



HENRY CAVILL AND NATALIE VISCUSO WELCOME FIRST CHILD

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BangaloreTimes

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025
ADVERTORIAL, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY
PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Prathamesh Bandekar

I'm rowing 3,000 miles across the Atlantic to defy the odds: Ananya



ANANYA PRASAD

V Nichita

Bengaluru girl Ananya Prasad is making history as the first Indian woman to attempt a solo row across the Atlantic—a grueling 3,000-mile journey. In an exclusive interview with *Bangalore Times*, the rower, who is currently at the heart of the Atlantic, speaks about her love for the open ocean and what drew her to this extraordinary challenge. Excerpts:

CONTINUED ON 3

'Rowing has given me a platform to advocate for mental health'



"Rowing has given me a platform to advocate for something I truly believe in: mental health. I use the platform that rowing provides to raise awareness and funds for mental health, an issue that needs more attention, and is needlessly stigmatised, especially in India," she says.

Dakota's spiritual darshan



After her visit to the Babulnath Temple in Mumbai on Friday with partner Chris Martin, Dakota Johnson visited the Siddhivinayak temple. The actress was accompanied by Sonali Bendre and Gayatri Joshi

The new filmmakers have got the freedom to tell their own stories, says Ashutosh

Niharika Lal

For me, film festivals are a crash course in filmmaking," shares Ashutosh Gowariker. During a recent chat, the filmmaker discussed the mark that Indian films have made for themselves at international platforms. The filmmaker also talks about why he thinks we need to make more historical films and how legal hassles will never stop him from creating more films.

CONTINUED ON 4



Ashutosh says that *Lagaan* changed the norm that a film with songs could only be considered a commercial film

I think that the new talent has got the freedom to tell their own stories. They don't have to worry about making films in the mainstream

WANT SOMETHING JUST LIKE THIS:

COLDPLAY'S MAGIC IN MUMBAI



Renuka Vyavahare

It was truly a "Sky Full of Stars" as Coldplay brought their feel-good Music of the Spheres tour to India with their first show in Mumbai. Around 50,000 fans gathered at the DY Patil Stadium to witness the British band perform in what was



their first concert in the country since 2016. While the band's trademark production of LED wristbands, fireworks and lasers created a spectacle, it was Chris Martin's cheeky Marathi that had the fans cheering. "Kasey aahat? Tumhi sagle aaj chaan distay (How are you? You all are looking so good today)," Chris said to the crowd.

CONTINUED ON 2

We have to finish the show because Jasprit Bumrah wants to come and play cricket with me backstage

— Chris Martin

Jayamala's daughter Soundarya gets ready to tie the knot in Feb



Soundarya and Jayamala

Madhu Daithota

Soundarya, daughter of veteran actor Jayamala Ramachandra and cinematographer Ramachandra, is set to marry Rushab K, son of Director General of Police K Ramchandra Rao and Rohini, in February. The wedding will take place at a venue in the CBD on February 7, followed by a grand reception on February 8. More than 5,000 invitations have been sent.

Speaking to *Bangalore Times*, Jayamala shared her excitement about her daughter entering marital bliss. "We've been personally visiting everyone's homes to invite them. Then, I'll head to my hometown, Mangaluru, to invite relatives, and there are many more places to go. I'm thrilled to ensure everything is perfect as I watch my daughter step into this beautiful new chapter of her life," she says.

Buzzstop

RAMI MALEK RECOUNTS EXPERIENCING RACIAL PROFILING



Rami Malek opened up about experiencing racial profiling in the US, with a British news outlet. "I got thrown on the bonnet of an LAPD cop car because someone had robbed a liquor store... They said the (thief) was of Latin descent and, 'You fit the description,'" Malek said, adding that a friend informed the cops that the actor was Egyptian, not Latin.

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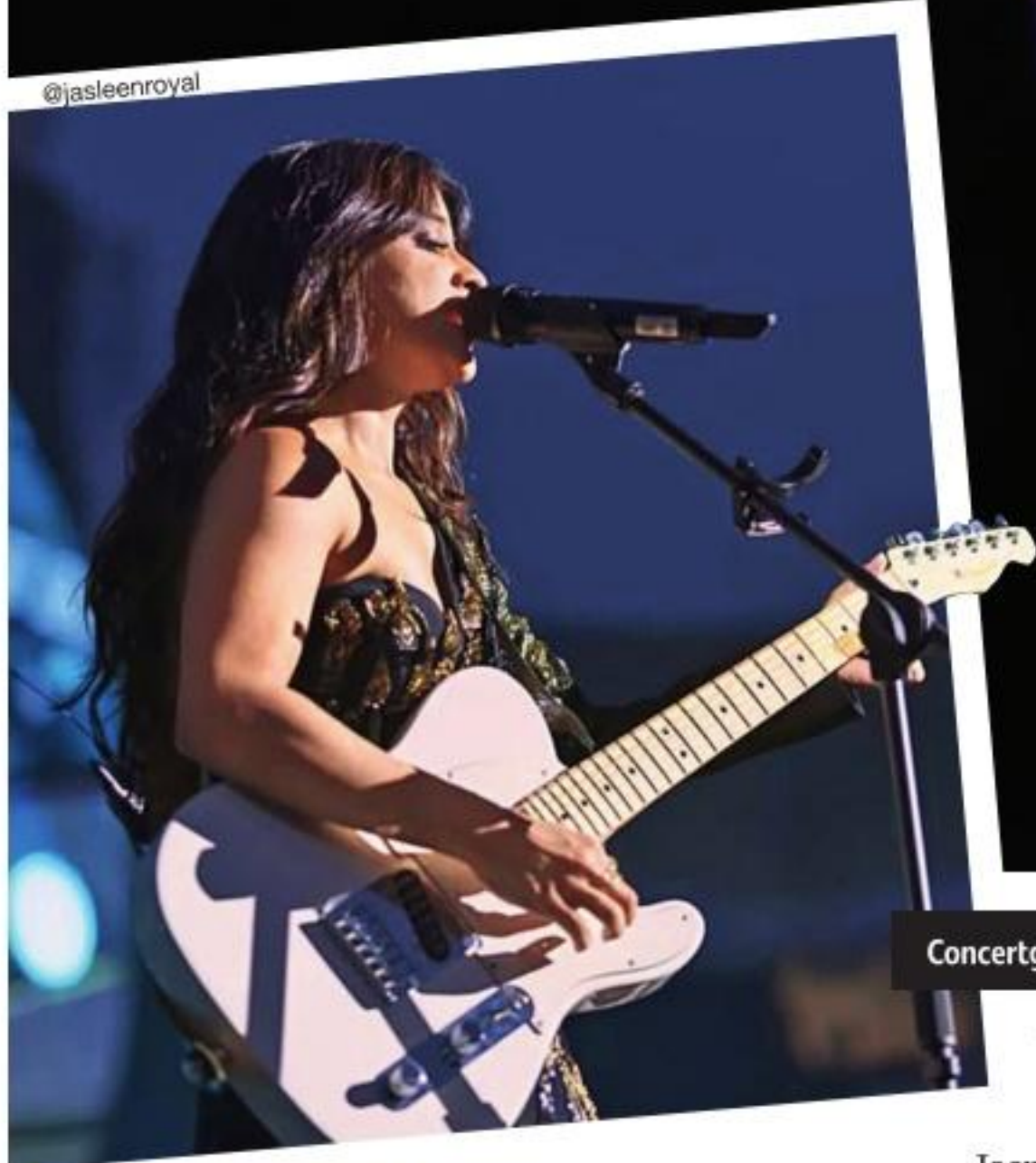
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Pics: Prathamesh Bhandekar

