

PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/VEDANGRAINA

Vedang Raina: It has been a crazy year in the best way possible

Akash Bhatnagar
akash.bhatnagar@partner.hindustantimes.com

While excited to step into 2025, actor Vedang Raina looks back fondly at 2024, calling it “a crazy year in the best way possible”. He says, “My takeaway from 2024 is that the biggest virtue of an actor is patience. It’s about being patient when your work is not out, to keep waiting when there is no work, and live through those times the way you live through the moments on the set.”

This year, Raina made his theatrical debut with the Alia Bhatt-starrer *Jigra*, and he admits that seeing himself on the big screen was a surreal feeling. “It was so different. It was special to be part of a film with Alia. With Vasant (Bala) sir directing and (filmmaker) Karan Johar backing the film, it was a big deal. I never dreamt of that happening in my second film,” he says.

Though he enjoyed the experience, *Jigra* was

embroiled in controversies, which also resulted in it underperforming at the box office. Ask how it affected him, and Raina shares, “As actors, we do all the mehnat to get appreciation for our work, and for people to enjoy it. So, when that goes amiss, or some people react a certain way, you question what you could have done better or differently. It’s a very natural way of dealing with things.”

The 24-year-old adds, “It’s now been a year in the industry for me, so I’m getting to understand these aspects a lot better. There’s a lot of constructive criticism to take away from *Jigra*. The pursuit is still the same — to become better with every film and reach a stage in life where it all pays off.”

Raina also sang for *Jigra*, and he is overjoyed with the response: “Singing was always my thing, even before acting. I was lucky that Vasant sir had seen some of the stuff that I’d done and I got the opportunity to sing two songs.”



A video has surfaced on social media, showing actor Athiya Shetty with her baby bump for the first time. She was seen at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Shetty has been avoiding paps ever since she and her husband, cricketer KL Rahul, announced their pregnancy in November.

It was horrible working with Bipasha and Karan



PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH

Singer Mika Singh has called out actor-couple Bipasha Basu and Karan Singh Grover over his experience of working with them on the OTT series *Dangerous* (2020), which was co-produced by him.

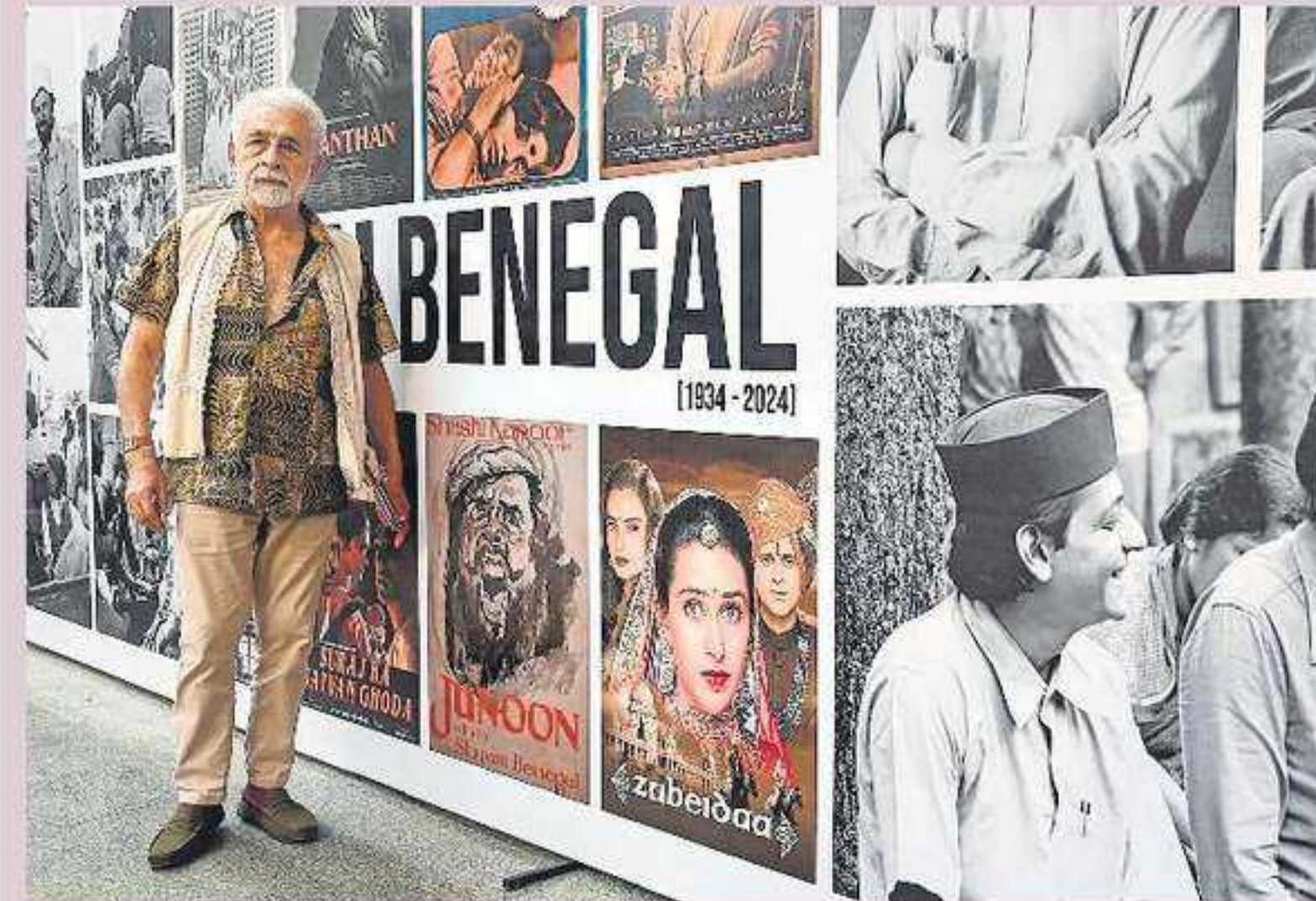
Speaking on the Kadak podcast, the singer said, “I wanted to cast Karan and a newcomer girl so that the project remains under budget, but Bipasha jumped into it. They didn’t exceed the budget, but the experience was horrible.”

Singh said that the couple created a “lot of drama”: “We took a team of 50 people to London for a month, but it ended up being two months! Karan and Bipasha caused a lot of drama. Since they were a married couple, I had booked a single room for them, but they were like, ‘No way, we want separate rooms.’ Then, they asked to switch to a different hotel, so we did.”

He also claimed that though a kissing scene was a part of their contract, the actors refused to perform it. “They even created issues while dubbing, with excuses like they have a sore throat. I couldn’t understand the drama, especially when they were paid for their work,” he said.

