WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025
ADVERTORIAL, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY
PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Delhi Times

OF INDIA

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SHOWBIZ
ISHAAN KHATTER'S 'SNOWY' SOJOURN TO KASHMIR
P3

SHAKIRA SET TO RESUME PERU CONCERT POST HOSPITAL STAY ON SUNDAY

Prathamesh Bandekar

FATIMA SANA SHAIKH

'WE'VE TO CREATE OUR OWN OPPORTUNITIES WHEN WE DON'T GET WHAT WE WANT'

Onkar Kulkarni

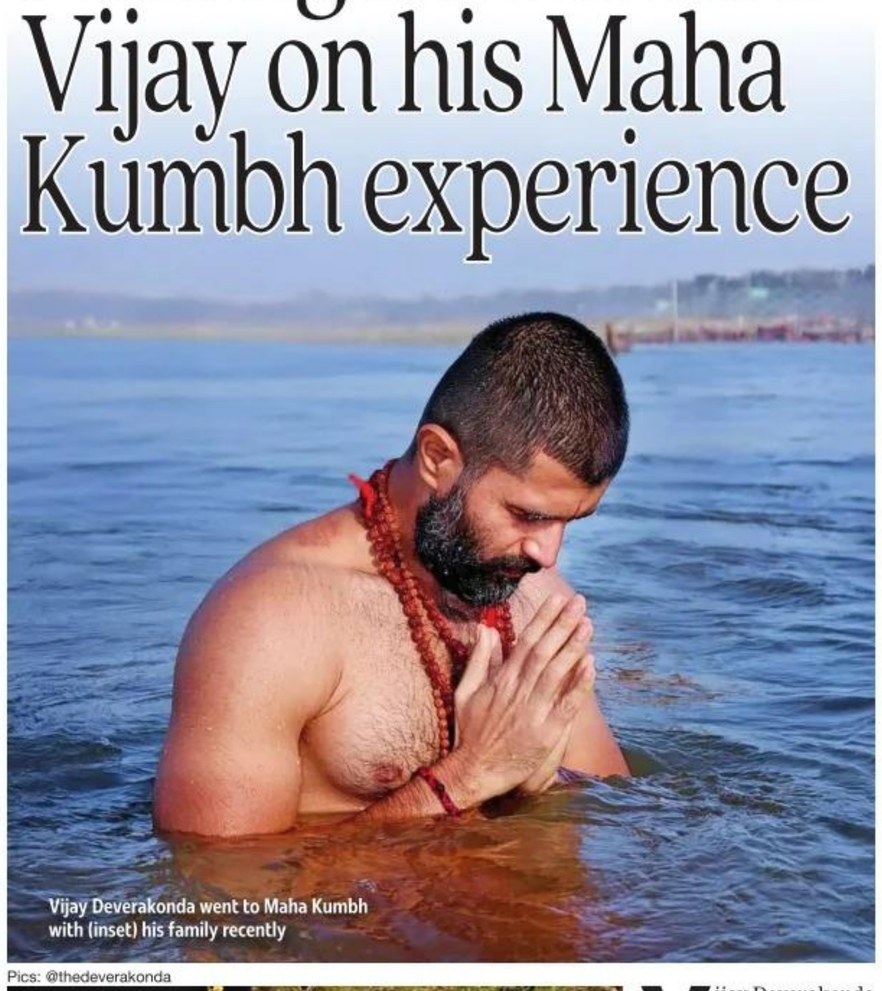
While Fatima Sana Shaikh had a very busy 2024, the audience didn't see her on the big screen or on OTT all through last year. However, the actress is unperturbed by the waiting game. "When you are shooting, your mind stays focused on work, so you don't stress. But when you're sitting at home with no shooting schedule, that's when the panic sets in. The release of a project isn't in the actor's hands – it depends on so many factors. We can only keep shooting and moving forward. I worked a lot in 2024, and I want to see how people perceive me when my projects release this year," says the *Dangal* actress.

CONTINUED ON 3

'Actors need to think of branching because we don't always get the opportunities we want'

Fatima also believes that actors like Anushka Sharma and Konkona Sensharma made a smart move by branching into production, and she hopes to follow suit in the future. "Ali Fazal and Richa Chadha are also producing some amazing projects. Actors now need to think this way because sometimes we don't get the opportunities we want. We have to create our own," she says.

