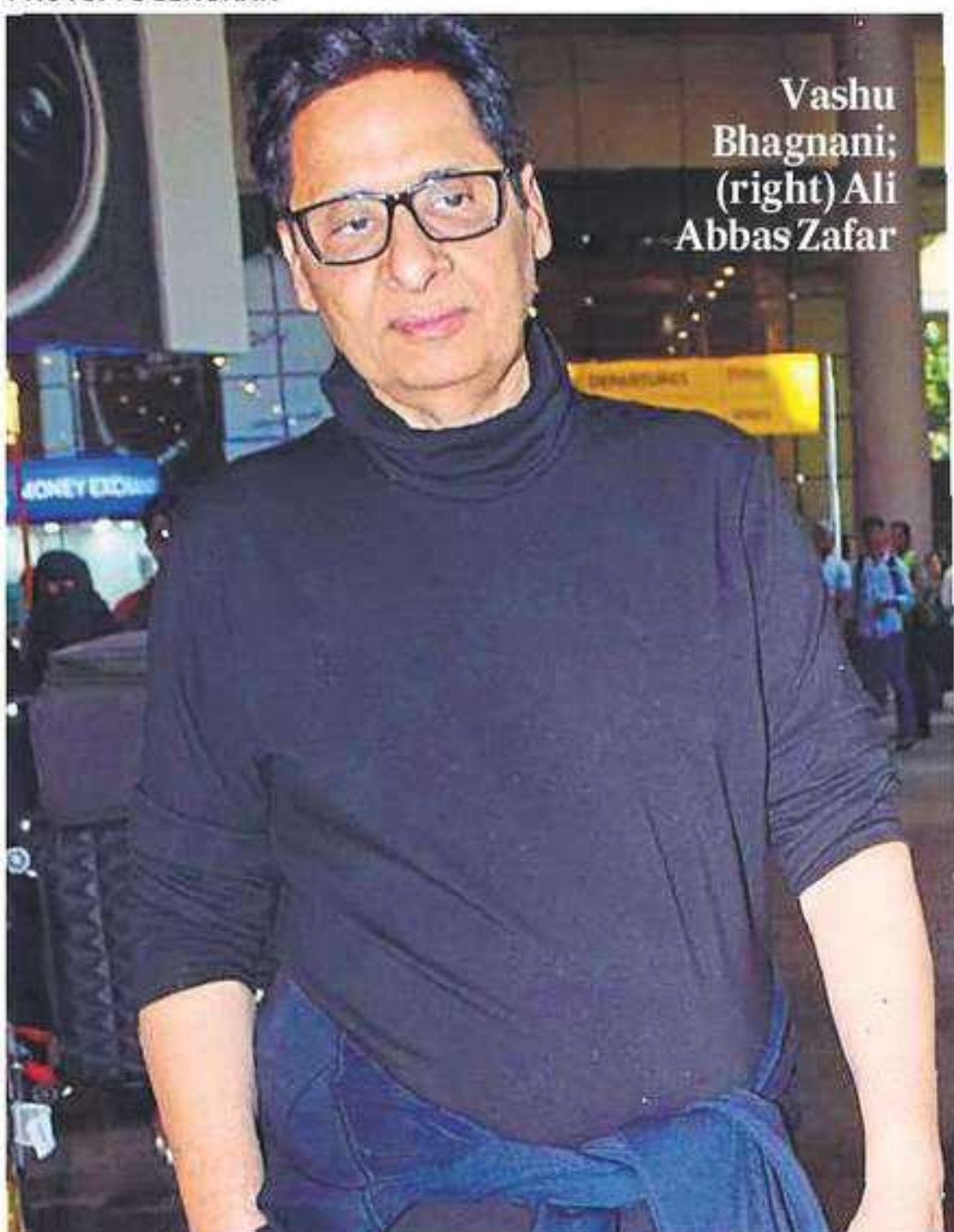
Singer Sonu Nigam called out Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and other politicians for leaving his recent concert in the state midway. "A humble request to all the respected politicians of India, kindly don't attend any performance of any artiste if you have to abruptly leave midway. This is disrespectful to art and artists," he wrote on Insta.

When Spider-Man met Stree!



The Stree and Spider-Man universes converged at the ongoing Red Sea Film Festival in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) on Monday, when actors Shradha Kapoor and Andrew Garfield posed together on the red carpet. Kapoor and Garfield fans were surprised and overjoyed, with many also offering a humorous take on it. A fan said on social media, 'Tu Jhoothi Main Makda', alluding to Kapoor's 2023 film, *Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar* and Garfield's portrayal of the superhero.

PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH



Vashu Bhagnani; (right) Ali Abbas Zafar

PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/ ALIABBASZAFAR



Vashu Bhagnani files FIR against Ali Abbas Zafar

In a significant escalation of the controversy surrounding the film *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan*, producer Vashu Bhagnani has lodged a First Information Report (FIR) against the film's director Ali Abbas Zafar, co-producer Himanshu Mehra, and finance head Ekesh Randive. The allegations, registered on December 8, 2024, at the Bandra Police Station, include financial fraud, forgery, and criminal misconduct. The FIR, initiated following a December 2 court order, lists multiple charges under the Indian Penal Code, including Section 120B (criminal conspiracy), Section 406 (criminal breach of trust), Section 420 (cheating), Section 464 (making a false document), Section 468 (forgery for cheating), Section 471 (using a forged document), Section 500 (defamation), and Section 506 (criminal intimidation).

Bhagnani has accused Zafar and his associates of conspiring to inflate the film's budget from the originally approved ₹125 crore (excluding actor fees) to ₹154 crore without proper justification. Specific allegations include forging invoices, overspending on luxury accommodations, equipment rentals, and hiring external vendors without necessary approvals. The FIR also claims that Bhagnani's signatures were forged to misappropriate funds. According to the FIR, the irregularities began after Bhagnani signed a four-film contract with actor Akshay Kumar in February 2021, with *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan* as one of the projects. Later that year, Zafar was brought on board to direct and write the script, Mehra was assigned as co-producer, and Randive was appointed to oversee financial management.

