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BombayTimes

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

Prathamesh Bandekar

JAVED AKHTAR'S STARRY 80TH B'DAY CELEBRATIONS P4

Darshan weds longtime partner

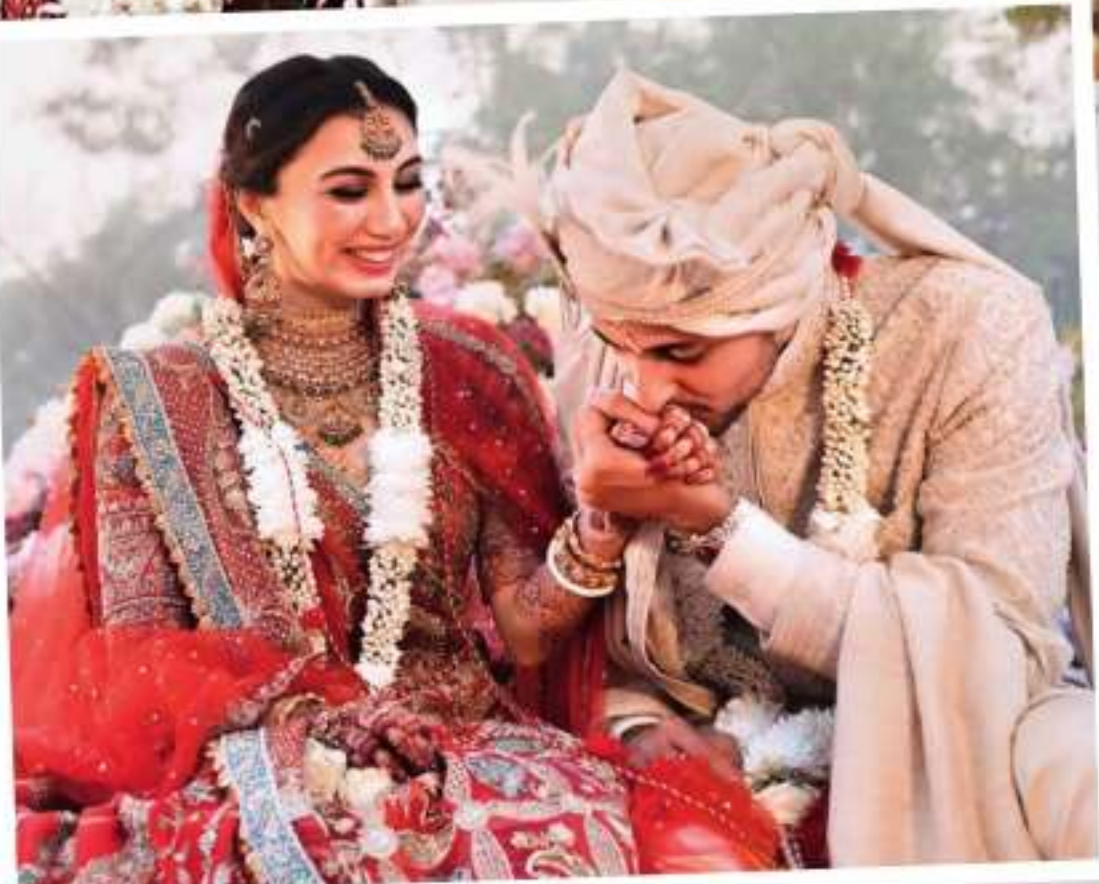
Pics: @darshanraval



Dharal Surelia and Darshan Raval

Darshan Raval has married his long-time girl-friend and "best friend", Dharal Surelia, in an intimate ceremony. The *Teri Aankhon Mein* singer, on Saturday evening, took to Instagram to post a series of pictures from the wedding and wrote, "My best friend forever." While Darshan opted for an ivory sherwani, Dharal donned a classic red lehenga.