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

Celebrating Shyam Benegal: Film industry pays tribute



Naseeruddin Shah at the memorial meet, held at YB Chavan Centre in South Mumbai; (L-R inset) Ila Arun, Shabana Azmi and Divya Dutta.



On Saturday, several members of the film industry got together in Mumbai for a memorial meet of renowned filmmaker Shyam Benegal, who passed away on December 23

PHOTOS: SUJIT JAISWAL / AFP



ILLUSTRATION: ADOBE STOCK

RECAP 2024 NEW BATCH IN B'WOOD: HIT OR MISS?

This year saw many first-timers in the film world. While some were known names, others were fresh faces. Here's a lowdown on how they fared

PRATIBHA RANTA

She made one of the most talked about debuts with *Laapataa Ladies*. Pratibha Ranta's portrayal of the headstrong Jaya, who dares to chase her dreams in a patriarchal world, was applauded. She also followed it with a memorable performance in the web series, *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*.

JUNAID KHAN

His debut, *Maharaj*, was marred by controversies around its release after a religious sect objected to it. The film was released without any prior promotions, but Junaid Khan, son of actor Aamir Khan, was noticed for his acting skills by the industry and the viewers.

PRAGYA JAISWAL

Having already worked down South, Pragya Jaiswal entered Hindi films with the ensemble comedy, *Khel Khel Mein*. While the film suffered in the carnage caused by *Stree 2*, her performance managed to grab eyeballs.

PASHMINA ROSHAN

Hailing from the illustrious Roshan family and cousin to actor Hrithik Roshan, Pashmina Roshan made her big-screen debut with *Ishq Vishk Rebound* opposite Rohit Saraf. Released amid much hype, the film failed to make a mark, but her performance was noted by the critics and audiences.

SHAHEER SHEIKH

One of the most popular actors on television, Shaheer Sheikh marked his first film outing opposite actor Kriti Sanon in her debut production, *Do Patti*. Playing an abusive husband, he was praised for the credibility he brought to the role.

ANJINI S DHAWAN

Actor Varun Dhawan's niece Anjini S Dhawan entered the acting industry with *Binny and Family*. The film underperformed in theatres, but the young debutante was appreciated for her endearing performance alongside a stalwart like actor Pankaj Kapur.

Compiled by Akash Bhatnagar

JIBRAAN KHAN

Famously remembered as actors Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol's on-screen son Krish from *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham* (2001), Jibraan Khan made his leading debut with *Ishq Vishk Rebound*. And, among the four leading actors in the film, he was appreciated the most.

RISHABH SAWHNEY

Having done a web show, *The Empire*, Rishabh Sawhney made his movie debut with the Hrithik Roshan-starrer, aerial actioner *Fighter*. While the film's performance at the box office was below expectations, the actor's turn as the menacing villain was appreciated.

LAKSHYA

After two shelved projects — *Dostana 2* and *Bedhadak* — Lakshya finally made his debut with the actioner *Kill*, giving one of the most impressive maiden performances this year. The gritty genre of the film and his intense performance clicked with the audiences and critics, with him being termed as an actor to look out for.

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

Did you know?
Delhi's No.1
Harvest Gold® is a part of,
the world's No.1
baking company,
Grupo Bimbo®.

Quality and softness, shaped by
years of expertise and legacy.

Proud member of
GRUPO BIMBO
since 2017

Grupo Bimbo operates in 35 countries and is a leader in Breads, Buns & Packaged Cakes in USA, Mexico and Canada.

Entertainment & Promotional Features

#thatshot

A DELICIOUS NEW YEAR'S LUNCH WITH U.S. TURKEY AND U.S. DUCK

Ring in the New Year with mouthwatering recipes from U.S. Turkey and U.S. Duck, such as roasted turkey, succulent duck confit or Duck Pulao, Turkey Kathi rolls and more. Elevate your celebrations with the gourmet flavours of U.S. Poultry. Discover more at usapec.in. Scan the QR code for recipes.

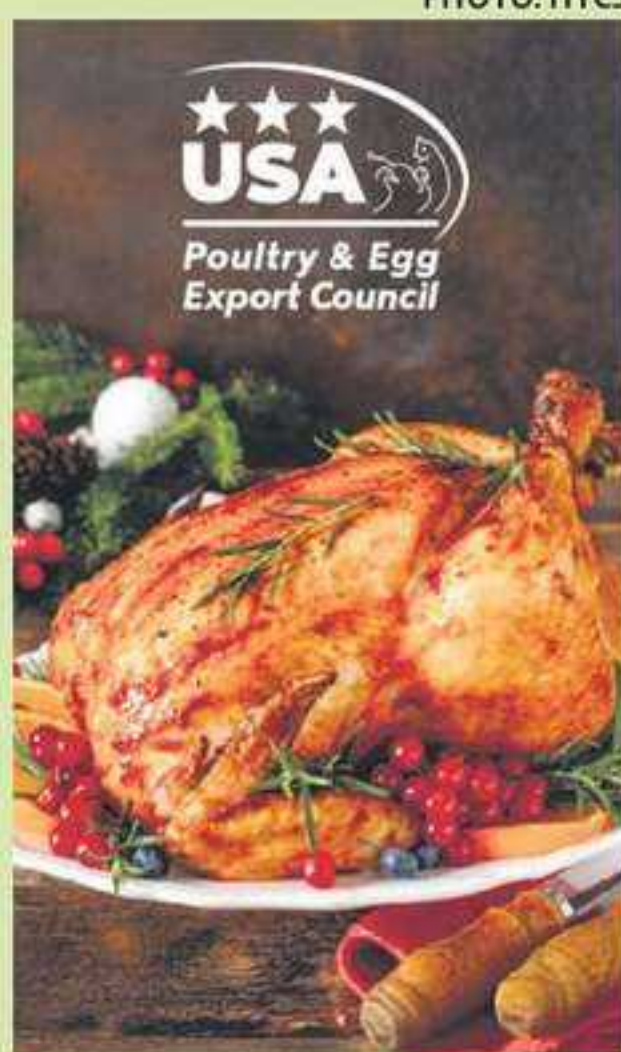


PHOTO: HTCS



THE GOODNESS OF CHILEAN CHERRIES

The season of Chilean cherries has arrived, bringing a burst of vibrant sweetness to Indian markets.

Whether enjoyed on their own or in desserts, smoothies or salads, these premium cherries are the perfect addition to any festive spread.

