

Any feedback related to stories in Bombay Times?
✉ Mail us at bombay.times@timesofindia.com



After a successful 2024, Divya Dutta is gearing up for a smashing 2025



Divya Dutta had a remarkable 2024, with standout performances in *Sharma Ji Ki Beti* and *Bandish Bandits*, solidifying her position as one of India's most versatile actors. Her role as Nandini in *Bandish Bandits*, with her strong performance and unique look, has especially made waves.

Reflecting on her experience, Divya shares, "I loved season 1 and when director Anand Tiwari offered me season 2, I knew it was special. But the overwhelming response from fans and the industry has been incredible. My phone hasn't stopped ringing with messages and calls for this different avatar."

Divya is now looking forward to the new year. She has multiple exciting projects lined up, including *Chaava* with Vicky Kaushal, a biopic on Shukla Bandopadhyay, a Ben Rekhi directorial with Manoj Bajpayee, and two web shows where she plays central roles. She's also set to make her debut in the Telugu industry.

Divya says, "It's been 30 years and the love from the audience keeps growing. I am filled with gratitude as I look back. I shall keep working hard to earn even

more of it."

Top directors are repeating her in their projects, which further consolidates the position she has carved for herself in the industry. Ask her about her future plans and she says, "My best is yet to come."

Divya Dutta; (left) as Nandini in *Bandish Bandits*



Brazilian star Fernanda Torres won best actress in a drama for *I'm Still Here* beating Nicole Kidman, Angelina Jolie and Kate Winslet

"My heart is full of gratitude," said a teary-eyed Zoe Saldana as she accepted her first-ever Golden Globe award

"(To) the many people who have struggled immigrating to this country, I hope that this work stands to lift you up a bit and to give you a voice," said Adrien Brody as he accepted the Globe for best actor in a drama

Emilia Perez, The Brutalist win big at Golden Globes



Payal Kapadia's *All We Imagine As Light* lost to *Emilia Perez* in the Best Film - Non-English language category. Payal, who created history by becoming the first Indian director to receive a Golden Globe nomination for Best Director, lost to Brady Corbet of *The Brutalist*

Diversity took centre stage as the Golden Globes launched Hollywood's award season. While *The Brutalist*, an immigrant epic that has yet to open in wide release, received three Globes, *Emilia Perez*, the most nominated film of the night, won four awards. The two films snubbed some perceived Oscar front-runners, including *Anora*, which went into the night with five nominations and left with nothing.

THE MAJOR FILM WINNERS

- Best Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy: **Emilia Perez**
- Best Motion Picture - Drama: **The Brutalist**
- Cinematic and Box Office Achievement: **Wicked**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama: **Fernanda Torres (I'm Still Here)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama: **Adrien Brody (The Brutalist)**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy: **Demi Moore (The Substance)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy: **Sebastian Stan (A Different Man)**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture: **Zoe Saldana (Emilia Perez)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture: **Kieran Culkin (A Real Pain)**
- Best Director - Motion Picture: **Brady Corbet (The Brutalist)**

FOR MORE PAGE 3

VOICES

I'm just in shock right now! I've been doing this a long time, like over 45 years, and this is the first time I've ever won anything as an actor. And I'm just so humbled and so grateful. Thirty years ago, I had a producer tell me that I was a popcorn actress and at that time, I made that mean that this (awards) wasn't something that I was allowed to have, that I could do movies that were successful, that made a lot of money, but that I couldn't be acknowledged

- Demi Moore on winning her first major award

YJHD belongs to a new generation of audience now: Kalki



Kalki Koechlin, Aditya Roy Kapur, Ranbir Kapoor and Deepika Padukone in *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani*

Onkar Kulkarni

Ayan Mukerji's romantic comedy, *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani* (YJHD), starring Ranbir Kapoor, Deepika Padukone, Aditya Roy Kapur and Kalki Koechlin re-released last week. Kalki, who played the role of Aditi, is excited that a new generation is

enjoying the movie, which originally released in 2013. She says, "To see people dancing to the film's songs in theatres is so heart-warming. I guess the film belongs to a new generation of people now. My Instagram blew up quite a bit after I posted the announcement video in true Aditi style, so that was fun."