TNN



Got thrown on a car's bonnet: Rami recalls facing racism in US

Oscar-winning actor Rami Malek has opened up about experiencing racial profiling in the US, revealing he was once "thrown" onto the hood of a police car after being mistaken for a robbery suspect in California. The Egyptian-American actor recounted the incident during an interview with *The Guardian*.

"I got thrown on the bonnet of an LAPD cop car because someone had robbed a liquor store and stolen a woman's bag. They said the (thief) was of Latin descent and, 'You fit the description.' I remember how hot that engine was ... it was almost burning my hands,"

Malek said. "I remember laughing on the cop car, thinking, 'OK, this is a very precarious situation. I may well be going to jail for something I've not done,'" he added.

Agencies

I don't know how you ever get over that. I'm what's called 'white passing,' but I have very distinctive features, and we definitely didn't fit in

— Rami Malek on the encounter



Rami Malek

Buzzstop

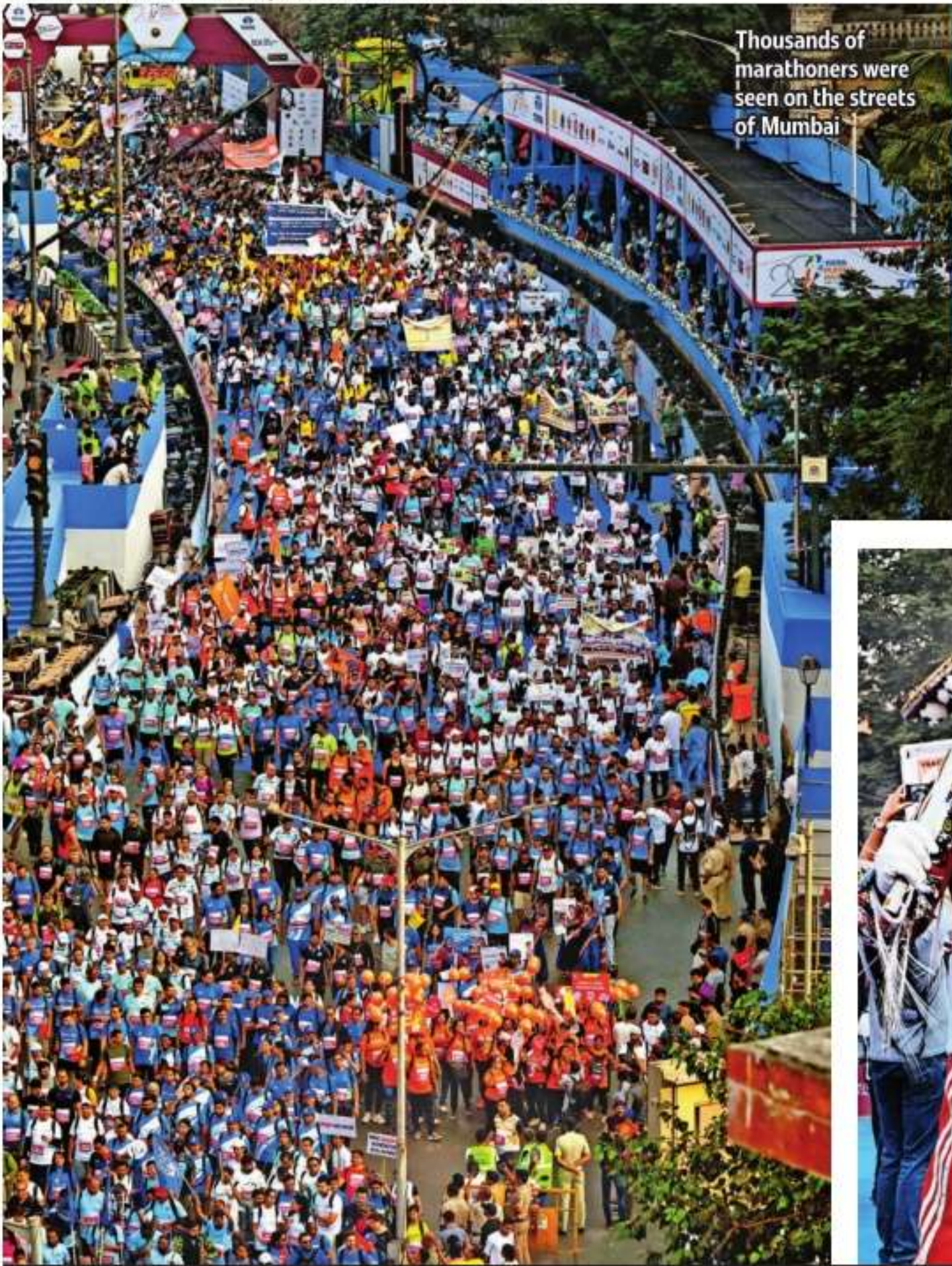
HENRY CAVILL WELCOMES FIRST CHILD WITH NATALIE VISCUSO