COLDPLAY'S ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME IN MUMBAI



Here's to manifesting dreams!

Jasleen Royal, who opened for Coldplay's tour, dropped pics from her performance, with the caption, "Kicking off the India leg of @coldplay Music of the Spheres tour has been nothing short of surreal! Here's to manifesting dreams! And here's to living mine with all of you"

Concertgoers were enthralled by iconic Coldplay hits



Coldplay's feel-good music for Mumbai

- Fix You
- Yellow
- Paradise
- Viva La Vida
- Adventure Of A Lifetime
- Hymn For The Weekend
- A Sky Full Of Stars

CONTINUED FROM E 1

Coldplay's performance was preceded by Elyanna, who wowed the audience with her Arabic version of *Deewani Ho Gayi* from *Bajirao Mastani*. Jasleen Royal entertained with her songs, which included *Kho Gaye Hum Kahan*, *Love You Zindagi* and *Ranjha*. Chris later invited Jasleen and Elyanna to sing *We Pray* with him.

Another highlight of the evening was Chris Martin teasing cricket fans. He abruptly

stopped and said, "We have to finish the show because Jasprit Bumrah wants to come and play cricket with me backstage," he said midway. While Bumrah wasn't present at the concert, the friendly shout-out to the bowler had fans cheering. It was also a reminder that band was performing at a cricket stadium. Chris even read aloud fan placards. He made a 15-year-old fan's day by singing *Everglow* with him and reading out his placard, which had *Om* written in Devanagari script.



Hands on your food! The world wants to see them

A recent study published in a leading retail research journal validates an age-old tradition many Indians have always embraced: Eating with your hands enhances the dining experience, making meals more satisfying than using cutlery. This isn't just cultural nostalgia; science backs it up. The tactile engagement of our hands with food primes our brain to perceive the meal as more flavourful and fulfilling.

Globally, the trend of eating with hands is gaining traction, from long-table communal feasts in New York's Greenwich Village to the resurgence of Filipino kamayan meals, where banana leaves replace plates and hands replace cutlery. For Indians, this 'new-found' discovery feels like a full-circle moment. After decades of being ridiculed for eating 'the messy way,' there's a quiet validation in watching the world savour flavours through their fingers.



In fact, Anthony Bourdain, the late culinary icon, often extolled the virtues of eating with hands. During his travels, he celebrated the connection between food and culture, famously stating, "The more you eat with your hands, the closer you are to the food and the people who made it." In season 2 of his legendary series *Parts Unknown*, Bourdain can be seen tearing apart a butter-smothered Amritsari *kulcha* and enjoying his baked *tandoori* chicken, both in Amritsar. And who can forget Aishwarya Rai schooling *Al Jazeera* correspondent David Frost on eating a *samosa* the authentic way – with his hands – during an interview. A moment that sparked global curiosity about India's tactile dining traditions.

Scientific research further highlights that eating with hands activates nerve endings that enhance sensory perception and satisfaction. A study by a peer-reviewed psychology journal found that this tactile engagement can also help with mindful eating, allowing individuals to savour each bite and avoid overindulgence.

Some foods, contrary to modern etiquette, are simply meant to be enjoyed by hand. Think of tearing apart flaky *Malabar porottas*, scooping *dal* with soft *phulka*, or devouring juicy mangoes. The tactile connection adds an irreplaceable layer of indulgence. Even during the pandemic, when hygiene concerns heightened, people found ways to rediscover this intimate act of eating, cherishing its ability to bring a sense of comfort and rootedness.

As global dining trends lean toward authenticity and diversity, the next time someone hesitates to ditch their fork, we can gently remind them: some flavours are best enjoyed finger-first.

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

LEISURE

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

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

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

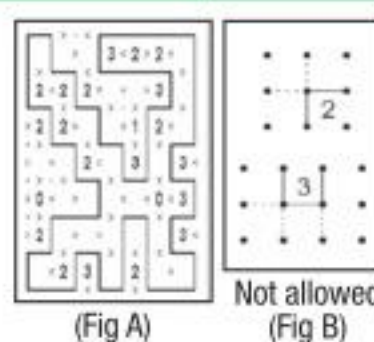
8	5	5	7	3	5	4	6
4	5	1	6	7	6	5	2
2	5	7	1	5	4	6	8
2	7	5	5	1	7	2	7
1	6	6	6	4	3	5	7
7	8	4	6	2	3	3	7
8	4	5	2	3	5	7	1

Example

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.



(Fig A)

Not allowed (Fig B)

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
22	23	24										
28												
31												
38												
41												
46	47	48	49									
53												
56												
62												
65												

By John Michael Currie

20/01/2025

ACROSS

- 1 -dab in the middle
- 6 Smartphone downloads
- 10 Paper money
- 14 City west of Venice
- 15 Shave (down)
- 16 Spanish eight
- 17 Campy photo booth accessory
- 19 Comics icon Lee
- 20 Epitome of slowness
- 21 - acid
- 22 "Oorah!" military org.
- 25 Southern California's June Gloom, essentially
- 28 10-Across, slangily
- 30 Fish eggs
- 31 Assumed name
- 32 Gravy vessel
- 34 Goes (for)
- 38 Candy treat shaped like a chick or bunny
- 41 Some Fidelity offerings, for short
- 42 Fades to black
- 43 Snorer's affliction
- 44 Gut punch reaction
- 45 Trademarked pastry creation
- 46 Sleepover hideaway
- 52 Weightlifter's units
- 53 Furnish with gear
- 54 For starters
- 56 Skeet shout
- 57 Trial period for a new product, and what
- 62 Flowerpot spot
- 63 Mideast canal
- 64 Battery terminal
- 65 "The ___-billy spider"
- 66 Lean and muscular
- 67 "Heavens to ___!"