Chilean cherries are available for a limited time across India, at premium fruit retailers or major e-commerce platforms. Scan the QR code for more information. #NewSeasonFreshArrival



IMTIAZ ALI DIGS INTO AMRITSARI KULCHAS

Filmmaker Imtiaz Ali dropped by the iconic Harish Pehalwan Dhaba, during a recent visit to Amritsar, Punjab. Taking to Instagram, he talked about his love for Amritsari Kulchas, writing, "Chef with attitude is a recipe for great food!! They know what they are serving!! Presenting my favourite from a city known for food (sic)."



BIRYANI ON TOP, PIZZA DIPS: FOOD TRENDS OF 2024

Biryani is India's most ordered dish for the eighth consecutive year, according to food trend reports by Zomato and Swiggy. Pizza's popularity, however, has declined. The reports also highlight growing demand for regional Indian delicacies, emphasising changing eating habits across major cities.



PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM



Florals and shades of pink are popular themes for NYE grazing tables

HT Classifieds { LIFESTYLE }

WEDDING WINTER SPECIAL
UP TO 50% OFF

Fiber to SILK FAB

TRADITIONAL | LIFESTYLE | LUXURY | DECOR

ALL LATEST VARIETY & NEW DESIGN

Silk, Cotton Saree • Designer Wear • Ethnic Wear
• Bridal Wear • Fashion Jewelry • Home Linen
Winter Special Kashmir Pashmina Products

AGA KHAN HALL
NEAR MANDI HOUSE METRO STATION
BHAGWAN DAS RAOD, NEW DELHI

TODAY LAST DAY
30 DECEMBER
TIME: 11AM TO 9PM

M. 9412263333 / ENTRY FREE / ALL UPI ONLINE / DEBIT & CREDIT CARD ACCEPTED / PARKING FREE

HT Cityfoodies on Monday

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

Set the perfect grazing table for your NYE party

Strike a balance with different flavours and textures

AKSHITA PRAKASH
akshita.prakash@hindustantimes.com

ON THE MENU
A well-rounded grazing table offers a mix of flavours, textures, and colours for different palates. Chef Mallika Tandon, founder of Bobo Cakery follows the motto of "more is less". "My favourite combination for the season's end is a charred sourdough with camembert, a hearty pesto, grilled red globe grapes along with a glass of mulled wine," she says.

Pro tip: Split your table into 40% savoury items, 30% sweet options, and 30% fresh elements for a refreshing balance.

AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER
Include DIY elements that also allow guests to customise their plates. "Opt for a cheese or chocolate fondue station, a DIY nacho bar, or a poke bowl station. This is a fun activity for guests to indulge in," notes Malvika Mulchandani, founder of Aperio.

Accommodating dietary needs is also crucial to making your spread a success. Include vegan, gluten-free or vegetarian elements such as cashew vegan cheese or besan ragi crackers.

THE YEAR'S MOST TALKED-ABOUT CONCOCTIONS

This year was all about creative and whacky beverage recipes. From a sizzling drink garnished with ants to singer Dua Lipa's unusual mix featuring jalapeños, here's a round-up of the top viral concoctions of 2024

Compiled by Sanchita Kalra

YouTuber Emma Chamberlain and model Kendall Jenner

More coffee, please!

The espresso martini, invented in the 1980s, is made with vodka, coffee liqueur and espresso. In a brand-new rendition, model Kendall Jenner and YouTuber Emma Chamberlain launched a limited-edition coffee-flavoured tequila this April. And in November, singer Sabrina Carpenter's launched a limited-edition espresso martini kit, themed around her hit song, Espresso, catapulting this classic drink to new heights.



Beer cocktail for summer

Touted as the perfect summer drink, Pina Corona went viral on social media in July for its fun fusion mix. To make this concoction, take a pint of beer and mix it with ingredients used for Pina Colada, i.e. rum, coconut cream and pineapple juice.



PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

APG-rated martini

Combining the flavours of passion fruit, vanilla and sparkling wine, the explicitly-named Pornstar Martini topped this year Google's most-searched recipes. It was reportedly created by Ghanaian-British bar owner Douglas Ankras in London (UK) in the early 2000s.

A Saltburn-inspired cocktail

Who would have imagined that the infamous bathtub scene from Saltburn, featuring actor Jacob Elordi, would be turned into a beverage? Following the film's popularity, Australian cocktail brand Mr Consistent came up with drink cheekily named Jacob Elordi's Bath Water. This viral sensation is made with lychee martini, coconut milk and gin.

A still from Saltburn

An unconventional energy drink

Called Gatorwine, this concoction combines equal parts of an energy drink and cheap red wine. It went viral after YouTuber and cook Andrew Rea made it as part of a special tasting video this August.

The Antz

Seefah, a restaurant in Mumbai, took inspiration from the night markets in Thailand and came up with the idea of serving a unique tequila-based cocktail in January. Named The Antz, this mix is garnished with fried black ants.

Sleepy Girl Mocktail

The Sleepy Girl Mocktail is a popular pre-bedtime drink that ranked ninth on Google's list of trending food and drink recipes in the US this year. The drink is made with tart cherry juice, magnesium powder and sparkling water. It first shot to popularity in 2023, owing to the inclusion of magnesium — an ingredient favoured for promoting good sleep. The mocktail re-emerged as a winning beverage during Dry January, when many people were seeking non-alcoholic recipes online.

Honey, it's viral!

The Honey Deuce is a light cocktail made with vodka, lemonade and raspberry liqueur, garnished with tennis ball-shaped honeydew melon. The signature cocktail of the US Tennis Open, it became a social media sensation during the tournament, which was held in New York in August. Favoured by celebs including tennis player Serena Williams and singer Taylor Swift, the cocktail topped \$12 million in sales this year.

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM AND X

KRASA™
THE POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

www.krasaworld.com



{ DAILY HOROSCOPE }

Monday, December 30, 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

Avoid spending excessively or making major investments today. You and your family are likely to experience a peaceful day without any disagreements. **LOVE FOCUS:** In new relationships, be ready to adjust to meet your partner's needs. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 7 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Golden

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 23

Positive news in your career may await you. Family and friends might want you to spend time with them. A favourable property deal could come your way, promising home ownership soon. Increased earnings are on the horizon. **LOVE FOCUS:** An unplanned trip with your partner may be possible. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Red

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

Effective money management can help you save more. Assisting a colleague by sharing workload will be appreciated. A separated family member might return temporarily. **LOVE FOCUS:** The day could end blissfully for those in love. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 5 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Saffron

TAURUS

APR 21-MAY 20

Your efforts and persistence appear to bring financial rewards. A young family member may need your advice to improve their behaviour. Some may travel to visit a close one. **LOVE FOCUS:** Someone you have feelings for may show interest in you. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 3 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Brown