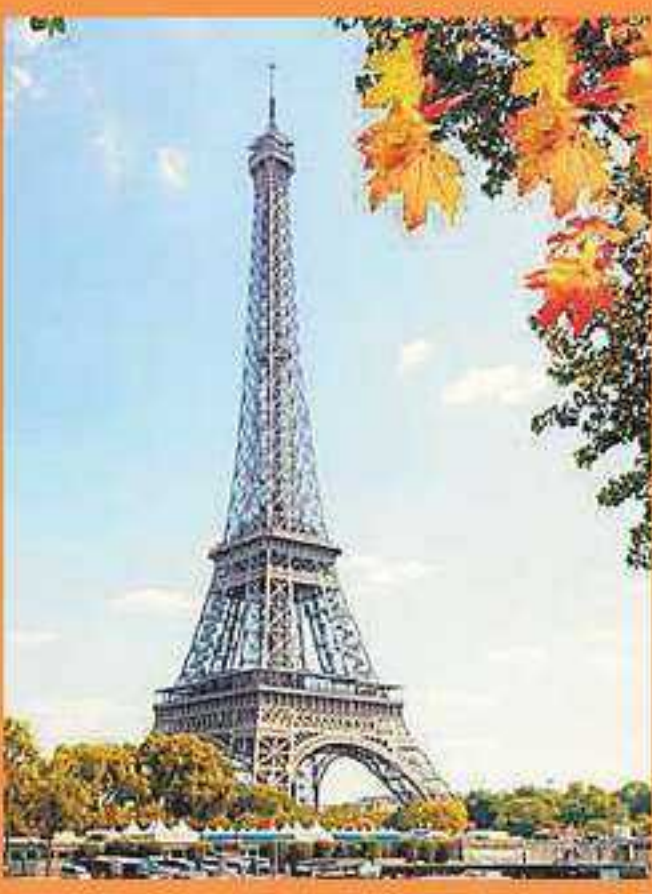
HTC

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#thatshot

PARIS CROWNED
'WORLD'S MOST
ATTRACTIVE CITY'

Paris, the City of Love, has bagged the title of the 'World's Most Attractive City in 2024', according to Top 100 City Destinations Index 2024 by Euromonitor International. The French capital, which witnesses millions of tourists from around the globe, has secured this title for the fourth consecutive year.



FREE MEALS FOR
PASSENGERS
FACING TRAIN
DELAYS

Train delays grow more frequent in the winters due to dense fog and reduced visibility. In view of that, the Railways will now offer free meals to passengers if a premium train like the Shatabdi Express, Rajdhani Express or Duronto Express is delayed by more than two hours.

THE PERFECT PACK
TO FIT YOUR SHOES

This packing cube for your shoes keeps your sneakers or boots organised inside the luggage. It is fitted with breathable twill polyester, which keeps the shoes, sneakers or boots free of odour. To ensure an easy packing experience, the cube features snag-free zippers.

Available at:
assemblytravel.com
Price: ₹499



ORGANISE YOUR
ESSENTIALS WITH
EASE

This waterproof toiletry bag features an inbuilt organiser, making it a perfect travel companion. It has multiple pockets for convenience in storage and a separate pocket with PVC lining for keeping a toothbrush and razor. Besides, it is machine-washable and has strong and durable zippers.

Available at:
swissmilitaryindia.com
Price: ₹654

It's the season when mountains turn into winter wonderlands. On International Mountain Day today, here's a round-up of some of the most scenic locations in India that should be on your bucket list