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

VOTES	TATES	GLASGOW
ACELA	MOISTURE	
STADT	HANDPRINT	
TAKEAHKE	HALOS	
GESTURE	MANET	
LOTT	RANWILD	
ANT	GOALTENDS	
BALD	DAMNS	DIRE
SLEEP	ONIT	NIX
	LAGASSE	LEVY
SWOLE	TOSCALE	
OHARE	SAMSONITE	
LAYERCAKE	VIVID	
EDNAME	ODE	ENEMY
SEENOTE	RAISES	

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SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
06-average | 07-good | 09-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.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M GIVIN' MY MARBLES TO MR. WILSON, CAUSE I THINK HE KEEPS LOSIN' HIS."

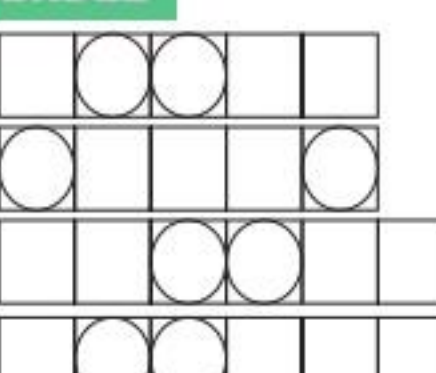
SCRAMBLE

- HSTIO
- EOSNY
- ELOTDD
- EELMBM

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

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



A house is not a home unless it contains food and fire for the ___ as well as the ___ - Benjamin Franklin (4,_,4)

FINOLEX FORTUNE

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



ARIES: Today is a great day for getting things done with minimal disruptions, but don't let your drive lead to isolation. You may need the support of colleagues to reach your full potential, so share your goals and work together.

TAURUS: Right now, it's tricky to prioritise your concerns. You're focused on your own plans, but take extra time to fine-tune them. Passion and enthusiasm will be your allies, but avoid making any significant financial decisions today.

GEMINI: It's wise to pause before making any big calls today. You may feel confident in your approach, but balance your vision with practicality for better results. Avoid risky financial ventures, as things may feel uncertain.

CANCER: This is a time for emotional fulfilment and strengthening both personal and professional relationships. It's important to focus on your obligations and apply extra effort now to set yourself up for happiness.

LEO: Today brings a chance for positive change, whether in your lifestyle or career. However, double-check your details before committing to anything. Be mindful of balancing your time and efforts between work and personal life.

VIRGO: Your words carry weight today, so stay focused on consistency and integrity. This is an excellent time to define realistic financial goals and work toward them, but don't overlook your responsibilities.

day. Stay grounded and focus on the present, as your dreams could feel more vivid than usual. Avoid impulsive financial risks and take the time to listen to your inner voice.

SAGITTARIUS: Today requires flexibility, as you may be pulled in multiple directions. While your friends may have demands, make sure to express your feelings clearly and find a way to connect. Your ideas will find their way out eventually.

CAPRICORN: Let your dreams guide you, but remember to share them with someone you trust. This will help turn your vision into reality, as your creativity is heightened by the beauty around you.

AQUARIUS: Your thoughts have more power than you realise today, so stay focused and avoid making long-term decisions that could have unforeseen consequences. Take care with your finances, as stress might cloud your judgment.

PISCES: Let go of past emotional baggage and avoid avoiding difficult truths. Pay attention to your self-worth and how it shapes your interactions. Embrace simple pleasures, as they will help you regain clarity and purpose.

EVENTS

MEETING

Recovery from drug addiction, an online meeting, is held every day, from 7 pm to 8 pm. Zoom meeting ID is 8421668628. For login password, call: 9880590059

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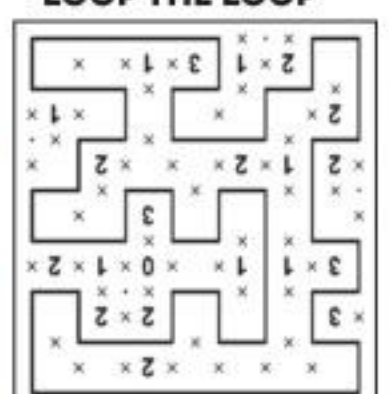
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SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

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

LOOP THE LOOP



TIMES HITORI

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

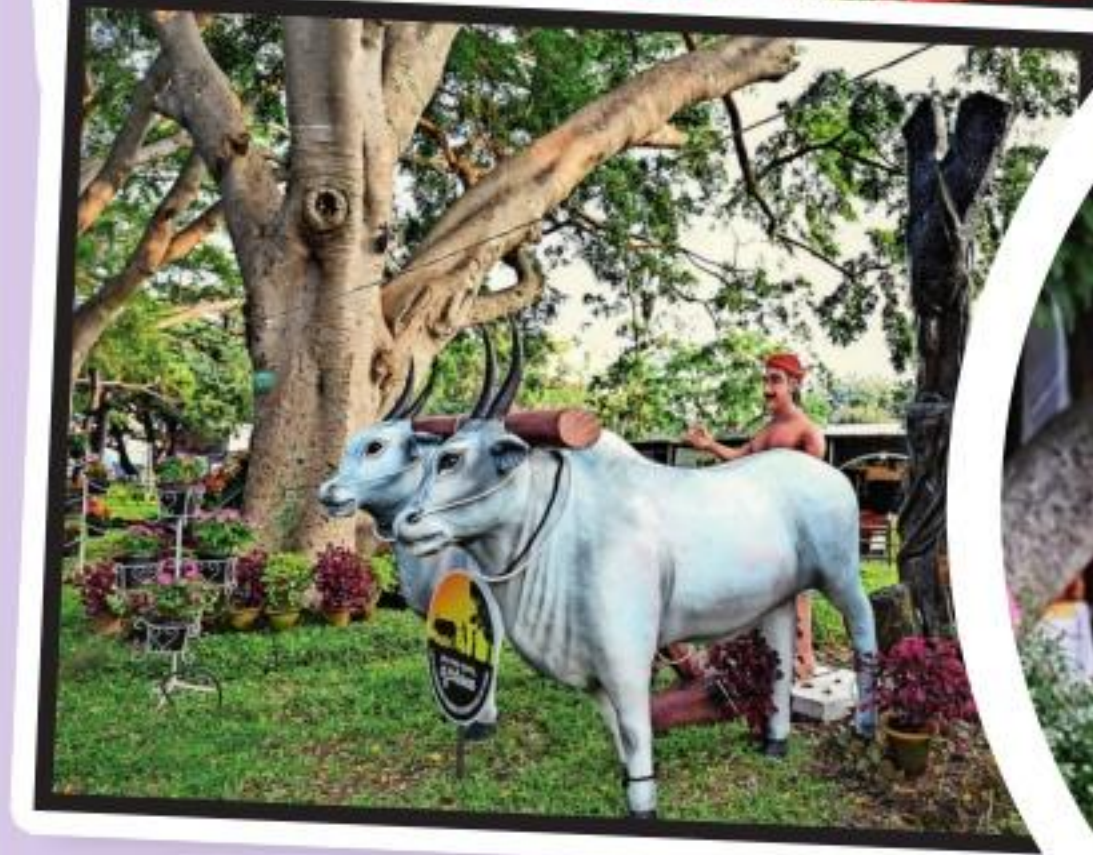
SCRAMBLE

Words: Host, nosy, piddle, emblem, contains food and fire for the mind as well as Answer: A house is not a home unless it contains food and fire for the mind as well as