Henry Cavill, best known for his role as Superman in *Man Of Steel*, and his longtime partner Natalie Viscuso welcomed their first child. The couple was recently spotted in Australia, pushing a baby stroller during a family outing, according to *People*. Cavill first shared the news of their growing family back in April 2024.

Agencies

Pics: Prathamesh Bandekar, Tejas Kudtarkar and Prashant Jadhav



Thousands of marathoners were seen on the streets of Mumbai

We run as one, say Mumbai marathoners

The 20th edition of the Mumbai Marathon witnessed enthusiastic participation, as over 60,000 people across age groups took to the streets on Sunday morning. Like every year, the vibe was infectious and it truly embodied the spirit of Mumbai city



During the marathon, people motivate each other to complete their run. In a way, it's a celebration of the city's spirit, where people are always ready to offer a helping hand

— Rohan Salian, businessman



Mumbaikars showed support for various causes through their outfits at the marathon

CONTINUED ON P 3

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

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, stangily

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 Skout shout

57 Trial period for a new product, and what 17-, 25-, 36-, and 46-Across all have?

62 Flowerpot spot

63 Mideast canal

64 Battery terminal

65 "The ___-bity spider"

66 Lean and muscular

67 "Heavens to ___!"

DOWN

1 Beach bottle no.

2 Actress Whitman

3 Toothpaste-endorsing org.

4 Doesn't make history?

5 "Clue" actress Madeline

6 Diamond birthstone month

7 "Halo" star Schreiber

8 In favor of

9 Urchin

10 Pink cocktail, familiarly

11 Last part of a play, perhaps

12 MacGowan of the Pogues

13 Accept, as a coupon

18 A pop

21 Card with no face or number

22 Savory quality

23 Renewable energy source

24 Catherine's "Schitt's Creek" role

26 Mountain range from Kazakhstan to the Arctic Ocean

27 Inflict upon

29 Fire residue

32 National park in Alberta

33 On in years

34 Perfectly timed

35 Tubular pasta

36 Start, as a golf round

37 Petty quarrels

39 Cat's noise

40 Armed conflict

41 Alley-___

45 Keyboard shortcut starter

46 Cola brand

47 "That's it for me!"

48 Calm periods

49 Pharmaceutical giant

50 Proposal

51 Posh

55 Onetime Swedish automaker

57 NNE opposite

58 French yes

59 Do ___ disturb

60 Media that's burned before reading

61 "Listen up!"

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

VOTES GLASGOW

ACELA MOISTURE

STADT HANDPRINT

TAKEHIKE HALOS

GESTURE MANET

LOTT RANWILD

ANT GOALTENDS

BALD DAMNS DIRE

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LAGASSE LEVY

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OHARE SAMSONITE

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Did You Know?