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEP 23

Be cautious about new acquaintances and investments. You are likely to increase physical activity to get back in shape. Success on the academic front is anticipated for those in competitions. **LOVE FOCUS:** A new romantic interest could make life more exciting. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 8 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Green

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 21

Staying active will help you maintain fitness. There's a possibility of winning a lottery or inheritance. Exceptional progress is possible in your career or studies. A peaceful home will help you relax. **LOVE FOCUS:** You may be drawn to someone and develop a budding romance. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 9 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Pink

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 21

Today is promising for property investments. You may successfully adopt lifestyle changes for better health. Expect to perform well in a task assigned by superiors. Travelling with a family member is possible. **LOVE FOCUS:** You will feel closer to the one you love. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 1 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Peach

LIBRA

SEP 24-OCT 23

Success on the academic front seems likely. Money lent to someone may be returned. Some may consider broadening career skills. **LOVE FOCUS:** Misunderstandings may have caused distance in your relationship. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 2 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Royal Blue

AQUARIUS

JAN 22-FEB 19

Earning money may come easier. You may feel more focused and composed at work. Socialising could help find a match for a family member. **LOVE FOCUS:** Taking initiative is necessary to find love. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 17 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Orange

CANCER

JUN 22-JUL 22

Avoid exploring new financial or property opportunities today. A supervisor or colleague may feel somewhat dissatisfied with your work. **LOVE FOCUS:** Open communication on a certain issue may be necessary in your relationship. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 6 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Magenta

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

Financial prospects look promising. Harmony prevails with family. No promotions or surprises at work are expected for now. Focus on exercise and a healthy diet. Some may finalise property deals. **LOVE FOCUS:** Your relationship is likely in a positive place. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 17 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Off White

PISCES

FEB 20-MAR 20

Today is favourable for exploring real estate opportunities. You may feel closer to loved ones than before. Effort is needed professionally to attract the right clients. **LOVE FOCUS:** Lover can have a special surprise in store. **LUCKY NUMBER:** 4 **LUCKY COLOUR:** Maroon



Bel Cibo opens its 18th restaurant: Imperfecto Mehfil in Chandni Chowk

Nestled in the heart of Old Delhi, Imperfecto Mehfil embodies the spirit of the Mughal era. This new restaurant is a tribute to the splendour of Indian history. The intricate interiors evoke the grandeur of Mughal architecture, adorned with vintage chandeliers that mirror the spirit of Old Delhi, with an ambience designed to immerse diners in a setting where history meets modernity. Guests are invited to step into a royal court with baithak-style seating, with chandeliers that twinkle like stars and the aroma of authentic Mughlai cuisine crafted by master chefs. The menu elevates each dish into a work of art, be it Tandoori Raan, Bhuna Shank, Tandoori Boti Platter, Nargisi Kofta or Akbari Dal. Each sip of signature beverages like Mohabat ka Sharbat, Shahi Gulaab and Aabe Ishq is a celebration of romance and royalty.

Since its inception in 2013, Imperfecto has revolutionised the hospitality landscape with its unparalleled charm, vibrant experiences and personal touch. Known for crafting unique theme-based concepts, it has brought to life diverse inspirations — like the gothic allure of Imperfecto Shor, the vibrant hues of Imperfecto Rainbow, Khubani's Middle Eastern vibe, the Budapest-inspired charm of Imperfecto Ruin Pubs and the Rajasthani Mughal elegance of Begam. With the launch of its 18th restaurant, Imperfecto Mehfil in Omaxe Chowk, Chandni Chowk, it takes a bold leap into India's cultural

and culinary legacy. A crown jewel in Bel Cibo Hospitality's ever-expanding portfolio, Mehfil is brought to life by visionary entrepreneur Suresh Madan and his sons, Sharad and Naresh Madan. "Mehfil is more than a restaurant; it is a bridge between the splendour of India's past and the vibrancy of today," says Suresh Madan, Chairman, Bel Cibo Hospitality, adding, "In today's fast-paced world, it's important to bring back culture for this generation. Our goal is to craft experiences where every guest feels the grandeur of heritage while enjoying the warmth of modern hospitality."

According to Sharad Madan, Director & Co-Founder of Bel Cibo Hospitality, "Every Imperfecto restaurant tells a story, and Mehfil is one of our most special chapters yet." Naresh Madan, Director & Co-Founder, Bel Cibo Hospitality, shares, "We are proud to create a destination where Chandni Chowk's traditions and our hospitality come together in perfect harmony."

Purushottam Kumar, CEO, adds, "Mehfil is not just a restaurant; it's an ode to the poetic essence of Old Delhi. Every corner whispers stories of romance, festivity and timelessness."

For further details, contact: +91 8069168808
Imperfecto Mehfil, Second Floor, Omaxe Chowk, Chandni Chowk, Delhi - 110006

For more updates, follow on Instagram @imperfectomehfil



The ambience is designed to immerse diners in a setting where history meets modernity