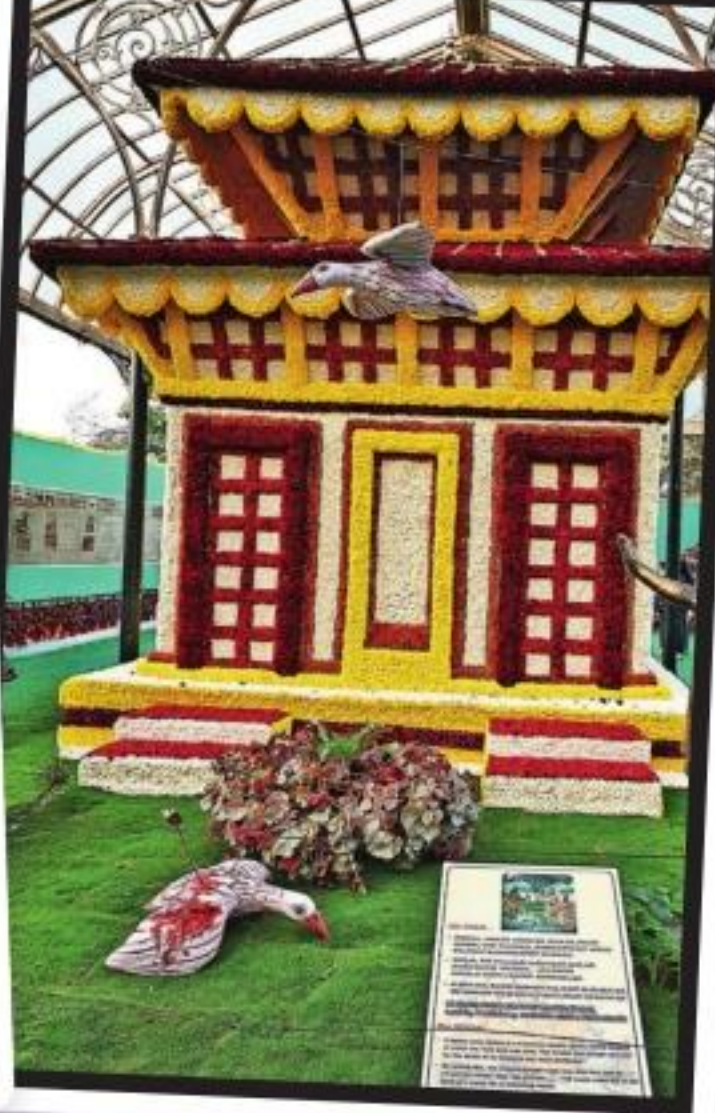
Bengaluru's Lalbagh in full bloom ahead of Republic Day

Pics: Karthikeyan Sairam

GALLERY



Lalbagh's Republic Day flower show, themed on the life and works of Adikavi Maharishi Valmiki, features over 300 exhibits of stunning floral artistry. The diverse displays included Ikebana, Indian floral art, floral rangoli, vegetable carvings, and exhibits that showcase Dutch flowers, Thai art, Janur, and Bonsai.



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In the deep ocean, I found a profound calm; it's breathtaking, says Ananya

Pics: @atlantic_odyssey



I initially wanted to participate with a team, but it's a huge time commitment, and I couldn't convince any friends to join. So, I signed up solo and discovered I would be the first Indian woman to do so

CONTINUED FROM S 1

'I WAS INTRIGUED BY THE IDEA OF EXPERIENCING NATURE AMIDST THE OCEAN'

It was in 2018 when Ananya learned about the world's toughest rowing race which takes place annually in December. While initially daunted by accounts of the gruelling race, she ultimately decided to take on the challenge. "I initially wanted to participate with a team, but it's a huge time commitment, and I couldn't convince any friends to join. So, I signed up solo and discovered I would be the first Indian woman to do so," she says.

'THE OCEAN LOOKS INTERESTING AT NIGHT WITH THE STARRY SKY'

Describing her experiences on the open ocean, Ananya spoke of being surrounded by nature and wildlife, experiencing profound calm and quiet in a virtually pollution-free environment. "The lack of light pollution makes the night sky incredible. I've seen shooting stars almost every night, including some brilliantly green ones. And the bioluminescence in the water—lighting up as I row—is simply breathtaking," she says.

'I'M GOING TO CELEBRATE BY SIMPLY RELAXING'

Asked about her post-race celebrations, she says, "I'm going to celebrate by simply relaxing. The first thing I'll do is indulge in a mountain of fruit—watermelon and mango in particular. After so long without fresh fruit, it will be a real treat. And then, rest. A proper bed, no more daily rowing... these simple things will feel like the height of luxury, along with a long, hot shower."



The lack of light pollution makes the night sky incredible. I've seen shooting stars almost every night, including some brilliantly green ones

- Ananya Prasad

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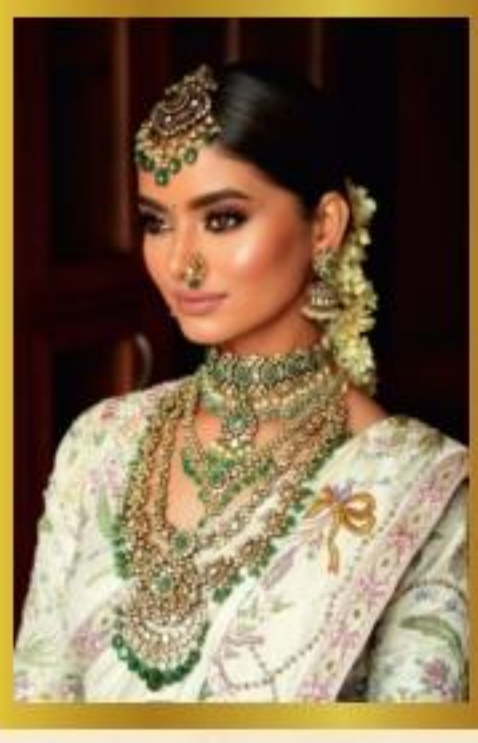