INTERNATIONAL
MOUNTAIN
DAY

ILLUSTRATIONS:
ADOBE STOCK

HT TRAVEL
on Wednesday

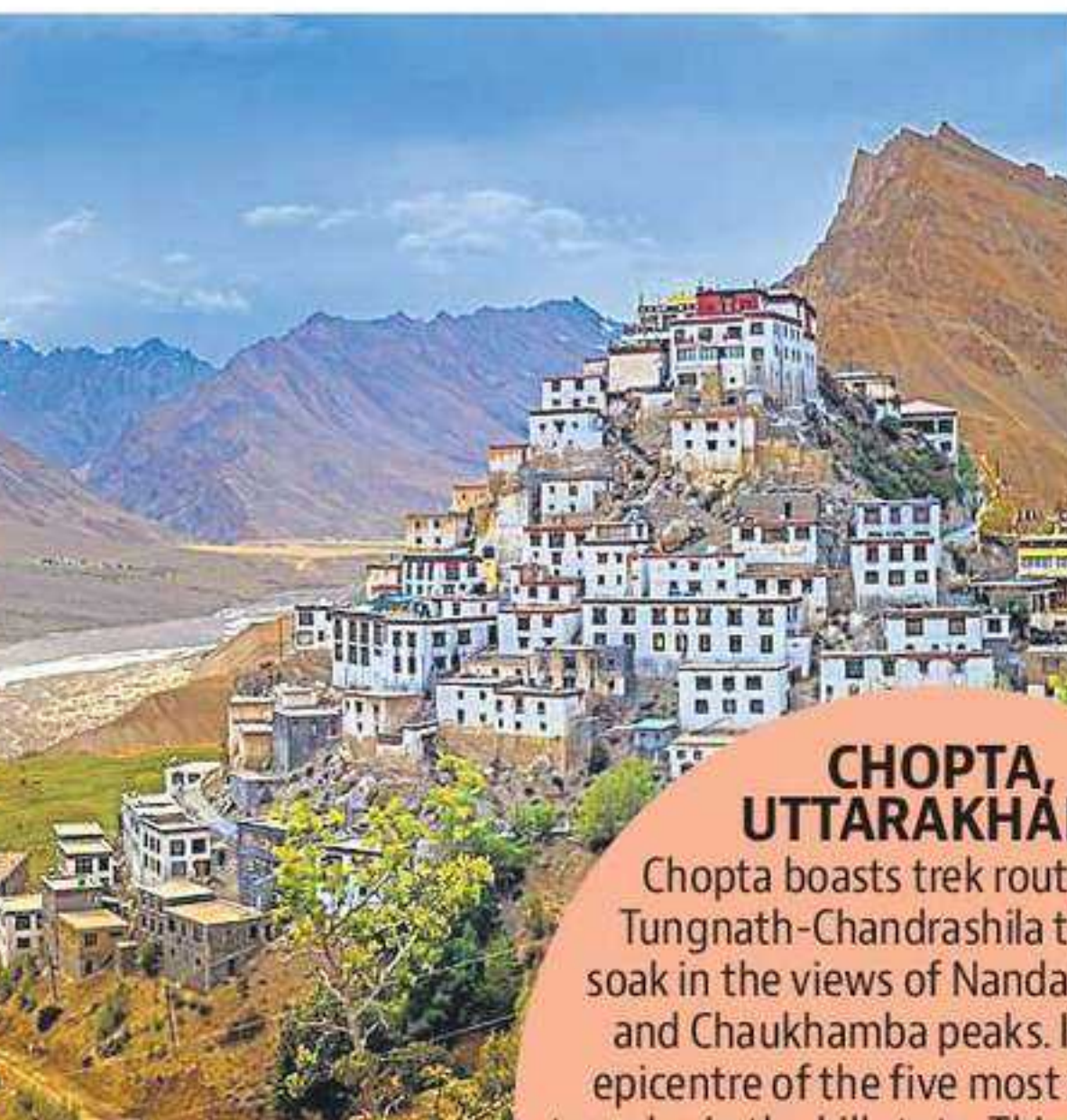
Scan here
to visit
HTTravel



CHILL IN THE HILL:
GET READY TO SCALE
NEW HEIGHTS

SPITI
VALLEY,
HIMACHAL PRADESH

Home to many high-altitude villages like Kaza, Tabo and Langza, Spiti offers unmatched views of the Himalayas. When in Spiti, visit the Key Monastery to witness dramatic views of the Spiti River, meandering through the valley alongside picturesque mountains. Wildlife enthusiasts can also go on expeditions in Kibber and nearby regions to spot snow leopards in the mountains. The nearest airport to Spiti Valley is Bhuntar and Chandigarh Airport.

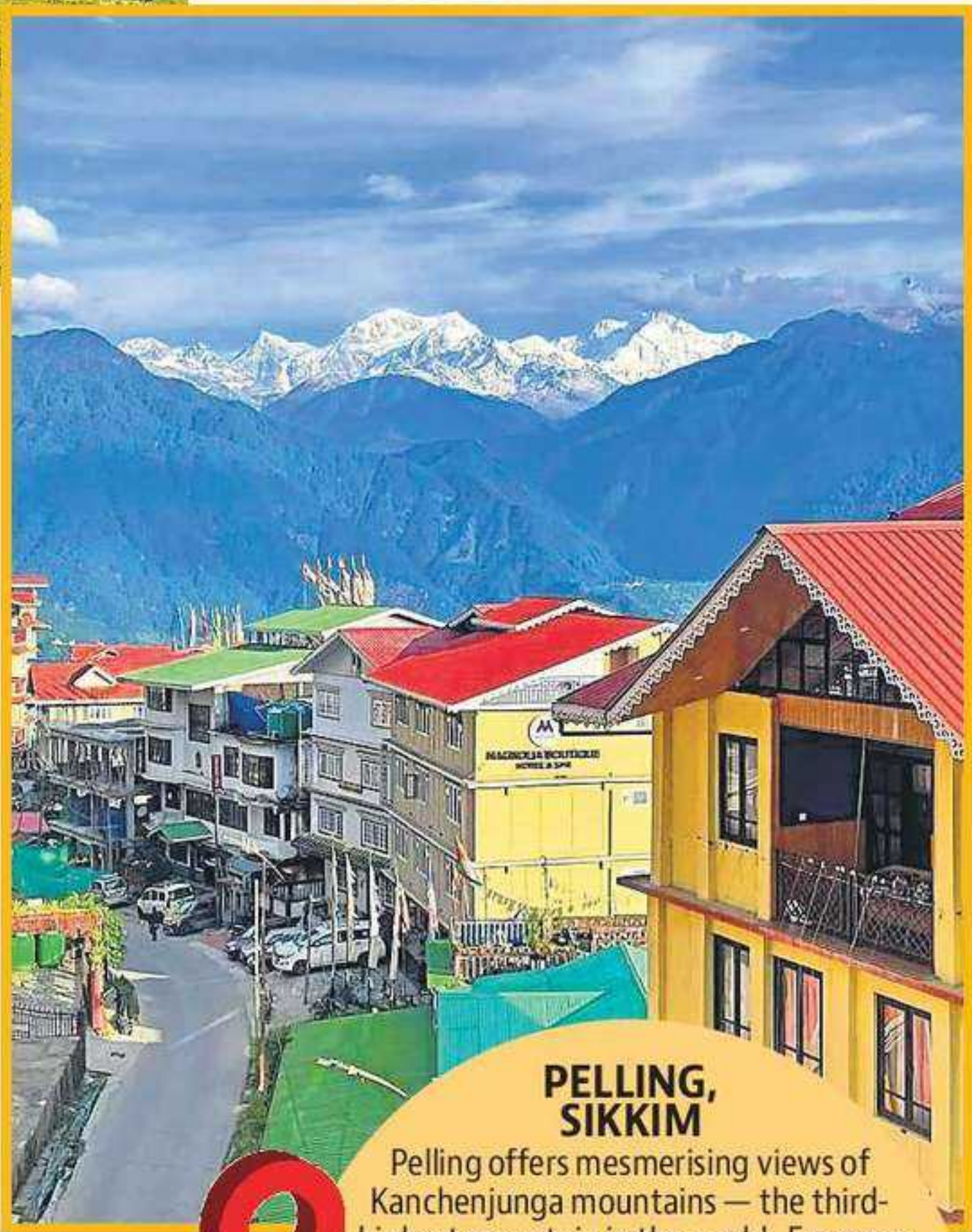


Kriti Shukla

Mountain
lovers' check list

- Weather can change quickly in the mountains. Pack lightweight, moisture-wicking base layers, an insulating mid-layer and a weatherproof outer layer.
- Charging stations are limited in remote mountain areas, so a portable charger is crucial.
- UV radiation is stronger at higher altitudes, so use sunscreen with a high SPF and protective sunglasses to shield your eyes from glare and UV rays.