CONTINUED ON P 2

TEST, REST, AND A PR CAMPAIGN GONE WRONG?

What happened

On Sunday, Vidya Balan's PR team sent out a message referring to her X post praising Rohit Sharma. It read, "Let it be unequivocally stated that Ms Balan posted this completely of her own volition because she was moved by his selfless act, and NOT by request from his PR team." She may not be a cricket fan, said the press note, but a "fan of those who show dignity and class under trying circumstances."

This came after social media sleuths claimed that her post was part of a PR campaign. The reason? On her Instagram handle, Vidya had posted - and then deleted - what looked like a WhatsApp chat screenshot of her exact message.

Vidya was not the only one posting in favour of the embattled skipper, but the flurry of cheerleading messages from other Bollywood heavyweights seemed to have just the opposite effect than intended.



@Prxtham_18

This is the hardest I've laughed in recent times, what have you done Mrs. Ritika Sajdeh, you just made your husband a national joke. Those tweets man especially that tushar Kapoor one, literally rolling down on the floor 🤣🤣🤣

@RoshanKrRaii

Today's Rohit Sharma's Epic PR blunder will become a case study for PR firms and agencies on how not to do PR.

Absolute mockery everywhere 🤣🤣

@AbijitG

It's a scary prospect. Indian cricket seems to be going the way of Indian Politics. Where results and performance can be overcome by PR and fan armies. Where arrogance and aggression is seen over actual competence. Where tribalistic support towards one individual and deriding other individuals is seen over betterment of Indian Cricket overall. I just hope current players don't start questioning past players' records the moment any performance questions are asked, that's when the transformation will be complete.

Background

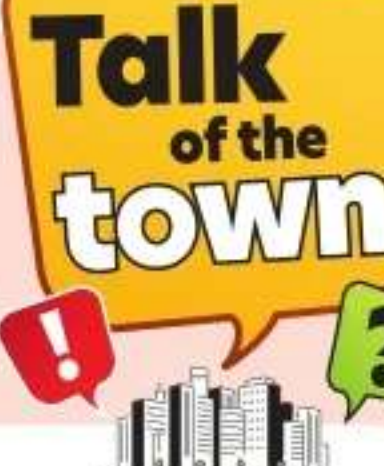
On Friday, January 3, Indian skipper Rohit Sharma announced that he would be sitting out the fifth and final test match of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy at Sydney. With only 31 runs in five innings, Sharma said his decision was "best for the team."

Within a few hours of this announcement, Vidya Balan, Varun Dhawan and Farhan Akhtar posted messages in support of the 37-year-old cricketer on their respective Instagram handles. While Balan praised his decision to "take a pause", Akhtar was effusive about Sharma's leadership qualities, wishing his return to the field soon. Both described Sharma as a "superstar". Unfortunately, Balan's message stood out because of the now-deleted Instagram post.

Social media was immediately abuzz with theories of a PR campaign to uplift the embattled Indian skipper's image. Eternally vigilant users and keen cricket fans pointed out that Balan and Akhtar have never followed Sharma's official social media handles. In fact, there were also speculations over how the PR company that handles

some of the Bollywood heavy hitters expressing admiration for Sharma, may have attempted to orchestrate emotions, following the captain's controversial move. A company that is co-owned by Sharma's wife, Ritika Sajdeh.

<< A screen grab of the now-deleted Insta post by Vidya Balan



P4

HOW THE PALLU REDEFINED THE DESI GIRL AESTHETICS



Hollywood glam at its best at Golden Globes

GLOBES

Major TV winners at Globes

- Best Television Series-Drama: **Shogun**
- Best Television Series - Musical or Comedy: **Hacks**
- Best Television Limited Series, Anthology Series or Motion Picture Made for Television: **Baby Reindeer**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Series - Drama: **Anna Sawai (Shogun)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Television Series - Drama: **Hiroyuki Sanada (Shogun)**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Series - Musical or Comedy: **Jean Smart (Hacks)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Television Series - Musical or Comedy: **Jeremy Allen White**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Limited Series, Anthology Series or a Motion Picture Made for Television: **Jodie Foster (True Detective: Night Country)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Limited Series, Anthology Series or a Motion Picture Made for Television: **Colin Farrell (The Penguin)**
- Best Performance by a Female Actor in a Supporting Role on Television: **Jessica Gunning (Baby Reindeer)**
- Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role on Television: **Tadanobu Asano (Shogun)**