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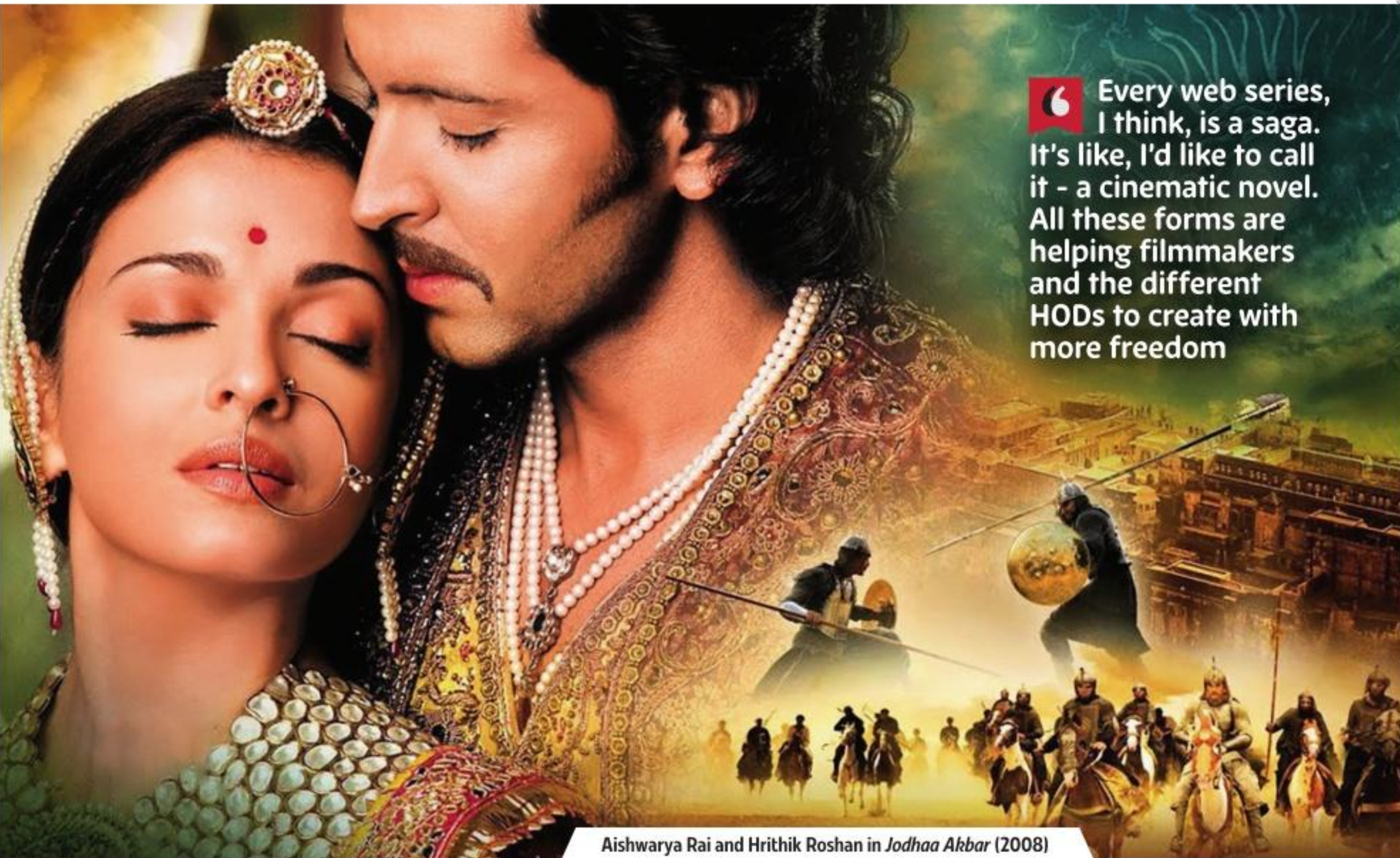
A beacon of dedication, a source of boundless inspiration, a humble achiever and above all a soul with a golden heart. That's my father & friend, living in us, everyday.

Sanjay Mangalchand Bantia

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'Objections to my films bother me, but they don't stop me from creating'



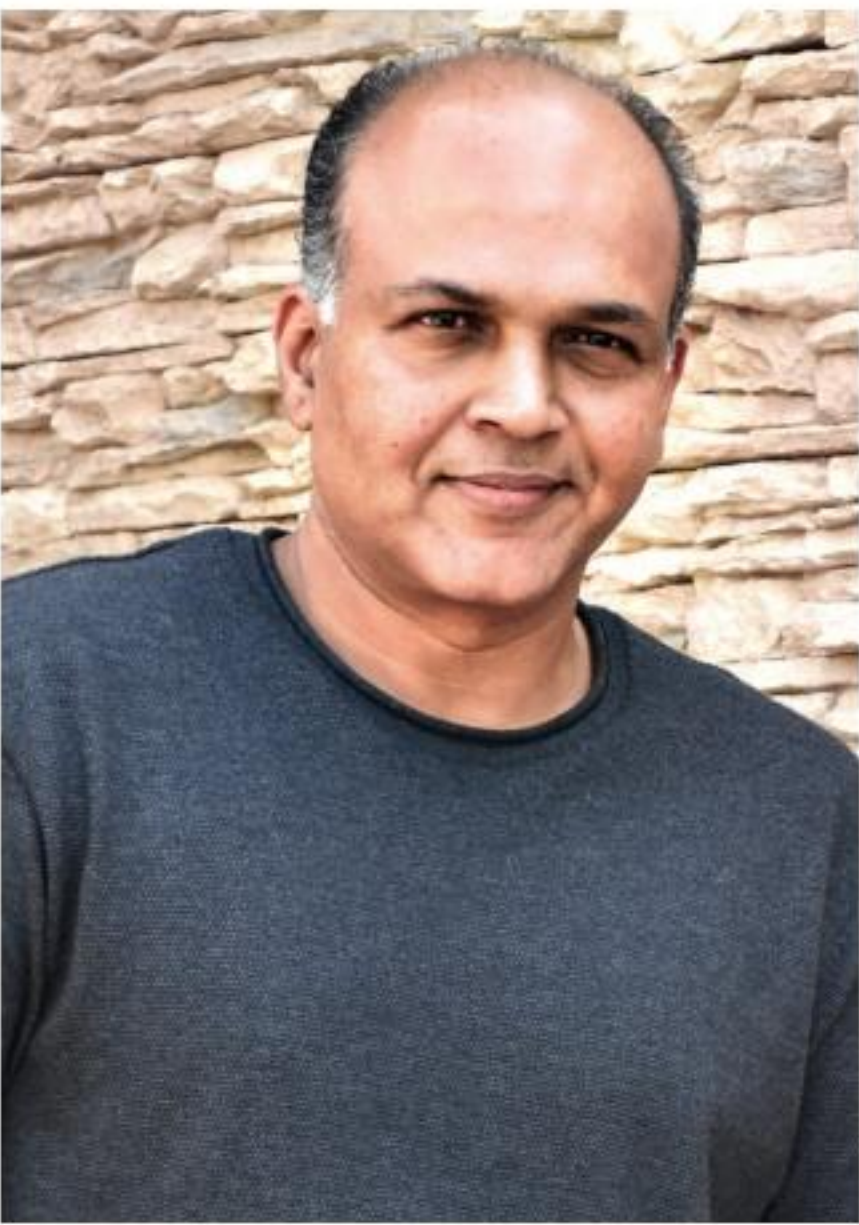
Aishwarya Rai and Hrithik Roshan in *Jodhaa Akbar* (2008)