Making memories: Vijay on his Maha Kumbh experience



Vijay Deverakonda went to Maha Kumbh with (inset) his family recently

Pics: @thedeverakonda

Vijay Deverakonda visited Maha Kumbh and Kashi Vishwanath temple with his family recently. The *Liger* actor took to Instagram to share pictures of his spiritual getaway, and wrote, "A journey to connect, pay respect to our epic origins and roots. Making memories with my Indian boys (*sic*)."

Talking about his family time, he added, "Saying Prayers with mummy dearest. A trip to Kasi with this darling gang (*sic*)." TNN

Buzzstop

SC STAYS RANVEER ALLAHBADIA'S ARREST, BARS HIM FROM DOING SHOWS FOR NOW

The Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed the arrest of YouTuber **Ranveer Allahbadia**, aka BeerBiceps, in the FIRs registered against him in Maharashtra, Assam and Rajasthan, for his inappropriate remarks made during an episode of the reality show *India's Got Latent*. The court called him out for his comments, saying, "The words you have used will make daughters, sisters, parents and even the society feel ashamed. It shows a perverted mind." While the SC allowed him interim protection, they restrained the YouTuber from doing any other show for the time being. The Court also ordered that no further FIR should be registered against Allahbadia with regard to this case. Agencies

VARIETY

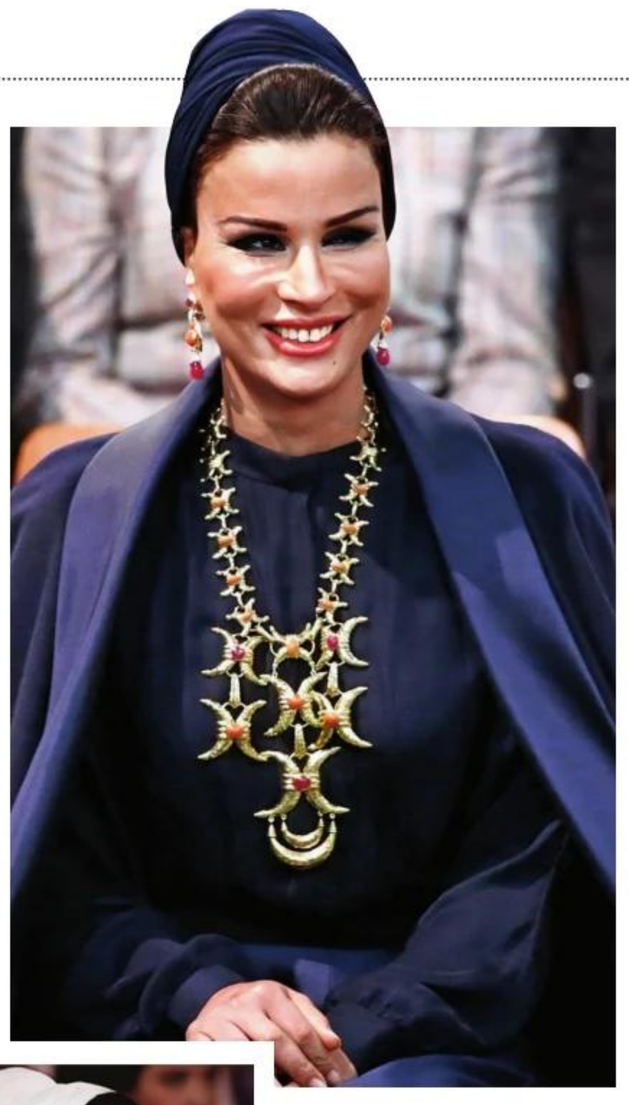
The Doha billionairess and her jewelled legacy

While the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, is making headlines in India while on his two-day visit, another member of the Qatari royal family is also being talked about for her recent public appearances – the Emir's mother Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The fashion icon and philanthropist is known for her impeccable style and stunning collection of jewellery. Here's a look:

Global glitterati is enamoured by Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, the style icon, entrepreneur and power lady of Qatar. And there is enough reason to be so. One of the consorts of Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the former Emir of Qatar, and mother of the current Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Sheikha Moza's public appearances have kept fashion critics and publications busy analysing her stellar sartorial choices. She has often been compared with Elizabeth Taylor and Maharani Gayatri Devi for her exquisite sartorial statements. In particular, her collection of statement jewellery pieces that would be comparable (or even eclipse) some of the most jaw-dropping jewels on public view last year on various occasions.