Inputs by Rikant
Pittie, co-founder
EaseMyTrip



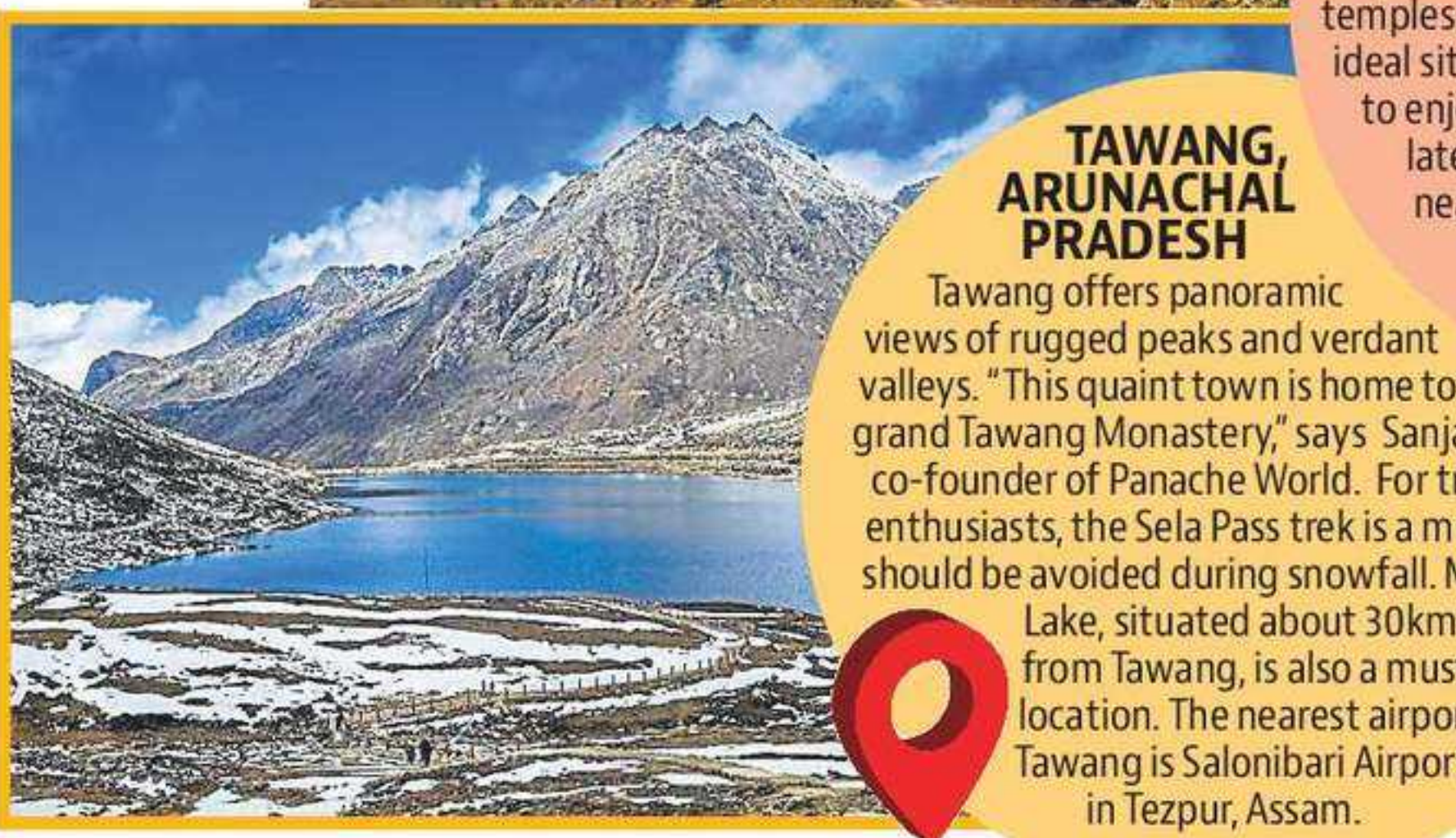
PELLING,
SIKKIM

Pelling offers mesmerising views of Kanchenjunga mountains – the third-highest mountain in the world. For many travellers, it also serves as a spiritual escape with attractions like the Pemayangtse Monastery. When in Pelling, trek on the Dzongri trail in the Kanchenjunga National Park and visit the Singshore Bridge, one of Asia's highest suspension bridges. While Pelling does not have an airport of its own, visitors can land in Bagdogra Airport, West Bengal and cover the rest of the distance by taxi.

PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK

TAWANG,
ARUNACHAL
PRADESH

Tawang offers panoramic views of rugged peaks and verdant valleys. "This quaint town is home to the grand Tawang Monastery," says Sanjar Imam, co-founder of Panache World. For trekking enthusiasts, the Sela Pass trek is a must, but should be avoided during snowfall. Madhuri Lake, situated about 30km away from Tawang, is also a must-visit location. The nearest airport to Tawang is Salonibi Airport in Tezpur, Assam.



Pratibha's
Polish paradise



Pratibha
Ranta

Akash Bhatnagar
akash.bhatnagar
@partner.hindustantimes.com

Having recently experienced paradise on earth when she visited Poland last month, Pratibha Ranta says she is in awe of the place. "It was quite cold, but I loved it as it felt like I was back in my home town," says the actor, who grew up in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. She adds, "Polish people have similar family value system to us and that felt very relatable." Ranta went to Kraków and loved the local delicacies. She says, "I went to Zakopane, which is a small town in Poland, and it was so beautiful with mountains surrounding it. I went for a hike and ended up walking for 12 hours." The hike was physically demanding, "but when we reached the destination, it all felt worth it," says the 23-year-old.

What appealed to Ranta the most was the safety in the country: "It's such a safe place and I would roam around at midnight with no concern."

As a vegetarian, she had limited food options but was surprised by the versatility of the humble potato that she experienced on the trip.

"They have different potato dishes, like smashed potatoes, baked potatoes, boiled potatoes and whatever else you can think of. That, too, reminded me of Shimla because growing up there, we would have lots of potatoes as a snack."

Since the Polish make potatoes in so many "delicious forms," Ranta has returned with a traditional recipe of potatoes in "butter and milk" that she hopes to recreate at home.

The actor, who was seen in *Laapataa Ladies* and

Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar this year, says she loved the traditional fashion, calling it "vibrant and cute". She adds, "Their dressing and their culture is quite vibrant. I saw some girls in Zakopane wearing cute floral skirts. The locals are friendly and one of them told me it is their traditional dress."

Ask if she has brought back any souvenirs from her trip and she tells us, "I got my grandfather a Polish cap, because he loves to collect them. It is handmade with Polish fur."