Kate Winslet with the Wicked girls Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo



Angelina Jolie shimmered in a silver Alexander McQueen gown



As Jodie Foster accepted the Globe for her lead performance in the series *True Detective: Night Country*, she received several tongue-in-cheek comments from her fellow nominee - Sofia Vergara, who had just lost her fifth straight Golden Globe. "No, no give me one!" Sofia said



Timothee Chalamet and Kylie Jenner's PDA



From Ben Affleck to Timothee Chalamet, comedian Nikki Glaser took jabs at several celebs as a first time host



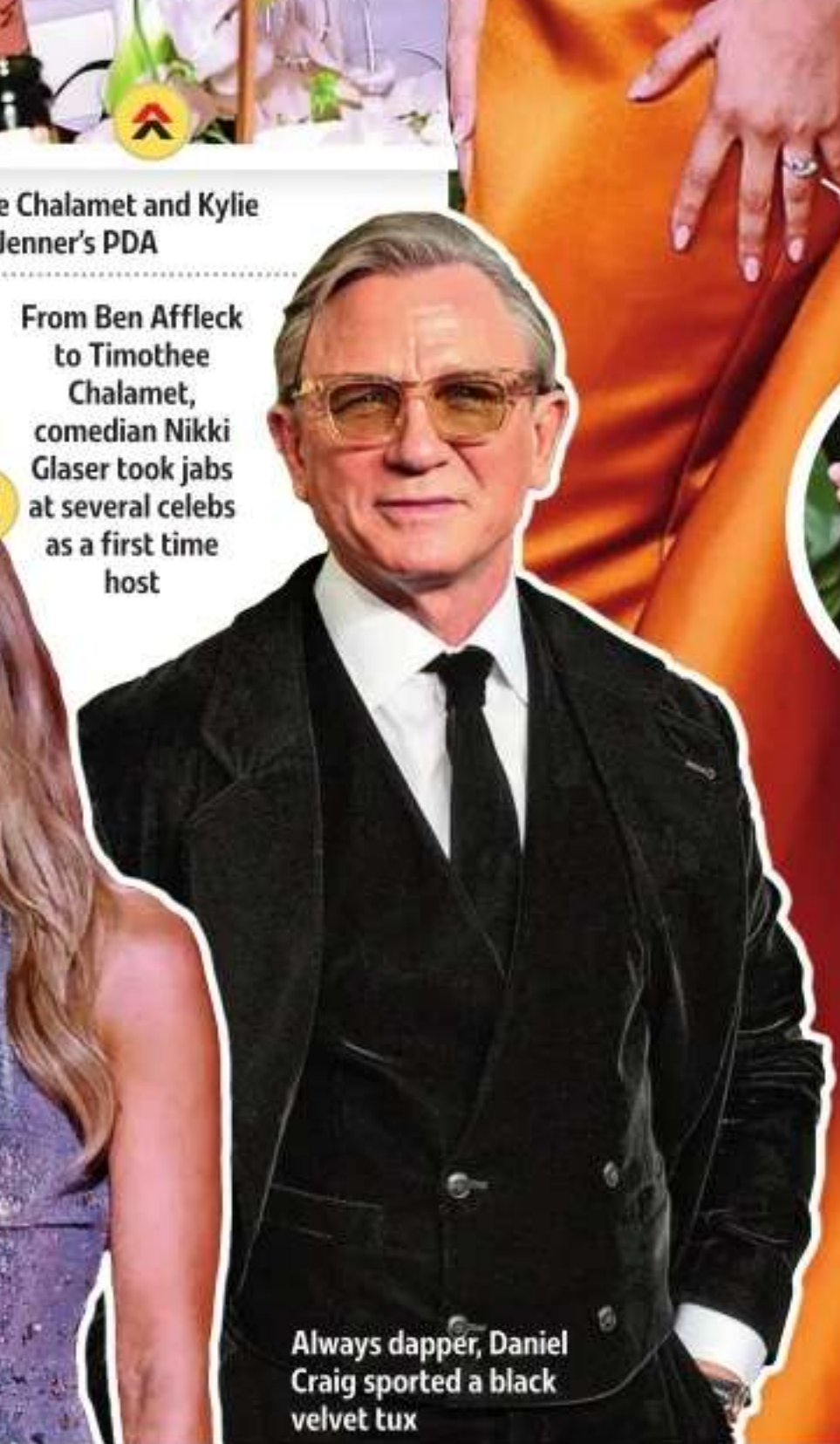
Zendaya, who donned a custom Louis Vuitton gown, fueled engagement rumours with Tom Holland as she flaunted a sparkling diamond ring