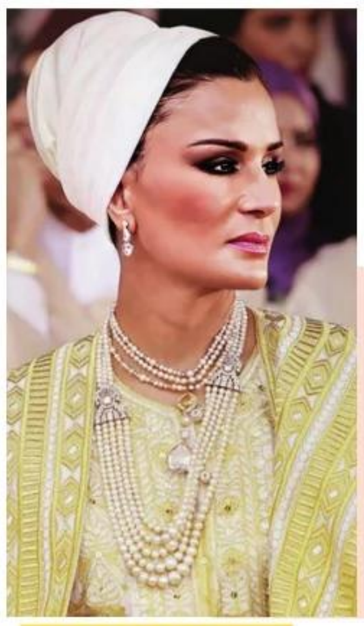
Sheikha Moza's public appearances – and she lives an active life between her philanthropy and entrepreneurial work – have fuelled many conversations among the glitterati in India as well. In fact, the recent launch of Sabyasachi's collection in Doha was said to be inspired by her elegant aesthetic while she was also listed as one of the people shaping the Global Fashion Industry (BOF, 2024).

Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, with PM Modi. The Emir is currently in India



(Above) Sheikha Moza paired vintage David Webb gold coral earrings and a layered gold coral necklace with a navy blue Valentino outfit for Dutch King Willem Alexander's coronation in 2013 in Amsterdam. Webb's creations have been favoured by the likes of Liz Taylor and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

One of the most talked-about pieces in her treasury is Cartier's Eternity snake diamond necklace, which is believed to have been modified for her. Created in 1998, the necklace originally featured two of the largest emeralds in the world, weighing 205 and 206 carats, along with 26 baroque pear emeralds, 3957 diamonds, and fine pearls (inset). The version worn by Sheikha Moza was reportedly altered to replace the emeralds with two large white diamonds, with the smaller emeralds and pearls removed for a more streamlined look. She paired it with a grey J Mendel dress at a 2010 event in London



Sheikha Moza's fascinating jewellery collection prominently features an array of statement pearl necklaces – ranging from single strands to elaborate layers, with pieces from esteemed jewellers such as Robert Wan and Mikimoto. (Left) She layered two iconic Cartier pieces for a royal wedding in 2014. According to an Instagram handle dedicated to the royal, Sheikha Moza Fashion, the smaller necklace is called "Le Tavernier" and features two Golconda diamonds

POV

Student of the year

As congratulatory posts pour in from political bigwigs and industrialists, Samarth Mahangade has already cleared an impossible challenge with *flying* colours. The college student, who paraglided from Panchgani to his exam centre in Pasarni minutes before the deadline to avoid congested roads, has been in the news for everything – from his "problem-solving" abilities to his resolve and determination. It is true grit. Absolutely.

But behind the feel-good story is also a grim reminder of how a staggering number of students battle the odds every day – not for social media clout, not for viral fame, but simply to get to class on time. Something that should be a given, what with the seriousness with which young students pursue their dreams of a better life, their academic and career ambitions. It's easy to cheer for a story like Samarth's, but let's also talk about the ones that don't make headlines.

iStock

There is perhaps a tendency to glorify the perseverance of the students who wade through flooded city streets during the monsoon, or travel miles on foot, sometimes negotiating a river in spate, by overcrowded buses, or hanging off the edge of trains just to reach school or an exam centre. But what we may not remember is that all it takes is a broken bridge or a delayed train to destroy an entire academic year. Or as in the tragic incident in Delhi, where JEE aspirants drowned in a flooded basement of a coaching centre, the irreplaceable loss of lives.

We all love a good underdog story – who doesn't? Films like *Super 30* and *12th Fail* have well captured the sheer tenacity of our students, showcasing the immense struggles they overcome in their pursuit of education. These films resonate deeply because they reflect a reality that is all too familiar – brilliant, hardworking students navigating a system that often seems indifferent to their hardships.

Samarth's story is impressive, no doubt. But you know what would be even more impressive? A system where students don't have to paraglide, wade or struggle just to reach their classrooms. Now, that would be something worth normalising.