{ DAILY HOROSCOPE }

Wednesday, December 11, 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

This is a great time to contribute on the family side. Professionally, your efforts are getting noticed by important people. Financially, a steady flow of income is expected to improve. Your health remains good. **LOVE FOCUS:** Your partner may do something special. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 3 **LUCKY COLOUR:** White

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 23

Travelling may bring new opportunities in your career. Don't worry about travel documents; everything will work out for your overseas trip. A property investment may bring good returns. **LOVE FOCUS:** The excitement of a new romance will leave you thrilled. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 2 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Maroon

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

Keep things in order and stay proactive. Today is a great opportunity to reinforce family ties and settle any disagreements. Your work life might not flow as effortlessly as you hope. Some of you may move forward with confidence in studies. **LOVE FOCUS:** Romance might not be in the spotlight today. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 22 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Red

TAURUS

APR 21-MAY 20

Your honesty at work will be recognised and rewarded. A chance to enhance your skills may come your way. Retailers and showroom-owners can expect good earnings today. **LOVE FOCUS:** Your partner will find new ways to please you romantically. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 1 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Magenta

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEP 23

Favourable conditions at work will help you achieve your goals. A family elder's advice will prove invaluable. Past investments will yield good returns. Your health remains stable due to your efforts. **LOVE FOCUS:** A planned outing with your partner will be delightful. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 5 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Saffron

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 21

Using specific secret chants may assist in reaching higher financial prosperity. Pay careful attention to your diet, as it influences all parts of your life. Learners might have to increase their efforts to attain favourable results. **LOVE FOCUS:** Your love life is expected to bring emotional satisfaction. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 8 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Pink

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 21

Your work ideas may prove profitable. Changes on the home front are possible. Helping out others monetarily will not dent you financially. **LOVE FOCUS:** The person you secretly admire might take the first step. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 6 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Green

LIBRA

SEP 24-OCT 23

Business profits may boost your reputation. You may eagerly take part in social activities. Your contributions at home will get appreciated. **LOVE FOCUS:** Expect romance to heat up and bring excitement today. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 4 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Dark Grey

AQUARIUS

JAN 22-FEB 19

The support of seniors can greatly influence your achievements. Strive to improve your professional performance. Relocating can help you expand your social circle. **LOVE FOCUS:** Singles might find the universe guiding them toward meeting their soulmate. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Beige

CANCER

JUN 22-JUL 22

You may feel proud of a young family member's achievement. A new co-worker may try to challenge you. Health foods or pills alone might not be enough for fitness goals. A fun vacation awaits some. **LOVE FOCUS:** Your partner has exciting ideas to share today. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Dark Brown

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

Those hoping to shed weight may taste success under expert guidance. Some attention will need to be paid to mounting domestic expenses. A profitable deal is likely to click for some businesspersons. **LOVE FOCUS:** Current events may push romance aside for now. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 1 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Cream

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

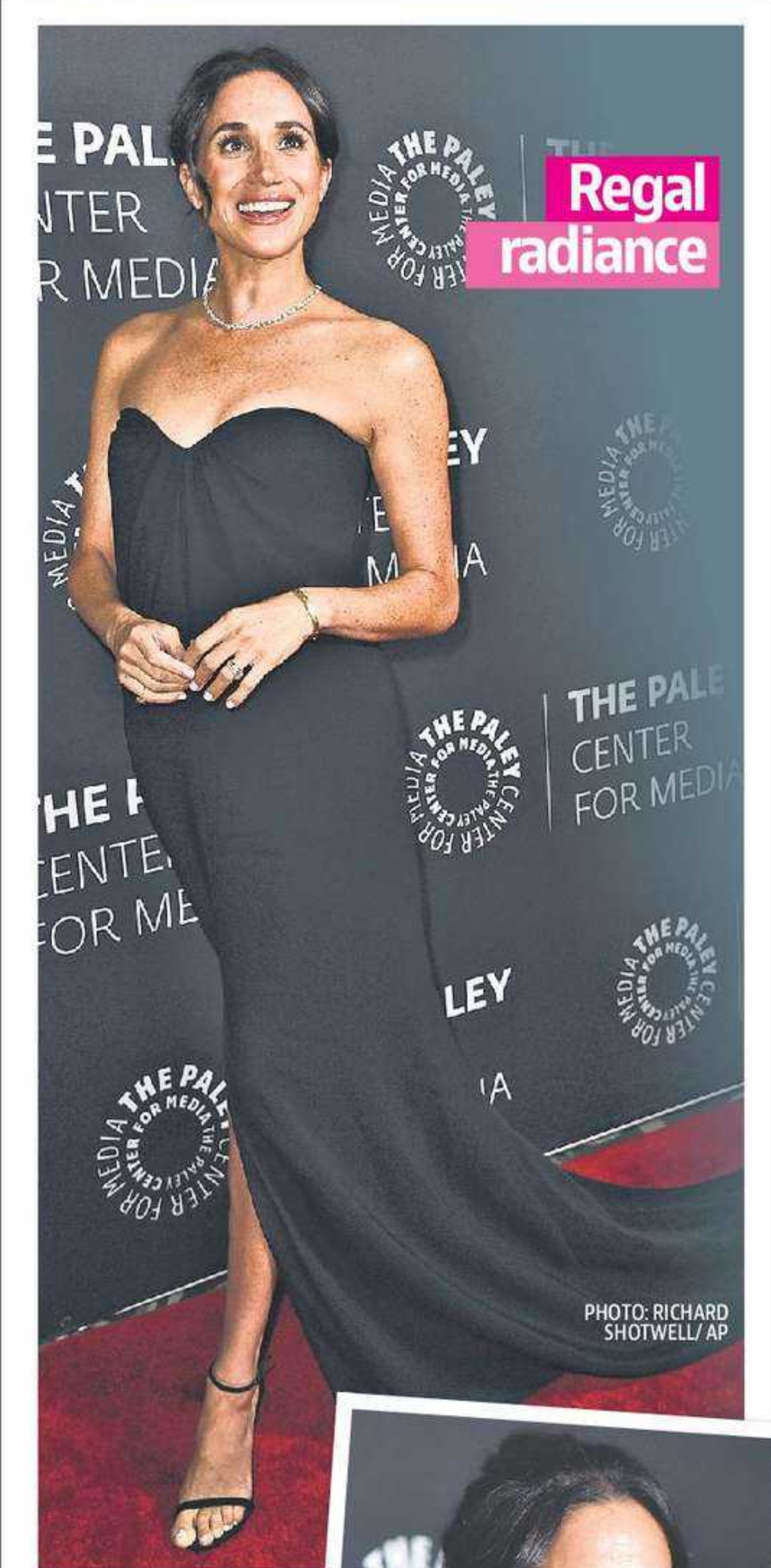
Today is a good time for addressing issues, which will likely lead to better finances. At work, have a clear goal in mind. Be careful not to push yourself too hard. It can place unnecessary stress on your health. **LOVE FOCUS:** Doubts may affect the happiness in your relationship. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Purple



PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



#lookbook



Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle sparked in a black Oscar de la Renta gown, featuring a strapless sweetheart neckline and a daring thigh-high slit. She upped the style stakes with a diamond necklace and a chic updo, for effortless elegance.