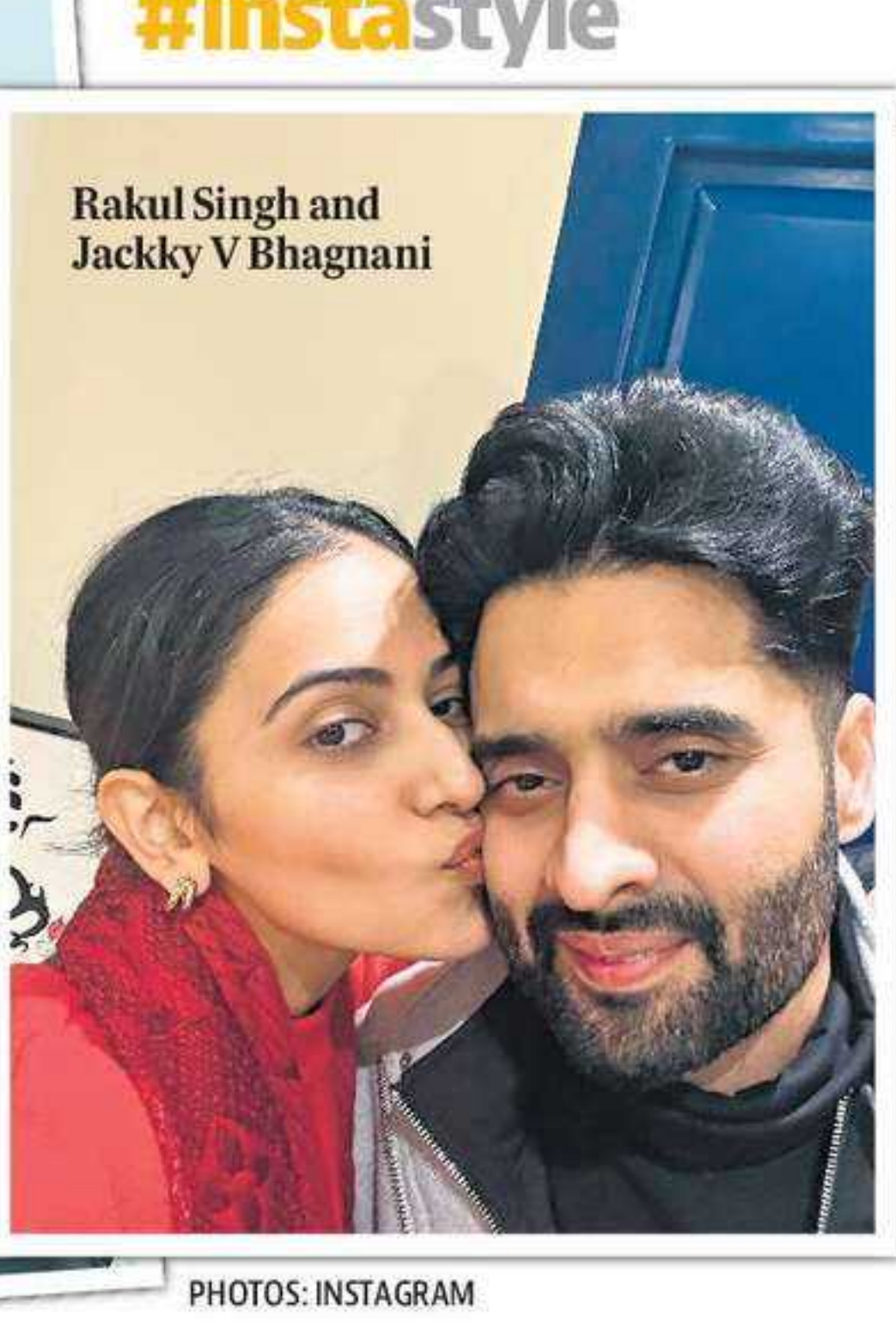


Sneha Arora and Preeti Jain

#instastyle



Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal



Rakul Singh and Jacky V Bhagnani

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

It's all love, hugs and kisses for these celebrities who are ending the year on a romantic note. Actor Katrina Kaif dropped cute pics with husband, actor Vicky Kaushal from their year-end getaway. She wrote, "Family, Friends and the British wildlands (The sub zero ocean dip on Boxing Day always seems like such a good idea at the time)". Meanwhile, actor Rakul Singh who is in London (UK) with husband, actor Jacky V Bhagnani gave fans a glimpse into her wintry holiday. She captioned it, "Food, travel, laughter..."

Two years ago I had resigned myself to a quiet retirement: Zeenat Aman reflects on 2024

Actor Zeenat Aman recently shared a heartfelt note on Instagram, reflecting on the year gone by. Sharing a series of photos depicting quiet moments at home, the actor revealed, "Two years ago I had quite contentedly resigned myself to a quiet retirement."

However, with her return to showbiz, Aman noted, "Now I find myself struggling to find a spare date on my calendar. Such is the wheel of fortune!" The 73-year-old added that it was a busy 2024, as she shot for a web series, as well as a film project that is set to release next year.

Expressing gratitude for "the shoots in Shimla and Rajasthan, speaking engagements across the country, social media collaborations, and a lot more," she added, "So let me sign off for the year with the gentle reassurance that if things are looking bad for you, persevere... Happy holidays and all wishes for a beautiful 2025."