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

LEISURE

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

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

HOW TO PLAY

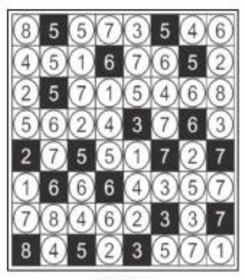
Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

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)

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

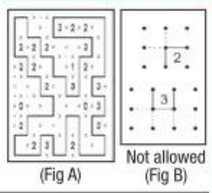


Example

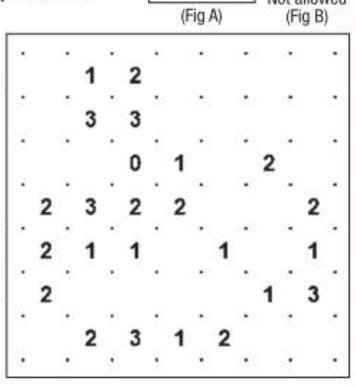
LOOP THE LOOP

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

By Maddy Ziegler 19/02/2025

ACROSS
1 Gratuity
4 Common London weather
7 __ moment
10 Feathery accessory
13 Burdened by debt
15 Competed in a turkey trot
16 Piercing tool that resembles a screwdriver
17 Musical set at the Kit Kat Klub
18 Way of thinking
20 Spared no expense
22 Border city on the Rio Grande
23 Distinguishing feature of some languages
24 __ shirt
26 Skin art, for short
28 Anti-narcotics org.
29 Barter
33 2023 Academy Honorary Award recipient Bassett
36 WSW opposite
37 Goalie's success
38 British nobleman
39 Big name in tiny candies
41 Curling __
42 Four Corners state
43 "Sex Education" actor Butterfield
44 "Advancing the power of facts" journalism website
46 Office 34-Down
47 Fair-weather __
48 Rule, for short
49 Lars of Metallica
52 Throws in
55 Kind of paper in a gift bag
58 Long, relaxing baths
61 Works a summer office job, perhaps
63 Scout who may sell cookies
64 Hotshot
65 Green prefix
66 ID checker at a nightclub
67 Tool with teeth
68 Camera __
69 Casual affirmative
70 Historic time

DOWN
1 Nervous twitches
2 Not fitting
3 2012 World Series MVP Sandoval
4 "You're not making this up?"
5 Designer Cassini
6 "Don't let the thieves escape!"
7 Cup holder locale, perhaps
8 *Salute in ancient Rome
9 Record of the year?
10 Acid counterpart
11 Carried debt
12 Voice above tenor
14 *Scary Halloween venue
19 Severe scolding, and what the answers to the starred clues literally have?
21 *Vacation spot with horses
25 Button that may submit an online form
27 *Irish novelist who writes the "Dublin Murder Squad" series
30 Spy follower?
31 Declare bluntly
32 Pilot gear?
33 Grad
34 Short message
35 Unit on a kitchen scale
40 Actor Morales
45 Thick 4-Across metaphor
50 Tackle box supply
51 Solving crosswords, for some
53 Destination after a promposal
54 Slalom competitor
55 Aunts in la familia
56 Peru native
57 Seethe
59 Pants, in slang
60 Word sung twice after "Que" in a classic song
62 __ sauce

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

W	A	S	P		E	G	R	E	T		I	O	T	A
E	L	L	E		M	I	A	M	I		N	A	A	N
P	O	I	N	T	O	F	V	I	E	W	S	H	O	T
T	E	M	P	O		T	E	T		H	O	U	S	E
			A	O	L				O	I	L			
	P	O	L	K	A	D	O	T	D	R	E	S	S	
C	A	T	S		D	A	S	H	I		S	O	A	R
H	U	H			S	L	A	I	N			D	Y	E
E	L	E	C	T		A	G	E		S	T	O	N	E
F	O	R	A	B	R	I	E	F	P	E	R	I	O	D
			N	S	A				A	T	A			
T	U	N	A		I	C	I	E	R		P	A	L	E
S	T	O	P	A	L	O	N	G	T	H	E	W	A	Y
P	A	R	E	S		P	I	G		O	Z	O	N	E
S	H	I	S	H		E	T	S		W	E	L	D	S

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GARFIELD

ARCHIE

SCRAMBLE

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

GSUEI
SHULS
EKSUNN
EINYDK

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

___ makes a fellow feel good whether it's being done to him or by him. - Frank Clark (8)

EVENTS

EXHIBITION

India Habitat Centre: *Stars and Stories* - An exhibition of paintings by Shubhra Jain. Till tomorrow. Convention Centre Foyer, IHC

India Habitat Centre: *Panchtatva: The Elemental Mosaic* - A solo painting exhibition. Today. Visual Arts Gallery, IHC

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

ARIES: Anything you do as a team is likely to turn out to be more successful than anything you attempt independently. This is especially true when everyone is striving for the same objective.