Steal the style

To recreate the look, choose a strapless black dress with a similar neckline and a side

slit, if you're feeling bold. Style it with a glittery rhinestone necklace and a polished updo to add a regal touch.

HT City
SHOW STOPPERS
FOR CELEB STYLE,
FOLLOW ON INSTA:
@htcityshowstoppers

A TOUCH OF STARRY STYLE @THE MANDAP

If you're looking to up your accessory game this wedding season, these celebs have got it right. Here's some inspo!

Abigail Banerji

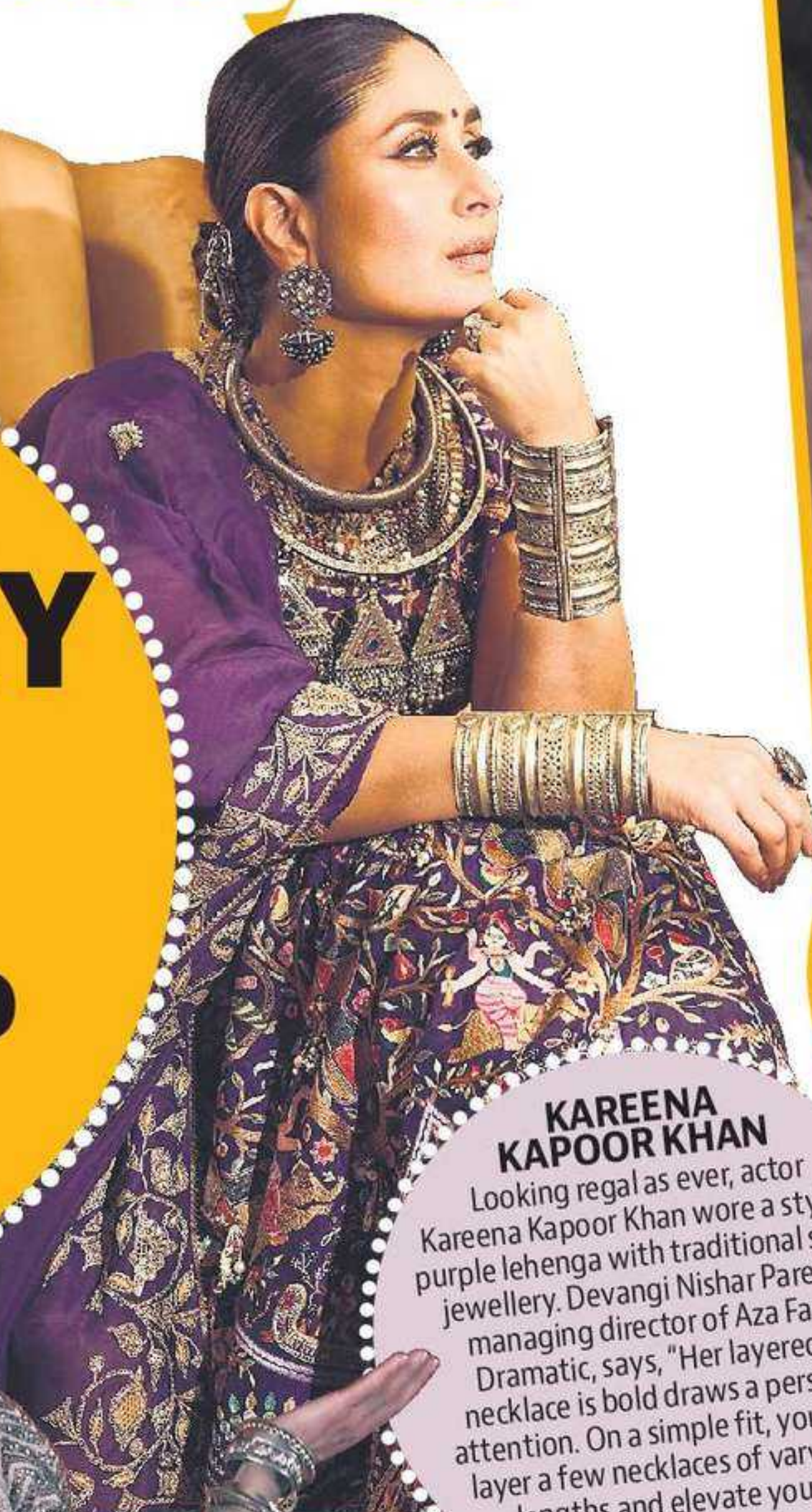


KARISMA KAPOOR

Bangles are such a vital part of any Indian fit, and actor Karisma Kapoor included a contemporary vibe to her fit by adding charms to them. Parekh says, "Karisma's chunky bangles are a fun replacement to traditional ones. Whether crafted from silver, brass, or adorned with gems, they are a striking contrast against flowy, feminine outfits."

SELENA GOMEZ

Rings are a vital part to round-off any look. However, full-finger rings, like the one actor-singer Selena Gomez sported are an edgy accessory to wear for your next wedding party. You can opt for rings with intricate engravings or a simpler one like Gomez's ring.