CONTINUED FROM C 1

'WE HAVEN'T EVEN FINISHED TELLING 10% OF OUR HISTORICAL STORIES'
Ashutosh Gowariker made *Jodhaa Akbar* (2008) 15 years ago. In recent years, there has been a spate of historical and period films. Talking about their emergence, he says, "I think it's fantastic. We're able to tell so many stories. There is so much history in every state in the country. All the states have got their heroes, kings, saints, *riyasatein*. And every story is important. All those stories are being told in some form or the other — whether it's TV, web or cinema."
Ashutosh notes that in the 50s-60s, the genre was quite strong. "You had *Mughal-e-Azam*, *Anarkali* — some massive films which were historicals. But after a long gap, Akbar Khan *sahab* made *Taj Mahal: An Eternal Love Story* (2005), and then *Jodhaa Akbar*. It restarted that whole phase of historical movies. And so we now have a spate of not only historical films but even period films. Actually, we have not even finished 10% of telling our stories."
'WHEN YOU WATCH A FILM, YOU ARE TRANSPORTED INTO THAT WORLD'
Whenever a historical film is released, there are always questions about authenticity. "You have to be as authentic as possible,"

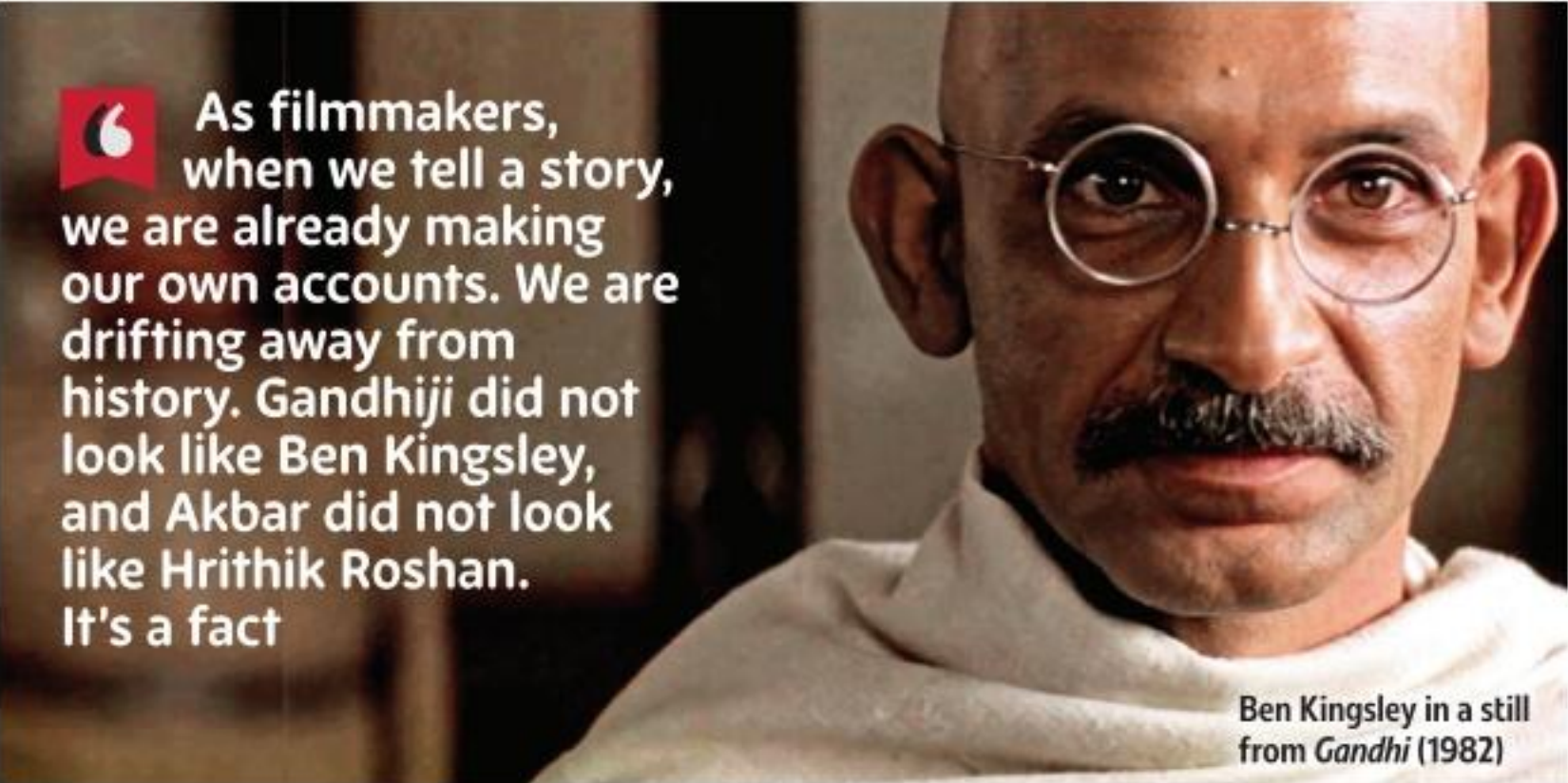
Revisiting some classics is always a good thing. Certain nuances of certain films are lost when you watch them at that time because the age is different. There is a time gap of five-six years from when I made *Lagaan* and when I made *Jodhaa Akbar*. I've changed as a person, I've evolved. I've become mature