TAURUS: Your abilities and talents are being recognised, and there's an influx of positive news. While things may get busy, your clarity of mind will help you navigate easily. You may receive help from someone in authority, and new projects are starting to take shape. Be cautious of overspending or overindulging.

GEMINI: Treat lighthearted issues with frivolity, but only as long as you give serious involvements the respect they deserve. Know the difference.

CANCER: You seem to be in a hurry today. Be prepared for office expenses, including maintenance costs for equipment or computers. Clear out paperwork and respond to important messages promptly. Long-distance travel may be on the cards, but consider postponing if possible. Personal relationships may also undergo shifts.

LEO: An influential person might offer you something intriguing, but take your time to decide. More responsibilities could come your way, and relocation might be a possibility. Some of your challenges are deep-rooted and won't resolve quickly, so don't get discouraged.

VIRGO: If an occasion should arise that requires a small sacrifice on behalf of someone for whom you're responsible, do so with a smile. Don't make a big thing out of it, and it won't be one.

LIBRA: You're likely to be involved in disputes, whether personal or legal. While things will eventually work out in your favour, mental anxiety may weigh on you. New ideas and a keen sense of others' feelings will help you navigate challenges.

SCORPIO: Intrigues and challenges are part of your nature, they could bring out the best in you. Lucky gains and travel opportunities are on the horizon, and your analytical skills will be heightened.

SAGITTARIUS: Career matters are looking favourable, though they may feel more challenging than usual. You might question job security, but with Jupiter in a supportive aspect, those worries are unfounded. Stick to proven methods, and avoid gossip, as it could come back to haunt you.

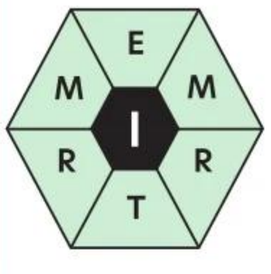
CAPRICORN: Legal professionals will find success, but business partnerships may face disagreements that could lead to losses. Travelling with loved ones could bring luck and fulfilment, while differences with siblings may arise. New responsibilities are on the way, children may play a supportive role at work.

AQUARIUS: You might be busy and unappreciated today, with little recognition for your efforts. Financial matters need attention to avoid potential losses. Avoid guaranteeing anything for others, as it could lead to trouble. Guard your words, as your bluntness might hurt feelings and create lasting tension.

PISCES: Someone you've always been there for may not be the one who can help you at this time, but in his or her place you will find the right person to help. It's your reward.

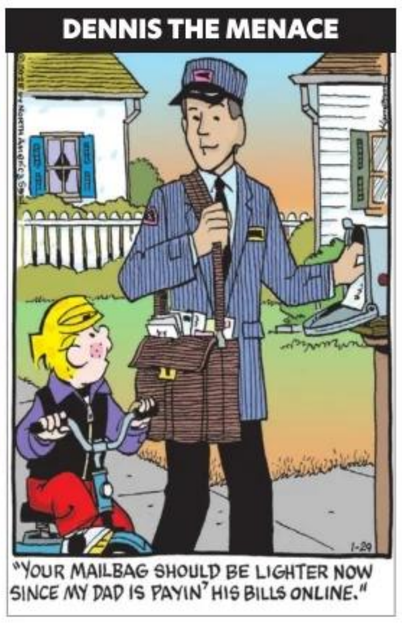
SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
11-average | 13-good | 15-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



"YOUR MAILBAG SHOULD BE LIGHTER NOW SINCE MY DAD IS PAYIN' HIS BILLS ONLINE."