Selena Gomez blushed as host Nikki introduced the newly engaged couple with - "A double nominee tonight for *Emilia Perez* and *Only Murders... and she's here with her new fiancé Benny Blanco*. And Benny Blanco is here because of the genie who granted him that wish"



Andrew Garfield made a stylish statement in a Gucci suit



Always dapper, Daniel Craig sported a black velvet tux

'I was held hostage in a digital arrest for 40 hrs'

Content creator Ankush Bahuguna recently shared a harrowing experience, revealing that he became victim of a 40-hour digital arrest scam. "I've been missing from social media and everywhere for the last three days. I was held hostage by some scammers for 40 hours... I have lost money, I have lost my mental health to this, I can't believe this has happened to me," he said in a video post.

What happened

As per Ankush, he received an automated international call claiming a cancelled courier delivery. "I picked it up without thinking much," he explained. Pressing zero connected him to someone who alleged his name was linked to a package containing illegal items seized by customs, supposedly destined for China. Despite denying any involvement, the scammers insisted his Aadhar number and personal details were

They told me that if I tried to reach out to anyone, they would arrest me and harm the people I contacted. They took my bank details. They took so many details of my life... They sent me to a bank and asked me to do some very fishy transactions. I had no other option but to do it

connected, placing him under "digital arrest." "They isolated me completely. They claimed I was under self-custody and that anything I did could be used against me," Ankush added.



Hugh Jackman once worked as a clown at children's parties, where he was paid \$50 (₹4,291 approximately) per event. The *Deadpool* & *Wolverine* actor admitted in an interview that he wasn't very good at it, as he didn't know any tricks.



'Daddy taught me the value of human connections'

Ruman Ganguly

Raima Sen experienced a deep personal loss in 2024 - she lost her father, Bharat Dev Varma in November. Still coping with her grief, the actress, who has been keeping to herself till now, opened up to us about her relationship with her father.

What did 2024 teach you?

I lost my daddy, who was my best friend. And it taught me death is the most real thing in life; it's inevitable. My father's sudden demise brought me face-to-face with my worst fear, so now I'm fearless.

What are you looking forward to in 2025?

I just want to live life to the fullest, enjoy every moment, and do what I want to do. I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow, so I want to live today like it's my last

Daddy often told me that one should be ambitious, but it's very important to spend time with family so that you don't have any regrets in future

day. I'm going through a few Bengali scripts, from which I'll pick the best once I finish shooting for the Hindi film in January. I also plan to only take on projects which I feel are worth my time and effort, else I'll spend time with my family.

Any life lessons from your father that you understand now?

Daddy always lived in the moment; he was a fun-loving person. Now that he's gone, I realise how important his approach to life was. Also, the only way you can deal with grief is by living in the moment.

He also used to ask me to value human connections, as nothing else is real. That's what I'm doing now.

How are you dealing with the grief?

I can't go back to the past and change anything; neither can I change my future. So, I'm living in the moment and dealing with it.

We heard you used to share everything with your father.

I used to tell him everything after a day's work. The only thing we didn't talk about was my boyfriend. He used to think that no boy was suitable for me. Daddy used to say, 'You have so much, so live happily. Why get married? Keep some assistants with you 24x7 who will look after you.' (smiles).