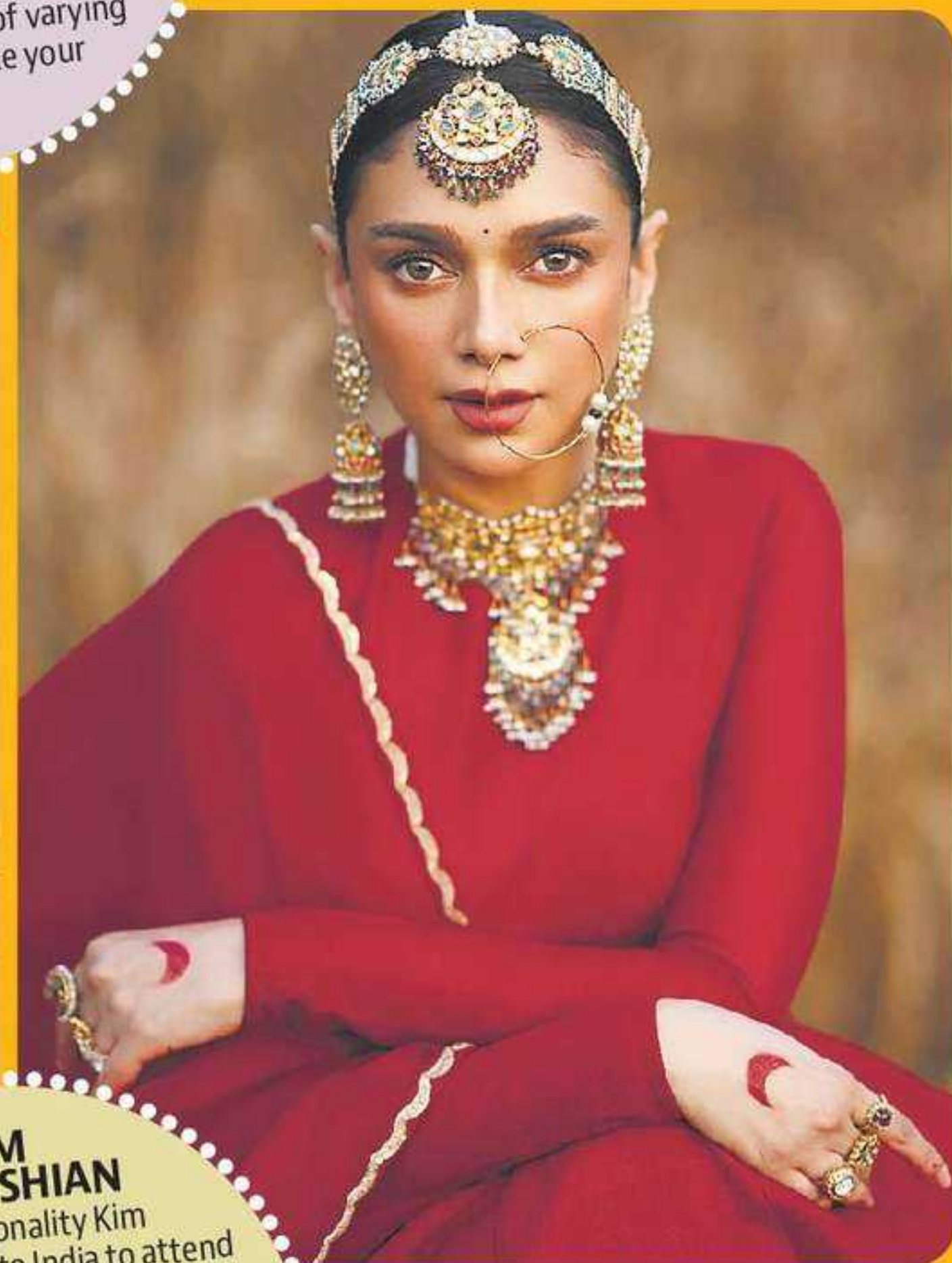
KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN

Looking regal as ever, actor Kareena Kapoor Khan wore a stylish purple lehenga with traditional silver jewellery. Devangi Nishar Parekh, managing director of Aza Fashions Dramatic, says, "Her layered kada necklace is bold draws a person's attention. On a simple fit, you can layer a few necklaces of varying lengths and elevate your look."



KHLOE KARDASHIAN

On her maiden visit to Mumbai for the wedding of businesspersons Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant, media personality Khloe Kardashian wore a diamond haathphool by jeweller Lorraine Schwartz. Salomi Shah, Founder of Mozaati, says, "Haathphool is timeless. Meticulously handcrafted, they make for an exquisite accessory that can be worn solo or stacked."



ADITI RAO HYDARI

Donning a Sabyasachi lehenga, actor Aditi Rao Hydari wore a mathapati, a piece that is traditionally worn by brides on their wedding day. Shah says, "The mathapati is a beautiful yet simple piece that adds a timeless elegance to a bride's look. It is a must-have in a woman's collection."

KIM KARDASHIAN

Media personality Kim Kardashian came to India to attend businesspersons Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's wedding. She wore a nose ring from jeweller Lorraine Schwartz, which was set with 70 carats diamonds. This traditional piece can add oomph to any Indian outfit. Feeling edgy? Pair it with a Western look, too.



Zarafshan Shiraz

Your wedding day is around the corner, and while brides aren't the only ones who deserve to look their best, grooms also need a bit of pampering. From skincare to hair treatments, we've rounded up essential grooming tips to help you shine on D-day with inputs from Dr Debraj Shome, director and senior cosmetic surgeon at the Esthetic Clinics and American Board Certified

in Facial Cosmetic Surgery.

SKIN TREATMENTS

- **Chemical peel:** A popular option for grooms, chemical peel treatment involves applying a caustic chemical or acid to the skin to remove the outer layer. This helps to reduce wrinkles and blemishes for a smoother, clearer complexion.
- **HydraFacial:** A non-invasive treatment that hydrates and rejuvenates the skin with serums, peels, and

The groom's guide to looking suave: Skin and haircare before 'I do'

exfoliation. Ideal for oily, dry and sensitive skin types, this procedure deep cleans and refreshes for a glowing look.

- **Microdermabrasion:** This exfoliation technique removes the outer skin layer, revealing fresher skin beneath. It stimulates collagen production, making your complexion appear firmer and youthful.

HAIR TREATMENTS

Dr Shome explains that male pattern baldness is often due to the hormone dihydrotestosterone (DHT), which causes hair follicles to shrink and hair to fall out. Other factors like medical conditions and stress can also contribute to hair loss.

HAIR TRANSPLANT OPTIONS

- **FUT (Follicular Unit Transplantation):** A small strip of skin with healthy follicles is transplanted to thinning areas. This method involves minor scarring and is ideal for extensive baldness.
- **FUE (Follicular Unit Extraction):** This less invasive method extracts hair follicles directly and transplants them individually, resulting in minimal scarring and a quicker recovery. It's perfect for smaller bald areas and delivers a natural look.
- **QR678 Treatment:** A non-surgical hair therapy that involves injections of growth factors directly into the scalp,

stimulating hair regrowth. Quick and painless, with noticeable results after 4-6 sessions. These pre-wedding grooming options are designed to help grooms look their absolute best, so you're ready to say "I do" with confidence.

Disclaimer: This article is for informational purposes only and not a substitute for professional medical advice. Always seek the advice of your doctor with any questions about a medical condition.