Gowariker says. He adds, "Filmmakers are not historians. *Agar* historians *hote*, they would not have made a film; they would have written a book, an account. As filmmakers, when we tell a story, we are already making our own accounts. We are drifting away from history. *Gandhiji* did not look like Ben Kingsley, and Akbar did not look like Hrithik Roshan. It's a fact. But when you watch a film, you are being transported into that world, and a filmmaker is making every attempt to use all his expertise and various departments to create the ambience for you to believe the story. So be as authentic as possible, and take certain liberties where you feel that you need to take the lib-



Ashutosh Gowariker

erty. Try and check on historical details as much as possible."
'OBJECTIONS BOTHER ME, BUT THEY DON'T STOP ME FROM CREATING'
Every other historical film gets into legal hassles, court cases, objections but Ashutosh says that it doesn't stop him from creating. "It bothers me, but it doesn't stop me from creating. It bothers you because you feel, '*Arey yaar, ye sab kiya hai*'. I am very open if a person has any objection. If I am right, I will try to convince him about it, prove it to him, show him my book references, which I did during *Jodhaa Akbar*. And the court case was filed against me, I won the court case on the basis of that. But if I'm proven that, you know, I've done injustice or shown something wrong, I don't mind changing it. Because I don't want to hurt any community, any religion, any descendant of any family who feels that there is some injustice done to the depiction of that person on screen. If it's in my capacity, I'll make that change."



Ben Kingsley in a still from *Gandhi* (1982)

Amar Deep



Ankita Bharti

Grammy-winning composer and singer Shankar Mahadevan performed at the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 in Prayagraj on Thursday evening.
The performance marked Mahadevan's first-ever visit to the Kumbh Mela which began on January 13. Reflecting on the significance of the event, Shankar said, "I feel blessed

and happy to do my music *seva*. This is the *punya* of my 30-35 years of musical journey, *aur yeh meri sabse badi kamaai hai*. This is my first time attending the Maha Kumbh and a sacred moment for me. I've always wished to perform at the Kumbh, but the timing never aligned. Now, I'm looking forward to taking a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam, too."



Mahadevan, who is known for his soul-stirring renditions of *bhajans* and devotional songs, was especially excited to perform the song *Chalo Kumbh Chalein*, the anthem of the previous Kumbh Mela, written by lyricist Prasoon Joshi and others. Mahadevan's repertoire also included popular renditions of *bhajans*, all of which enthralled the large crowd gathered at the Ganga Pandal set up at the Kumbh Mela area.

'A diverse ensemble carries this story of a heist gone wrong in the wilderness'



From left to right: Chikkanna, Aniiish Tejeshwar, Sharanya Shetty, Archana Kottige, Rangayana Raghu and Gurunandan

Vinay Lokesh

What happens when a treasure hunt leads into the depths of a dense jungle? In upcoming treasure heist thriller *Forest* starring Chikkanna, Aniiish Tejeshwar, Gurunandan, Archana Kottige, Rangayana Raghu, and Sharanya Shetty, and directed by Chandramohan, a jungle becomes the ultimate obstacle. According to the filmmakers, the film features a diverse cast of characters navigating both the dangers of the wilderness and the complexities of a high-stakes heist. Here's a low down of the characters:

Aniish Tejeshwar as Sathisha

Though brothers, Sathisha and Buddy Kumara are polar opposites. While Buddy Kumara is known for his humour, Sathisha, also in love, maintains a serious demeanour and prioritises getting the job done, no matter the circumstances.

Rangayana Raghu as Maakaipatti Gopalswamy

Rangayana Raghu explores a darker side as a magician concealing his true motives, a first for the actor. In contrast, Gopalswamy's time in the forest is punctuated by lighthearted encounters with younger characters.

Chikkanna as Buddy Kumara

Chikkanna plays Buddy Kumara, a shrewd moneylender known for his sharp business acumen. A unique quirk — he can only hear from his left ear — adds a humorous touch to his character. He also finds himself falling in love.

Archana Kottige as Meenakshi

Audiences will see a different side of Archana Kottige as she takes on the de-glam role of Meenakshi. She plays a Tamil girl living in a village on the border between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. To ensure authenticity, she speaks Kannada with a Tamil accent. Audiences can expect to be surprised by her stunt work.

Sharanya Shetty as Sandhya

Amidst the chaos, Sandhya's presence is a breath of fresh air. Though her appearances are brief, she leaves a lasting impact on the storyline.

Gurunandan as Sunil

Gurunandan plays Sunil, who is an innocent character who minds his own business and lacks the courage to take on risks.