Raima Sen shares a candid moment with her best furry friend Dasha at her home

2024 made me realise not to take people and time for granted. What matters is your relationship with your loved ones; everything else is temporary



Raima with her father Bharat Dev Varma

Pitambari Ruchiyana
The Rich Taste!

Til Aur Gud Ki Jodi, Ruchiyana Se Badhe Mithas Rishton Ki!

Available in 500g

Best substitute for Sugar

No Chemical

Pitambari Products Pvt. Ltd.: Mumbai: 8451907123, CRM: 022 - 6703 5564 / 5699, Toll Free: 18001031299. Visit: www.pitambari.com | CIN: U74110MH1989PTC051314

Scan To Shop

Demure to sexy: How the pallu redefined the desi girl aesthetics



@bhumpednekar

Bhumi Pednekar

Bhumi Pednekar appeared at IFFI Goa in November last year, in a 'deconstructed sari' where the pallu was reimagined as an intricate fish-tail drape. The silhouette was dramatic in the way the blouse stood out, with its detailed embroidery. For Bhumi, who has been in the news for her bold fashion choices, this contemporary, fusion sari was another expression of her individuality. Something many women – even if they are not celebs – would identify with.

Unlike traditional men's attire relegated to celebratory occasions and outmoded by western clothes, the sari has survived and thrived during every cultural churn.

In fact, in their seminal book *The Sari*, authors Mukulika Banerjee and Daniel Miller speak of how the 'lived garment' has evolved from a symbol of oppression to emancipation,

Millennials have found expression through the sari's unique ability to refashion itself, reveal its ability to adapt to a changing environment. Unlike say the Kimono in Japan or a traditional western attire

– Rta Kapur Chishti, sari historian & author

as women continue to embrace it in their own way, making a statement about their place in society. From the conservative pallu to cover one's modesty to the fun & flirty 'Mumtaz sari' that would some day make way for the sari-gown, the six-yards continue to inspire with its ability to adapt and reimagine itself. Much like the women who wear them.



@taneira_sarees

In a social media post from Taneira, three generations of women are seen in different drapes of the sari where the pallu flows from traditional pleats to a more fusion look with sneakers

'Experimenting with the drape is not universal'

I don't think high-profile women, such as industrialists and politicians, are very open to experimenting with how they wear their dupattas or pallus. They usually stick to what they find comfortable and might make small changes, but nothing too drastic. On the other hand, women from different social and cultural backgrounds are more influenced by glamorous red-carpet looks and open to experimenting with the drape

– Dolly Jain, celebrity drape artist to global A-listers and business elite



2008

Priyanka Chopra's nude metallic sari, paired with a bikini top served as a pop culture moment that still holds. In *Dostana*, Priyanka's styling showed us how a woman in a sari could be at home on a crowded American dance floor, and yet stand out in her unique way



1968

Mumtaz in her flamboyant orange sari from the film *Brahmachari*. Precursor of the modern-day deconstructed and pre-pleated sari, it showed young Indian women the drama that lay in the drape

Bombay to Bengal

The sari has been a unifying feature despite the variations in its wearing style in different parts of India. The urban wearing style is a post-1870s phenomenon, and is thus described in Chitra Devi's book *Thakur Bari Ondor Mahal* in the 1970s: "It is said that Satyendranath

(elder brother of Rabindranath Tagore's wife, Gyanodanandini, went with her civil servant husband to Bombay around the 1870s and adopted the Parsi way of wearing the sari, as at that time the local Bengali way was not considered elegant enough for outdoor wear. On her return to Calcutta we find that this style, now known in the *Thakur Bari* as the Bombay Dastur, was adopted by all the ladies of the *Bari* and the other society ladies referred to it as the *Thakur Bari Sari*. ... The sari went through various stages of resembling the hobble skirt and the gown. At one stage the *pallav* was made so short that it could not cover the head and thus, a *mukut* (crown like topee) was worn with a flowing backcloth...

...The personal pleasure of draping the unstitched, fluid garment over and around the body, adjusting it with little tucks and pulls to suit one's own particular form, is sensuous. It creates a picture of flowing grace that conceals as much as it reveals."