FOMO stems from anxious thoughts, finds study

The Fear Of Missing Out or FOMO is a commonly used term in our daily life and it refers to an innate worry that we might miss out on something important or interesting. A recent study in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology states that this is more than just a fear, and is driven by the loss of opportunities of bonding with people that we care about. It stems from anxiety about how our absence can affect our relationships and our need to be present and connected. This study was conducted on

5,441 participants, where they were made to experience hypothetical scenarios, social media browsing and experimental manipulations to understand the real triggers behind FOMO. The participants experienced this feeling the most when they missed out on events with their close friends and loved ones. It further heightened when the events included social bonding. Study author Jacqueline R. Rifkin, assistant professor of marketing, Cornell University,

USA, said, "I was surprised to see that people can feel FOMO for missed events that are not enjoyable — like a funeral, consoling a sad friend, or a hectic initiation ceremony. For me, this really hammered home the point that FOMO is really not about the fun that we're missing, it is those intangible connections people build when they spend time together, which absolutely includes bonding over something sad or emotional."

Tapatrisha Das

People feel FOMO when they miss out on events with their loved ones
PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK

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A GLAMOROUS SOIRÉE



Ibrahim Ali Khan

The pre-wedding festivities are in full swing for director Anurag Kashyap's daughter, YouTuber Aaliyah Kashyap and her boyfriend, entrepreneur Shane Gregoire. On Monday night, many celebs such as actor Khushi Kapoor and her boyfriend, actor Vedang Raina, were spotted at the duo's glam cocktail night in Mumbai.

HTC

Khushi Kapoor

Anurag Kashyap

Vedang Raina

Aaliyah Kashyap and Shane Gregoire

PHOTOS: YOGEN SHAH



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM

The euphoria in the audience during a live performance is crazy: Priya

Akash Bhatnagar

akash.bhatnagar@partner.hindustantimes.com

Recently actor Priya Bapat got to fulfil one of her dreams as she had her first live musical performance on stage at an Indian Ocean's concert. Mention it and she gushes, "It was magical and felt surreal. I am a theatre actor, so I amused to being on stage, but there I have rehearsed for months and that's what I do every day. This was something else, that euphoria you see in the audiences, it's crazy."

The actor adds that she felt a sense of responsibility during her act. "The audience had not come to watch me play, but to watch an Indian Ocean's concert. So, it becomes a bigger responsibility to not spoil that moment. I was nervous, but my team and my husband (actor Umesh Kamat) told me to go and enjoy it. The most frightening part of it though were the lyrics as they are (actor-writer) Piyush Mishra's words and that made me a little nervous, but the band is outstanding. They are rockstars in the true sense," she says.

Bapat, who has been a part of web shows including City of

Dreams and Raat Jawaan Hai, reveals that this opportunity came to her when a friend of her saw the band's concert in Gurugram, where they performed a song which was a part of one of her Marathi films. It led her friend to propose a collaboration, and the band agreed. "We met on a video call once and later I did a stage rehearsal one hour before the show and then, I was live," she shares.

Interestingly, the 38-year-old is a trained classical singer. She started when she was five but left it after six to seven years. "I didn't enjoy it, or maybe I didn't understand the value of it then. When acting took over, I kept music aside, but not entirely. I did playback for two of my Marathi film songs and they were really popular. Currently, I am doing a play where I sing live and it made me realise that it's time for me to go back to learning classical music, and it's been three to four months since I started riyaz again," she shares.

So, is a professional musical stint on the cards now? "I really want to explore this part of me too, as now, I understand it more. It's definitely something that I would like to add to my vertical, because I do have that

[skill and passion] in me. If I get an opportunity, I will take it or maybe I will work towards creating opportunities for me to sing more," Bapat ends.



I did a stage rehearsal one hour before the show and then, I was live.

PRIYA BAPAT, Actor

Priya Bapat; (inset) the actor during her stage performance

Sunny Deol confirms Ramayana role, says it will be like Avatar

A day after actor Ranbir Kapoor confirmed his role as Shri Ram in filmmaker Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana, actor Sunny Deol has become the next cast member to acknowledge his involvement in the two-part franchise.

"Ramayana is a long project because they're trying to make it the way Avatar and Planet of the Apes movies were made," Deol told Screen.

He added, "All those technicians are a part of it. The writer and director are very clear about the way it has to be and how the characters should be presented."

Adding that the film will be visually

impressive, he said, "You will also get to see the special effects that will make you believe that it has very genuinely happened rather than making one feel that these are special effects. To be honest, I'm very sure it's going to be great and I'm sure that everybody will love it."

Deol is rumoured to be portraying Hanuman, but he did not confirm his role.

The franchise reportedly stars Sai Pallavi as Sita, Yash as Ravan, and Ravi Dubey as Lakshman. The first part is set for a Diwali 2026 release, while the second part will be released on Diwali 2027.

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Kapoor fam's Dilli sojourn!

The Kapoor khandaan was papped on Tuesday at the Delhi airport as they arrived in the Capital to personally invite Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Raj Kapoor Film Festival. The festival, which celebrates the late actor Raj Kapoor and his illustrious acting career, will commence from December 13. The festival also coincides with Raj's centennial birth anniversary. Among those seen were actors Saif Ali Khan, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor.

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Karisma Kapoor and Neetu Kapoor



Saif Ali Khan



Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor

Kareena Kapoor Khan



PHOTOS: YOGEN SHAH

Rupali Ganguly on stepdaughter's claims: It affects me

Actor Rupali Ganguly has broken her silence on the recent controversy involving her and stepdaughter Esha Verma after the latter called her "toxic" and "abusive". An old post by Esha, Rupali's husband Ashwin K Verma's daughter with his second wife Sapna, claiming that Rupali and Ashwin got into a relationship while he was still married to Sapna went viral.

At a recent event, the actor was asked about how the entire ordeal affected her. "Agar main kahun ki (main) nahin affect hoti toh main jhooth kahungi. Of course, affect hota hai. Hum insaan hain, agar humare baare mein koi peeth peeche thodi si burai bhi kar de toh hura lagta hai," she told Instant Bollywood, adding, "Bura samay kabhi kabhi aata hai, buri cheezein hoti hain, lekin achai hamesha jeetti hai."

Following one of Esha's interviews claiming Rupali and Ashwin's 11-year-old son was illegitimate, the actor filed a ₹50 crore defamation suit against her. Esha later issued an apology for

dragging her stepbrother into the matter, adding "misinformation" was thrown into some articles". She also deleted the post and made her Instagram account private.

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Rupali Ganguly; (inset) Esha Verma
PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH



PHOTO: X