You could fit 1,321 planets the size of Earth inside Jupiter

Jupiter, the biggest planet in our solar system, has a radius of 69,911 kms and has 95 moons that have been officially recognised by the International Astronomical Union (IAU). It is more than twice as big as all the other planets combined and rotates faster than any other planet in the solar system, with a day lasting only about 10 hours.



Level: Medium SUDOKU CHALLENGE

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.

7 5 3

7 2 5

5 4 7 3 1

7 2 4 1

9 1 8 7

7 1 8 4 3

9 1 7

6 7

LOOP THE LOOP

RULES

- Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
- Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B).
- Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
- You can't draw lines around zeroes.
- Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

HOW TO BEGIN:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines

can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a deadend (Fig B).

(Fig A) (Fig B)

POV

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 kama-mayan meals, where banana leaves replace plates and hands replace cutlery. For Indians, this 'newfound' 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

GARFIELD

THE BEST PART OF BEING A CAT?

EASY...

SANTA CAN'T BRING YOU SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR FOR CHRISTMAS!

ARCHIE

WERE YOU ARGUING WITH MS. BEAZLY?

YES, AND FOR ONCE I GOT IN THE LAST WORD!

WHEN YOU ARGUE WITH MS. BEAZLY, THE LAST WORD ISN'T NECESSARILY A WORD!

DENNIS THE MENACE

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

SCRAMBLE

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

HSTIO

EOSNY

ELOTDD

EELMBM

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)

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.

P

T O L

I C I

SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

LOOP THE LOOP

TIMES HITORI

SPELLATHON

SCRAMBLE

FINOLEX FORTUNE

Book Anupam V Kapil for appt/written predictions: 9822042295 or anupamvkapil@gmail.com.

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

LIBRA: A challenging day awaits, as you may feel the weight of your responsibilities, both financially and emotionally. Make sure to manage your work alongside family needs, and keep an open mind to positive influences around you.

SCORPIO: There may be unfinished matters that need attention today. 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.

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Nikita Dutta and
Rahul Bose

6 This is my 10th time at the Mumbai Marathon and I look forward to participating each year. To run along with my fellow Mumbaiers is something I always cherish. We all run as one

— Sneha Verma, homemaker



A participant flaunts her love for kites



Participants came up with interesting looks and costumes to highlight a range of social issues

Mumbai Marathon: A celebration of the city's spirit

CONTINUED FROM R 1

The marathon was flagged off by Maharashtra Governor, CP Radhakrishnan, at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT). Participants - from the differently abled to the super seniors - came dressed in vibrant costumes to highlight various social causes and they were cheered on from the sidelines by hordes of Mumbaiers.



Marathoners promoting a social message: Don't fall prey to scammers

6 This was the first time I participated and it was heartening to see the camaraderie in the air. People were cheering us from the sidelines and that only added to the vibe

— Avinash Patil, finance expert



Kalki Koechlin with a participant



<< Tara Sharma

Many differently-abled Mumbaiers joined in with enthusiasm



Legendary lyricist & poet Gulzar was there along with differently-abled children

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and Mumbai city for your

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- Resilience
- Empathy

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CONTINUED FROM 1

Fans thronged the stadium way before the gates opened at 3 pm and waited patiently for hours before the band took the stage at 8 pm. As the lights dimmed and the first notes of *Higher Power* reverberated through the stadium, an explosion of cheers set the stage for an unforgettable night. The band seamlessly wove tracks from their Grammy-nominated album *Music Of The Spheres* with classics that have stood the test of time, like *Fix You*, *Yellow*, *Paradise* and *Viva La Vida*. Their rendition of *Adventure Of A Lifetime*, *Hymn For The Weekend* and *A Sky Full Of Stars* was transportive. Another highlight of the evening was Chris Martin speaking in Marathi and addressing the Mumbai crowd. “*Kasey*

aahaat? (how are you?) *Tumhi sagle aaj chaan distaay* (you all are looking so good today). He even teased the audience by abruptly stopping mid-performance and saying, “We have to finish the show because Jasprit Bumrah wants to come and play cricket with me backstage.” And no, Bumrah wasn’t present at the concert, it was just a friendly shoutout to the bowler and 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. 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.