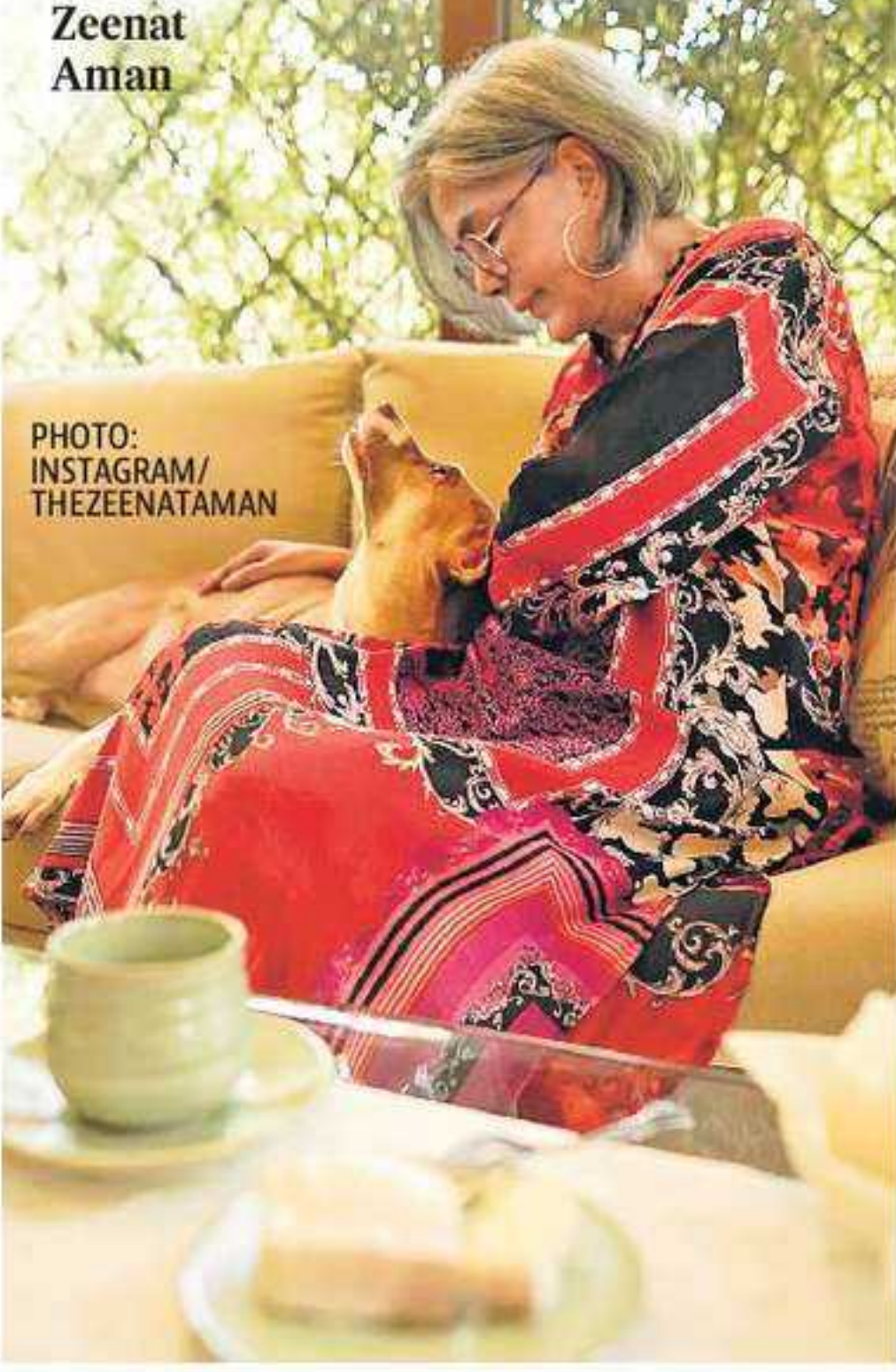


PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/ THEZEENATANAMAN

my city

NAYAK-INSPO: 10 FEMALE STUDENTS SERVE AS ONE-DAY PREZ

The Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) celebrated Navratri in April in a unique way. Ten female students were selected from across the varsity based on an essay submission to play the union president for one day each. The then DUSU president, Tushar Dedha, had propelled the initiative to address various issues of the female students.

A CENTURY OF CONVOCAION

To mark a century of convocations, the varsity introduced several new security features to upgrade the degrees issued to students. These certificates included currency-like features such as micro-text, hidden images and invisible ink logos. Other security elements included ultraviolet light detection, micro-printing, reverse micro-text and rainbow-coloured foiling.

DU TIME TO REEL IN THE DRAMA FROM DELHI'S BELOVED COLLEGE CAMPUS



PHOTO: RAAJESH KASHYAP/HT



FILE PHOTO: DHIRUV SETHI/HT

RECAP 2024

A GRAND YEAR FOR HINDU COLLEGE

Hindu College marked its 125th anniversary this year. And notable alumni from the world of cinema and TV returned to their alma mater to celebrate. Among those who visited the campus were filmmakers Imtiaz Ali and Vishal Bhardwaj, singer Rekha Bhardwaj, and actors Tisca Chopra, Rajesh Kumar, and Aishwarya Sakhuja. But that's not all, as the college was ranked first in this year's NIRF rankings, breaking Miranda House's seven-year streak of bagging the top spot!

FIRST ALL-GIRLS' NCC TROUPE'S SALUTE TO PREZ AND PM

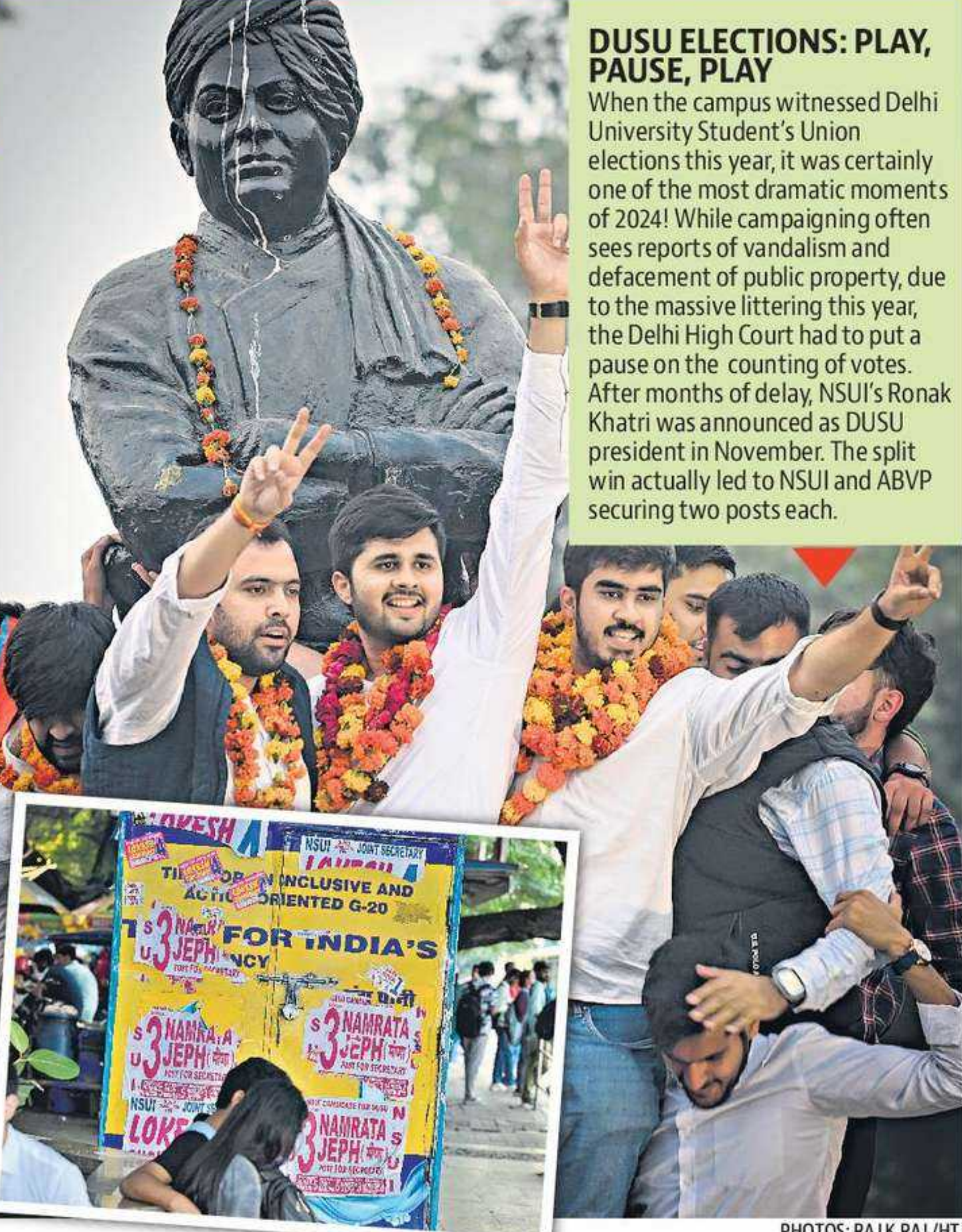
Two all-girls troupes of National Cadet Corps (NCC) — comprising 148 cadets with a total of 21 students from DU — made history as they marched in the Republic Day Parade at the Kartavya Path. Some of these students also got a chance to be a part of the march past the following day during the Prime Minister's parade.

As the year draws to a close, here's recalling some notable moments from 2024's #CampusKeDin

Compiled by Kriti Kambiri and Alina Azfar

LSR GRAD BAGS NEARLY ₹50 LAKH JOB

In January, a final-year student of BA (Hons) Economics at Lady Shri Ram College for Women (LSR) secured a pre-placement offer of ₹48.9 lakh per annum. The highest offer that a student from Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) secured was ₹35 lakh. And the largest package secured by students of Hindu College and Kirori Mal College was of ₹21.5 lakh.