(Excerpted from *Sari-Tradition and Beyond* by Rta Kapur Chishti, sari historian & textile scholar)



1860s

The trailing pallu: Jaganmohini Sen, wife of Brahmo Samaj leader, Keshub Chandra Sen, wears an aristocratic drape



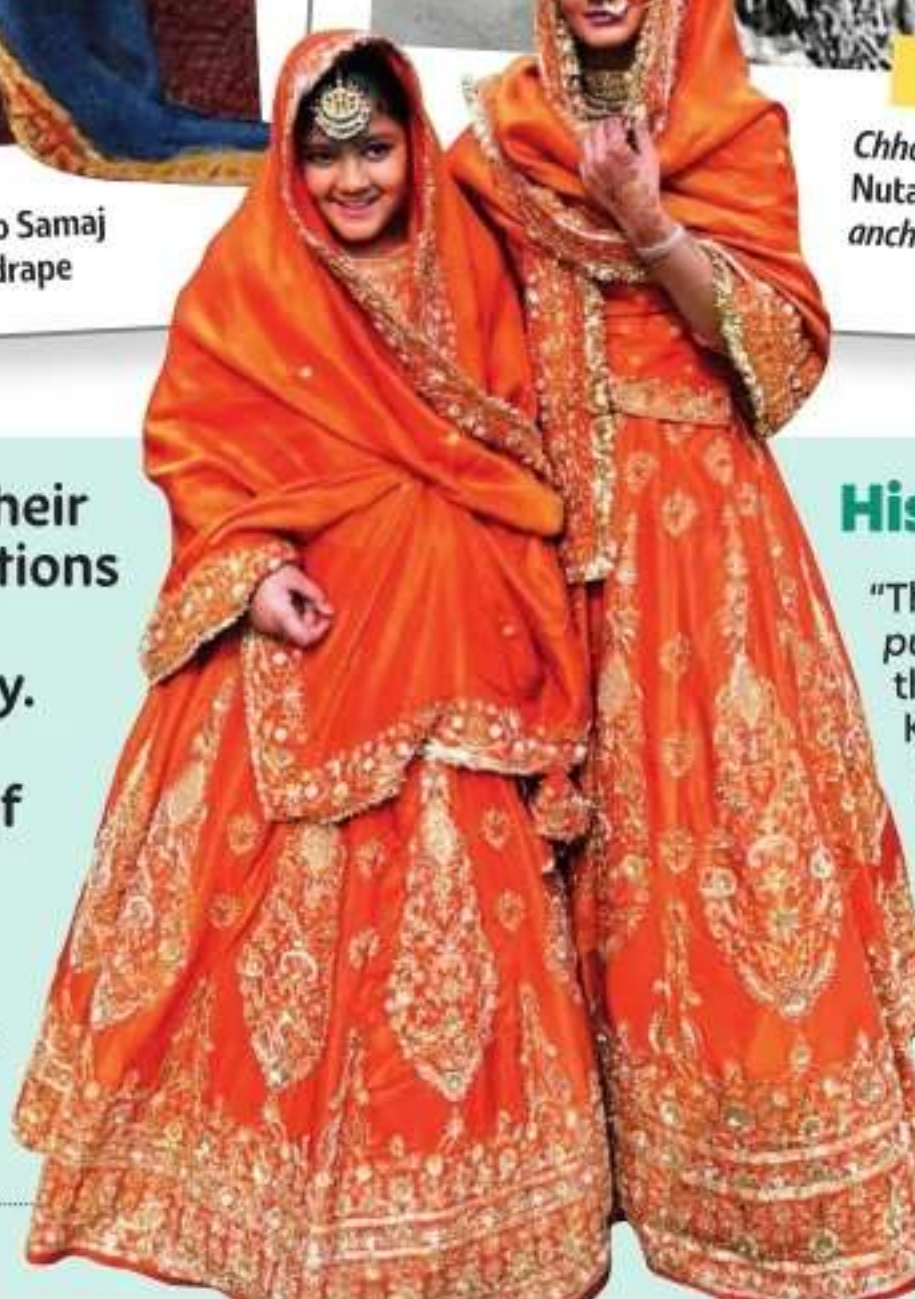
1957

Chhod do anchal zamana kya hahega... a demure Nutan pleaded with Dev Anand in *Paying Guest*. The anchal/pallu was tied to a woman's 'honour'