‘Here’s to manifesting dreams’

Jasleen Royal, who opened for Coldplay, 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 (sic).”

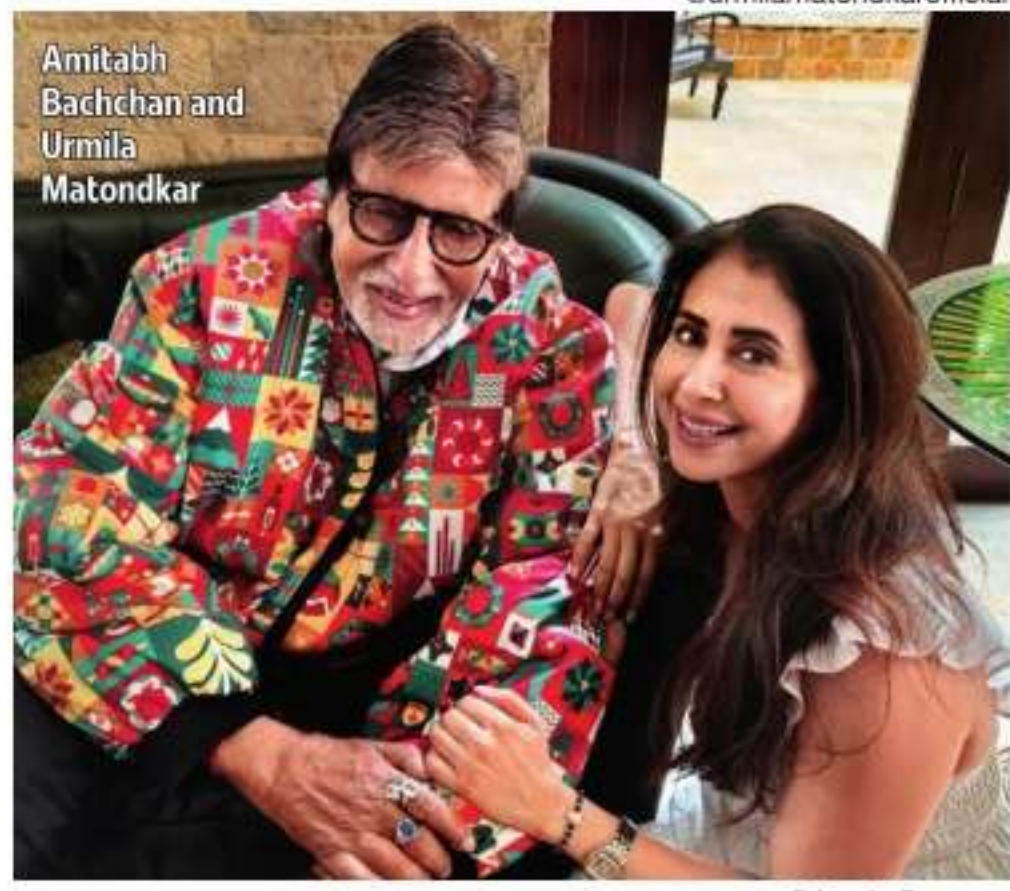
Javed Akhtar’s starry 80th b’day celebration



Javed Akhtar, Shabana Azmi and Sonu Nigam



The special cake that was gifted by Vidya Balan and Sidharth Roy Kapur



Amitabh Bachchan and Urmila Matondkar

A legendary lyricist, screenwriter and poet Javed Akhtar turned 80 on January 17, his wife, Shabana Azmi, threw a grand birthday bash in Mumbai. Seen attending the party were Amitabh and Jaya Bachchan, Aamir Khan, Vidya Balan, Urmila Matondkar and several other celebs from the industry who are close to the Akhtars. One of the highlights of the celebration was Aamir, Farhan Akhtar and Shankar Mahadevan teaming up to perform the title track from *Dil Chahta Hai*. Among the special gifts Javed Akhtar received was from Vidya Balan and Sidharth Roy Kapur, which was a customised cake with his face superimposed on Bollywood’s iconic characters that were written by him along with Salim Khan.