PHOTOS: RAJ K RAJ/HT

FESTS DECODED WITH QR CODE

The fest season, which dragged till April this year, saw students as well as the authorities take some unusual measures to avoid overcrowding and ensure safety on campus. These included mandatory pre-registration by all attendees as well as

the generation of unique QR codes as per their Aadhaar Cards and college IDs. While the measure ensured that only college students attended the fest, it resulted in a turnout drastically lower than that seen at the fests in previous years at Maitreyi College, Miranda House, Sri Venkateswara College and other colleges.



PHOTO: MANOJ VERMA/HT

RAINBOW HUES RULE

North Campus got a queer majorever as members of Hindu College Queer Collective's Pride Parade hit the streets yet again! Over 280 students turned up for this year's colourful carnival of rainbow flags, slogan chants and an unapologetic show of pride. From stalls selling quirky wares to high-octane cultural performances, this pride event had it all to smash stigma and own the campus like never before.

PTM FOR COLLEGE IRKS STUDENTS

Quite a few colleges including Hansraj, Aryabhatta, and Shaheed Bhagat Singh asked several students to bring their parents for a PTM (parent-teacher meeting), in April. The student list featured those who had low attendance and low marks, as they were not eligible to get admit cards. While authorities asserted that this was a regular procedure to maintain discipline, the students on the other hand felt they were back in school and harshly criticised the move to rope in parents.

FOODIES' DREAMS GO UP IN FLAMES

It was a rough year for DU's foodies. Pinki Uncle — the beloved bhel puri vendor who would set shop near Campus Law Centre — passed away in November, leaving students with memories of his tangy treats and sweet demeanour. But that's not all. A fire broke out at two iconic spots this year

— a food van near Vishwavidyalaya metro station and the Shri Meenakshi South Indian Cafe (SMSIC) at Pandit Ji Canteen. The mishap at the 70-year-old cafe at the Gwyer Hall hostel in North Campus has left students and alumni alike feeling nostalgic about the time they spent in the hall that was established around 86 years ago.

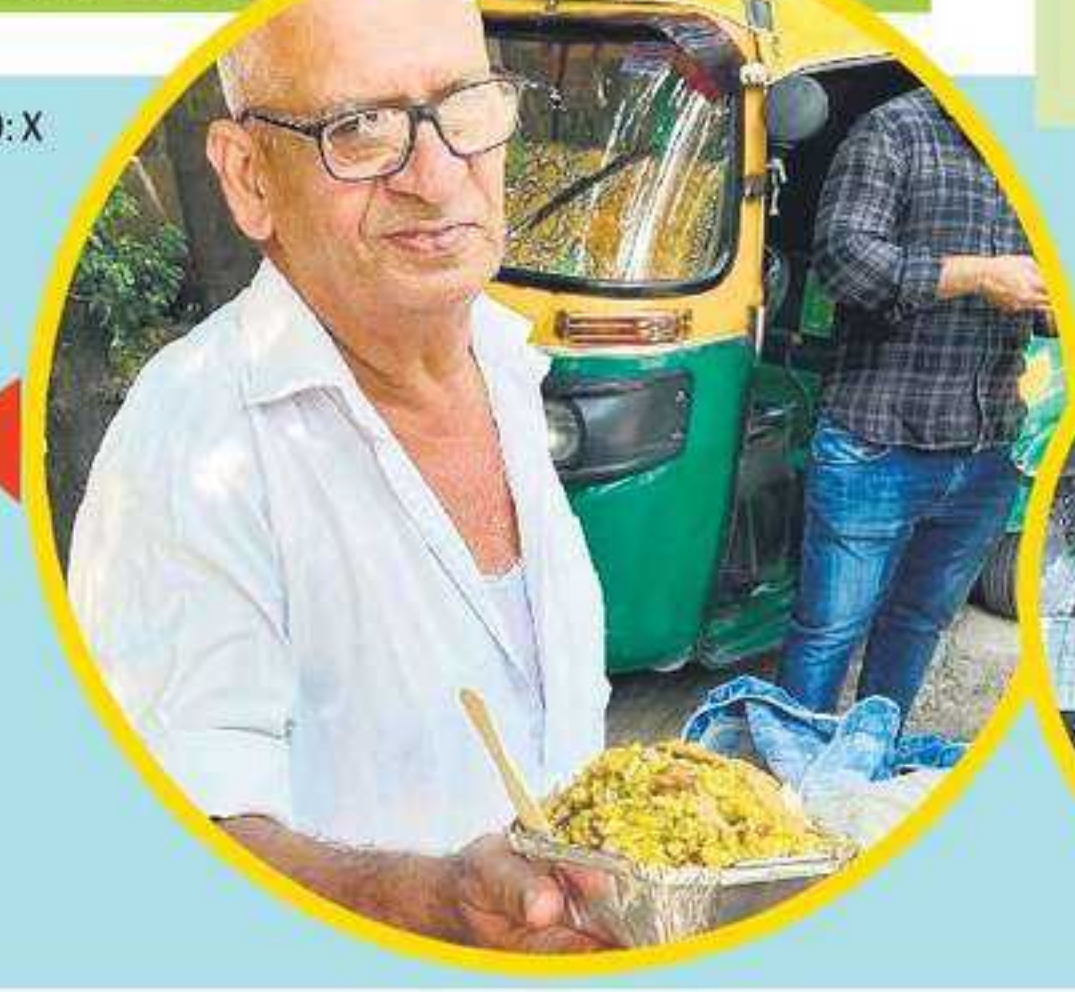


PHOTO: X



PHOTO: ANI

PHOTO:
INSTAGRAM/
KKAMRA

Slowly seeing a hierarchy on OTT as well: Kritika Kamra

Yashika Mathur

yashika.mathur@hindustantimes.com

Actor Kritika Kamra has had a busy year with the second season of *Gyaarah* and shooting for the web series *Matka King* opposite actor Vijay Varma. While she has found success on OTT, Kamra acknowledges that streaming platforms are no longer the equaliser for actors that they were once considered.

Ask if there's a 'star system' on OTT and she replies, "When it started it was more democratic, but slowly, you are seeing a hierarchy even on OTT, whether it's behind the camera or in front of it." She elaborates, "And there is definitely an advantage that film actors have when they come to OTT."