Vol. 25 No. 50
RNI Registration No. DELENG/2001/5765.
Published for the proprietors, Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. by Rajeev Yadav at Times House, 7, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi — 110002 and printed by him at Times of India Press, 13 & 15/1, Site IV Industrial Area, Sahibabad (U.P.) and Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd. Plot No. 7-8, Sector M-11, Transport Hub, Industrial Model Township, Manesar, Haryana-122051.
Regd. Office: Dr Dadabhai Naoroji Road, Mumbai – 400001.
Editor (Delhi Market): Anshul Chaturvedi, responsible for selection of news under PRB Act.
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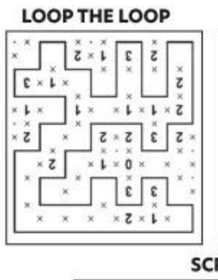
SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

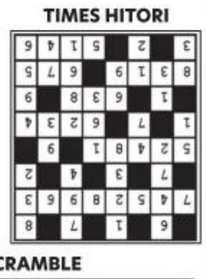
TIMES SUDOKU

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

LOOP THE LOOP



TIMES HITORI



SPELLATHON

emir, emit, item, merit, mime, mire, mite, remit, rite, tier, time, timer, tire, trim, TRIMMER

SCRAMBLE

Words: Guise, slush, sunken, kidney
Answer: Kindness makes a fellow feel good whether it's being done to him or by him. - Frank Clark

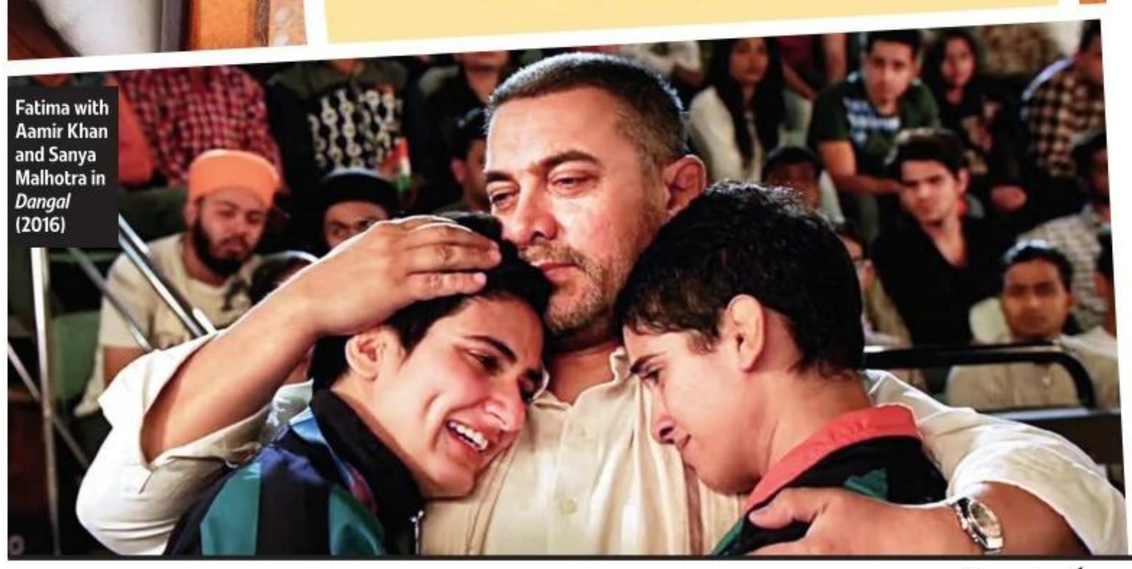
Prathamesh Bandekar

I'm realistic about myself and my talent: Fatima

Fatima Sana Shaikh

'If a role I want goes to Sanya, I could feel jealous or insecure'

Dangal was a breakout film for both Fatima and Sanya Malhotra, and the two became good friends after working together. However, as their careers grew, they both went down different paths. When asked if there's ever been a sense of rivalry or jealousy between them, Fatima says, "There is always some level of competition and insecurity in life... But how you handle that jealousy defines you. Of course, if a role I want goes to her, I could feel jealous or insecure. But I don't let my insecurities take over. I'm genuinely happy for Sanya."



Fatima with Aamir Khan and Sanya Malhotra in *Dangal* (2016)

CONTINUED FROM 1

'I WANT TO SEE IF THERE'S A SHIFT OR A CHANGE IN THE WAY I'M POSITIONED'

Talking about the kind of work that inspires her, Fatima says, "With the kind of work I am doing now, I want to see if there's a shift or a change in the way I'm positioned. I have bigger dreams for myself, but it's not about stardom. I want to do films that transcend borders and leave a deep impact, not just emotionally, but also in a way that a film like *Andaz Apna Apna* had on people." Apart from *Metro... In Dino*, she will also be seen in the romantic comedy *Aap Jaisa Koi* with R Madhavan, among other projects.