Jackman-Furness divorce stalled over prenup issue

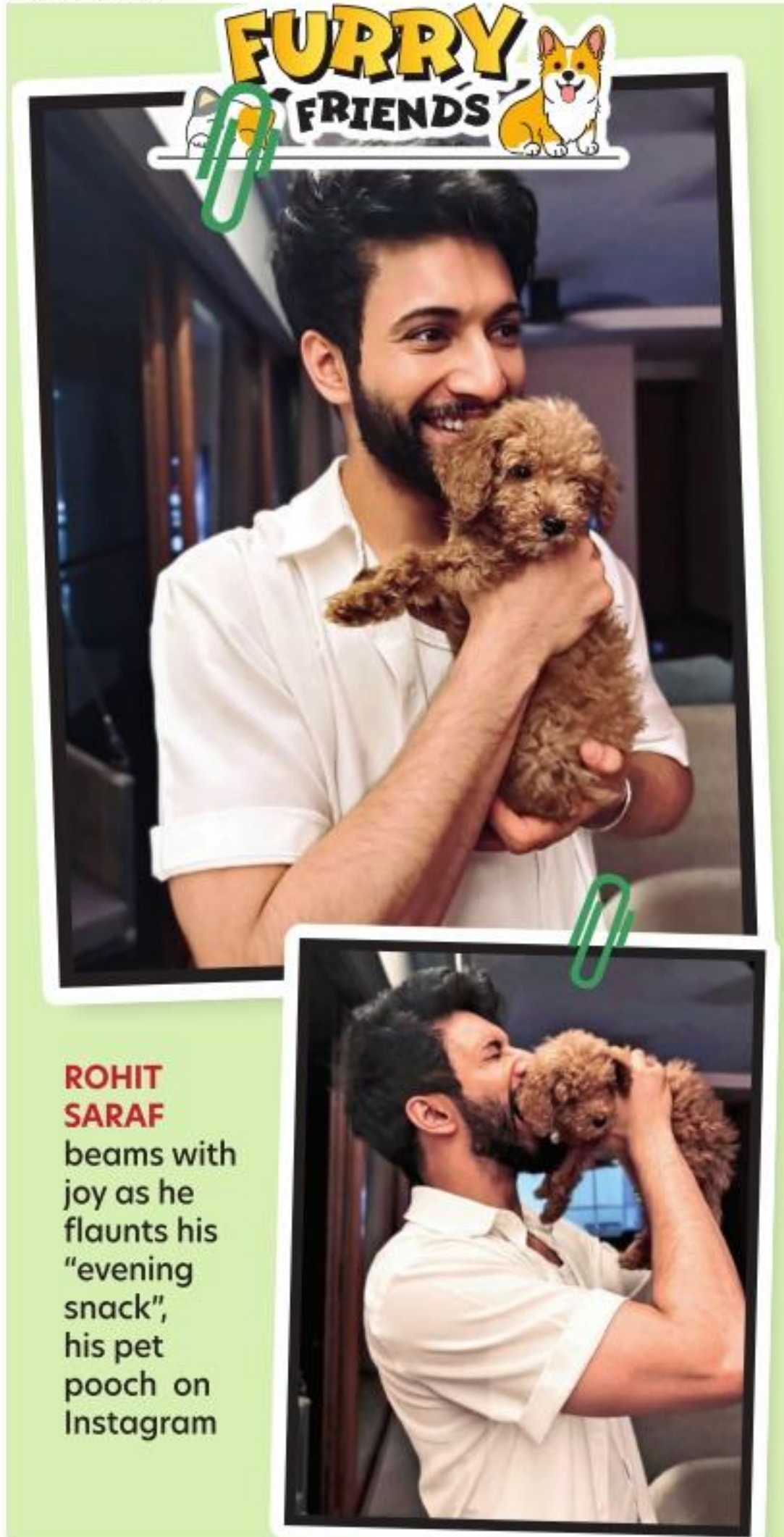
Despite announcing their split in September 2023, Hugh Jackman and Deborra-Lee Furness are yet to file for divorce, reportedly due to complications surrounding their decision to forego a prenuptial agreement.
An per reports, the split could become messy as they work to divide their \$250 million (₹2,165 crore approx) fortune. A source said, "One of the biggest reasons why they haven't filed for divorce is because there was no prenup and since Hugh made a fortune during their marriage, this divorce is not going to be cut and dry. It may get messy because the stakes are high."



Since there was no prenup and Hugh made a fortune during their marriage, this divorce is not going to be cut and dry

- A source

Pics: @rohitsaraf



ROHIT SARAF beams with joy as he flaunts his "evening snack", his pet pooch on Instagram



Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025: Top launches from the show

HERO MOTOCORP LAUNCHES FOUR NEW MODELS

Hero MotoCorp launched four new models, catering to different segments. Among these, the new Xoom 125 has been priced at Rs 86,900, ex-showroom. It is powered by a 124cc single-cylinder engine that delivers 9.79 hp and 10.4 Nm of torque. Bookings for the scooter will begin in February, with deliveries scheduled for March. The manufacturer also debuted the Xoom 160, a maxi-scooter priced at Rs 1.49 lakh, ex-showroom. This model features a liq-



uid-cooled 156cc engine that produces 14.8 hp and 14 Nm of torque. In the motorcycle segment, Hero launched the Xpulse 210 and the Xtreme 250R. These bikes have been priced at Rs 1.76 lakh and Rs 1.80 lakh, ex-showroom, respectively. The Xpulse 210 is powered by a 210cc engine generating 24.2 hp and 20.7 Nm, and gets a host of features including a 4.2-inch TFT display and smartphone connectivity. Meanwhile, the Xtreme 250R, equipped with a 250cc engine producing 30 hp and 25 Nm, has become Hero's most powerful motorcycle to date.

Yash Sharma

The Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 has kicked off with an exciting lineup of launches and unveils. Many manufacturers showcased a wide range of products, including concept models and those close to production. Alongside these displays, several new products were also launched. Here's a look at some of the top launches from the event.



HYUNDAI CRETA GOES ELECTRIC!

Hyundai Motor India has now announced the pricing for its much-anticipated Creta Electric SUV. Priced from Rs 17.99 lakh, ex-showroom, the Creta Electric is offered in four variants: Executive, Smart, Premium, and Excellence. It comes with two battery options, a 42 kWh pack offering a range of 390 km and a larger 51.4 kWh pack with a 473 km range. The smaller battery delivers 135 hp, while the larger one produces 171 hp. As for features, it gets dual 10.25-inch screens, a panoramic sunroof, Level 2 ADAS, and V2L technology, among others.



MERCEDES-MAYBACH EQS 680 NIGHT SERIES LAUNCHED

Moving to the luxury spectrum, Mercedes-Benz India launched the EQS Maybach SUV 680 Night Series. Priced at Rs 2.63 crore, ex-showroom, this electric SUV is based on the standard

EQS 680 but features dark chrome and gloss black exteriors with interiors featuring black Nappa leather. It also gets blacked-out 21-inch alloy wheels among other changes. Like the standard model, it continues to house dual electric motors and delivers 658 hp and 950 Nm of torque.



SUZUKI GIXXER SF 250 FLEX FUEL LAUNCHED

Suzuki has launched the Gixxer SF 250 Flex Fuel motorcycle. Priced at Rs 2.17 lakh, ex-showroom, the bike is E85-compliant and can run on an ethanol blend of up to 85%. It features a single-cylinder engine that generates up to 27.9 hp and 22.5 Nm of torque.



HONDA MOTORCYCLE & SCOOTER INDIA FINALLY ENTERS THE EV ARENA

Honda has finally entered the electric mobility space with the launch of the Activa e. Priced at Rs 1.17 lakh, ex-showroom, the scooter features dual swappable 1.5 kWh batteries, offering a total range of 102 km. It is equipped with a 6 kW motor that delivers 22 Nm of torque, enabling a top speed of 80 kmph and 0-60 kmph acceleration in just 7.3 seconds. This EV offers three riding modes: Econ, Standard, and Sport. The Activa e also includes a 7-inch TFT display integrated with the Honda RoadSync Duo app for smart functionalities.



BMW iX1 LWB, X3 LAUNCHED

BMW India launched the iX1 long-wheelbase electric SUV, priced at Rs 49 lakh, ex-showroom. This will be the company's first locally assembled electric vehicle in India. It comes equipped with a 66.4 kWh battery offering a range of 531 km and supports fast charging, allowing 120 km of range in just 10 minutes. Additionally, BMW launched the fourth-generation X3, priced at Rs 75.80 lakh and Rs 77.80 lakh, ex-showroom, for its petrol and diesel variants, respectively. The SUV features mild-hybrid technology and puts out 190 hp and 310 for the petrol version while the diesel trim makes 197 hp and 400 Nm.



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