Drawing from her own experience of working across different mediums, the 36-year-old notes the similarities

in the production processes of OTT shows and feature films. "I don't think that screen time is affected if a major film star is part of a project. The good part is that you have to have a locked script when everything goes on floors," the actor says, adding, "You cast people for specific characters, but if you start comparing money or the opportunities which go to certain stars, then it's not as even a playing field as it used to be, because the economics of shows also changes. Makers want to cast stars to get bigger budgets for their films."

With the year drawing to a close, Kamra reflects on the reception that *Gyaarah* and her character in the show got. "Audiences who watched me on television came back to say that they enjoyed me in this cop avatar. It was very different from the roles I took on when I started out and viewers gave me some great feedback. It really means a lot to me," she wraps up.



[Makers] cast actors for specific characters, but if you start comparing money or the opportunities which go to certain stars, then OTT is not as even a playing field as it used to be.

KRITIKA KAMRA, Actor

SHIRT

TROUSER & JEANS SALE

upto **60% off**

Spl. Range of White Shirts

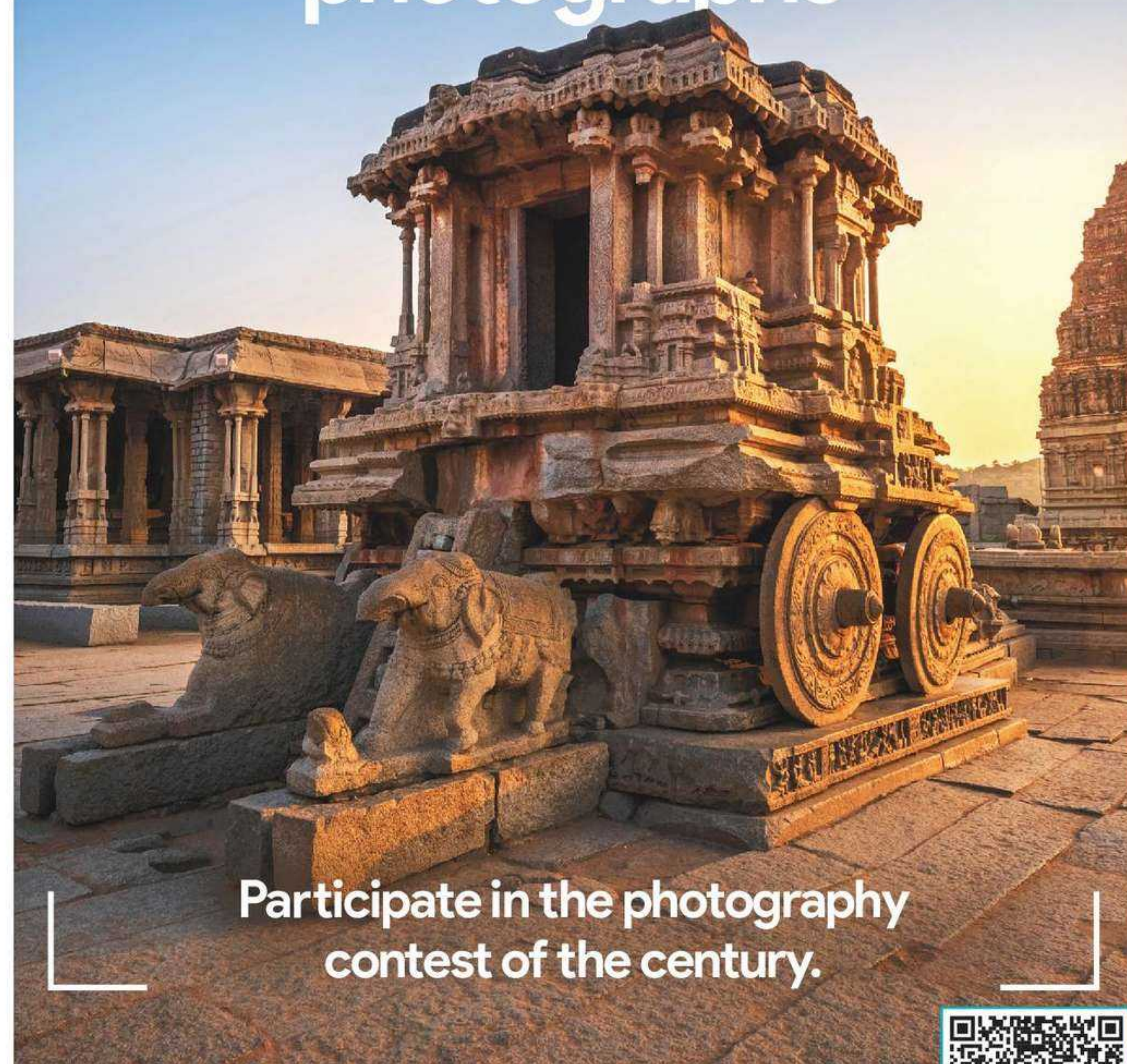
ARROW | PARK AVENUE | ColorPlus | LOUIS PHILIPPE | Levi's

• GURUGRAM 306, City Center, Sector 29 (Near Hotel Pilazio)
• PUNCHKUAN ROAD, Garwal Bhawan, (Near Jhandewalan, Gole Chkr.)
• WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
• JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
• NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
• LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

Hindustan Times VOICE OF THE NATION. SINCE 1924.

MY
COUNTRY
MY LENS

Showcase your India with your photographs



Participate in the photography contest of the century.

In celebration of our centenary, 'HT@100 My Country My Lens' offers you a unique opportunity to capture and share photographs of India's stunning rivers, borders, monuments or communities for a chance to win incredible prizes.

Scan to participate now.


MARUTI SUZUKI ARENA

5

REASONS TO CELEBRATE



Great Offers up to ₹ 95 000.



Exchange offers up to ₹ 15 000.



Best resale value of your old car



Attractive finance options

Maruti Suzuki to hike prices in January

In January, the prices of Maruti Suzuki cars to increase up to 4%.



Offers Valid Till Stocks Last

1 DAY LEFT

SPECIAL OFFERS
SWIFT ₹95 000* | BREZZA ₹50 000*
WAGONR ₹67 100*

 SCAN TO
CONNECT
TO SHOWROOM
NEAR YOU


E-BOOK TODAY AT

WWW.MARUTISUZUKI.COM

T&C Apply Features and accessories shown may not be part of standard fitment. Black Glass Shade on the vehicle is due to the lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purposes only. Car color may vary due to printing on paper. Offers vary across variants. Maruti Suzuki India Limited reserves the right to discontinue offers without notice. *Offer includes consumer offer, exchange bonus and institutional or rural offer (wherever applicable) on selected models/variants. Above mentioned savings amount is the value of maximum savings on selected models. Offer valid with selected financiers only. Above offers are valid till 31st December, 2024.