'I TRY TO COLLABORATE WITH PEOPLE, BUT THE MARKET IS TOUGH RIGHT NOW'

Fatima doesn't hesitate to approach producers if the project excites her. "I'm trying to collaborate with people, but the market is tough right now. There are a lot of projects out there, but they're not the ones that attract me. I'm realistic about myself, my talent and my positioning. I know what I can offer to a producer. I can't expect them to invest ₹100 crore on me. I sometimes chase projects I'm passionate about."

> I want to do films that transcend borders and leave a deep impact, not just emotionally, but also in a way that a film like *Andaz Apna Apna* had on people

Hard to be a new mum and work: Radhika Apte multitasks during BAFTAs

@radhikaofficial

Radhika Apte's film *Sister Midnight* was nominated in the Outstanding Debut by a British writer, director or producer category

Radhika Apte, who welcomed a baby girl last December, attended the British Academy Film Awards 2025 in London on Sunday. Taking to Insta on Tuesday, the actress posted a photo of her standing in the washroom, holding a breast pump in one hand and a champagne glass in the other.

In her caption, Radhika gave a shoutout to one of her friends for making her BAFTA experience smooth and stress-free. Thanking her friend for making it possible for her to attend the BAFTAs scheduling the itinerary around her breast-pumping timings, Radhika wrote, "And now my BAFTAs reality... She (her friend) not only accompanied me to the washroom to express milk but more importantly brought me champagne in the loo." Radhika Apte added, "It's hard as is to be a new mum and work, this level of care and sensitivity is rare in our film industry and much appreciated." Radhika got married to British violinist and composer Benedict Taylor in 2012.

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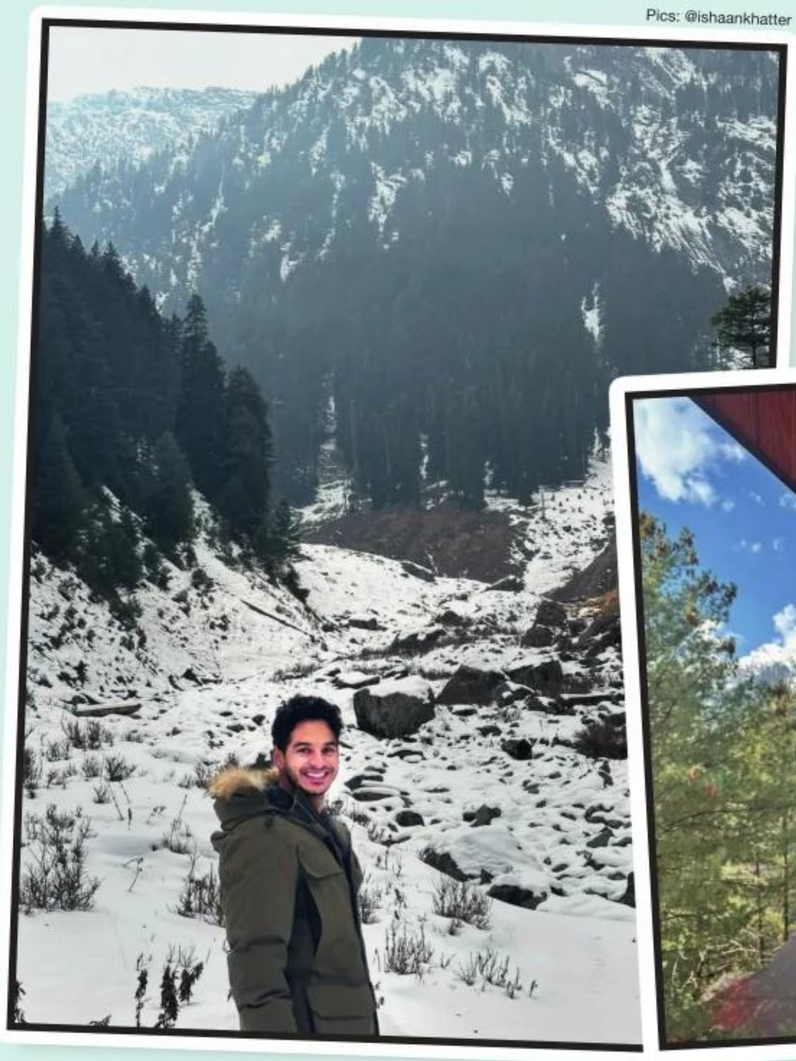
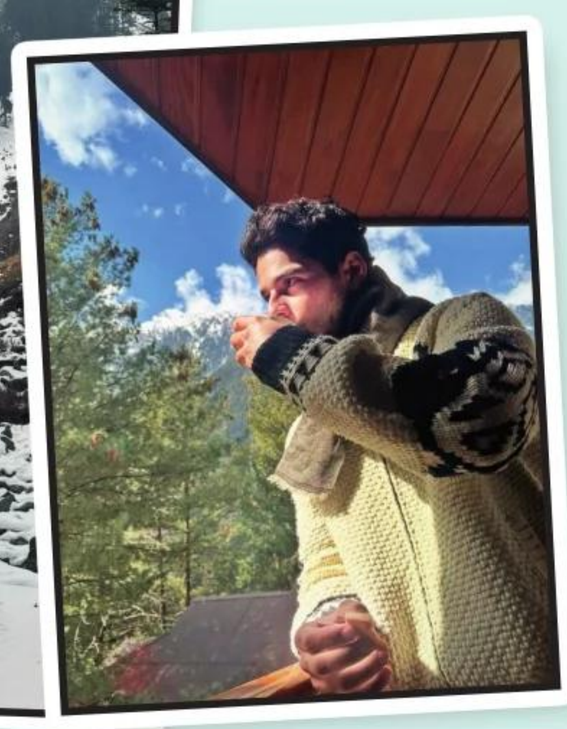
• PUNCHKUIAN ROAD, Garwal Bhawan, (Near Jhandewalan, Gole Chkr.)
• WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
• JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
• NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
• LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram,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