1900s

Maharani Sucharu Devi (in picture with her sisters), daughter of reformist Keshab Chandra Sen & god-daughter of Rabindranath Tagore married Sri Ram Chandra Bhanj Deo. The fashionable couple brought progressive ideals, especially from Bengal's Brahmo Samaj, into the Mayurbhanj court. Ergo, puffed blouses and high-neck designs, blending traditional drapes with modern silhouettes. Victorian dressing meeting Indian wear, says Akshita M Bhanj Deo



Royal women still cover their heads during family functions and state events as a mark of respect for elders and modesty. The younger generation understands the importance of this ritual and practices it, especially during cultural and religious occasions

– Rajkumari Durgeshwari Dei, daughter of Raja Rupendra Pal Kutchahar, from the Kutchahar royal family of Himachal Pradesh

Durgeshwari Dei with her daughter, Vasundhara >>

History of the royal drape: Experiments and continuity

"The idea of a pallu or purdah was born after the invasions through the Khyber Pass," says Umang Hutheesing, royal cultural revivalist, adding: "The need for women to cover themselves or conceal their faces and bosom arose after facing atrocities at the hands of men during the Mughal reign." He points to early miniature paintings where women are depicted without the pallu or purdah. According to Akshita M Bhanj Deo, Director, The Belgadia Palace

In Gujarat, women have always been emancipated; the dressing has been relaxed. The pallu has evolved into a style statement for women of all ages

– Umang Hutheesing

Rajasthan, and Nepal. "Covering one's head was a mark of respect and formality, particularly when acting as state ambassadors or leaving home. It symbolised dignity and reverence, representing Mayurbhanj's royal legacy," says Akshita.

& Mayurbhanj Foundation, "In the 19th century, royal women wore saris in the traditional Odia style – a double-layered pallu elegantly arranged over the front, often paired with shawls for modesty and warmth." Diverse marital alliances linked Mayurbhanj to Odisha, Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Nepal. "Covering one's head was a mark of respect and formality, particularly when acting as state ambassadors or leaving home. It symbolised dignity and reverence, representing Mayurbhanj's royal legacy," says Akshita.



1950s

Maharaja Pradeep Chandra Bhanj Deo and his wife, the princess of Nepal, Bharati Rajia Laxmi Devi

– Inputs by Ruman Ganguly, Shruti Paniker, Jaspreet Nijher

To Get All The Popular Newspapers.
Type in Search Box of Telegram

@sharewithpride

If You Want to get these Newspapers Daily at earliest

English Newspapers»»»

Indian Express, Financial Express, The Hindu, Business Line, The Times of India, The Economic Times, Hindustan Times, ET wealth, Business Standard, First India, Mint, Greater Kashmir, Greater Jammu, The Himalayan, The Tribune, Brill Express, The Sikh Times, Avenue Mail, Western Times, Millennium Post, The Statesman, State Times, The Pioneer, Hans India, Free Press, Orissa Post, Mumbai Mirror, Mid-Day, Deccan Chronicle, Deccan Herald, Telangana Today, Financial Times, The Asian Age, The Telegraph, Oheraldo, Gulf of Times, The New York Times, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, The Times

Hindi Newspapers»»»

दैनिक जागरण, राजस्थान पत्रिका, दैनिक भास्कर, दिव्यभास्कर, हिंदुस्तान, नवभारत टाइम्स, बिज़नेस स्टैंडर्ड, अमर उजाला, जनसत्ता, द पायोनीर, राष्ट्रीय सहारा, प्रभातखबर, लोकसत्ता

Others»»»

Hindi & English Editorial, Employment News, Malayalam Newspapers, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Gujarati

Type in Search box of Telegram https://t.me/Magazines_8890050582 And you will find a Channel named @Lalit712 join it and receive daily editions of all popular epapers at the earliest

Or

you can click on this link

<https://t.me/sharewithpride>