Shankar Mahadevan, Aamir Khan and Farhan Akhtar teamed up to perform the title track from *Dil Chahta Hai*



The party was a star-studded affair with several B-Town celebs joining in the celebrations

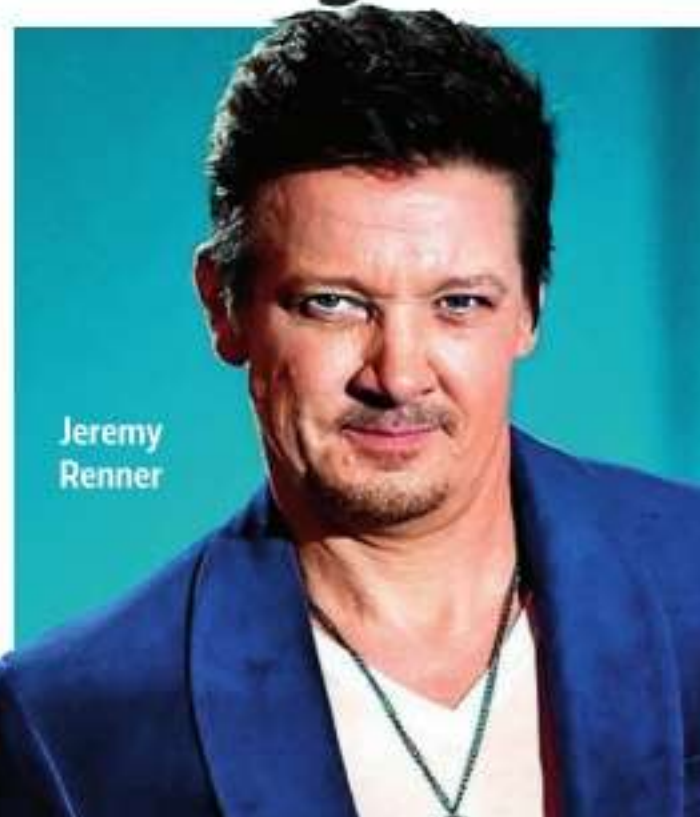
Are Paul & Gracie breaking up?

Paul Mescal and his girlfriend Grace Abrams sparked breakup rumours after a video, showing a visibly emotional Abrams, surfaced online on Sunday. The *Normal People* actor, 28, and the *Tough Love* singer, 25, were dining at a London restaurant when onlookers spotted what was possibly a breakup with the singer bursting into tears at one point. “She was crying so much that he started to cry too,” one onlooker claimed. “She eventually got up and walked out while they were halfway through their meal and he left shortly afterwards.” Diners claimed the exchange “looked like a breakup.”



Paul Mescal and Gracie Abrams

I will never ask for money: Jeremy Renner warns fans against scammers



Jeremy Renner

Jeremy Renner is the latest actor to warn fans against scammers. Taking to Instagram, the *Avengers: Endgame* actor wrote, “Nobody is contacting you on my behalf. No agent, publicist, no manager. Not my mom, not my neighbour. Nobody speaks for me. Be careful out there.” He further added, “I’ll never ask for money. Scammers want money.. They’ll use my photos, fake ids, videos, and AI voice notes etc to get your money. Keep it to yourself. Bless you and be safe.”

Agencies



Pics: @tripti_dinni



Sharing a video from her recent getaway, **TRIPTI DIMRI** wrote, “A little bit of flowers.. a little bit of sun... and a whole lot of happiness (sic)”



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