Pics: @ishaankhatter

TRIPPIN'

"Al-vida Jannat-e-Kasheer," wrote **ISHAAN KHATTER** as he shared some pics of himself from **KASHMIR**





@donalbisht

Donal Bisht

Wearing a mask all the time: Donal Bisht

The *Ek Deewaana Tha* actress is currently shooting in Foshan, China amid the HMPV outbreak

Donal Bisht is currently shooting her first international film in China and her family back home is worried about the HMPV outbreak there. When we reached out to Donal, she said, "I am shooting for a project in Foshan with director Andrew Lau, who has made films like *Internal Affairs* and *Women from Mars*. When I was finalised for the role, there were no reports of the virus, but by the time I travelled to China in January, HMPV had started spreading."

The actress, who has been part of TV serials and web shows, added, "My parents and friends back home are worried about me. This was a work commitment, so I couldn't postpone it. People here are taking a lot of precautions. I'm wearing a mask all the time. Luckily, the location where we are currently shooting is far away from where most of the cases have been found. As soon as my schedule is over in a few days, I will return to India."

— Hasti Doshi

Pics: Anindya Saha

Analogue cameras: A retro revival or fleeting trend?

In a world of instant snapshots, some photographers are embracing patience and manual focus with analogue cameras

Eshna Bhattacharya

Just when we thought film cameras had been safely packed away in nostalgia's attic, they've clawed their way back into relevance. But is this a fleeting hipster trend or a full-fledged rebellion against the instant gratification of digital? Let's rewind.

> Despite high costs and digital ease, analogue is still alive. There's something about a photo slowly coming to life in a darkroom
> – Ajay Das, photographer

Checking out a vintage camera, college student Tiyasha Goswami says, "I've seen people buying analogue cameras as keepsakes, but our generation seldom understands the care they require"

Wildlife photographer Subhasish Bhandari shares, "Once upon a time, photographers had to memorise settings in analogue cameras for different times of the day"

Film photography: A luxury hobby?

Love isn't cheap, neither is film photography. Camera seller Tanvir Ahmed says, "The price of film has shot up from ₹50 to ₹500. And that's just the beginning of the struggle. First, you need to buy film, then comes the hunt for developing chemicals. Finally, there's the processing part itself - it's all very expensive."

₹800 is the current average price of film

THE HUNT FOR VINTAGE CAMERAS

A large number of people are returning to film photography, says Rafiq Khan a camera shop owner. "Numerous people are coming to us in search of analogue cameras. Vintage lenses are flying off the shelves too."

'Shooting on film makes a statement'

For photographer Indraneel Sanyal, shooting on film makes a statement. "I still use film cameras because film photography makes a statement. Many don't know the thrill of analogue. There's no waste - you have just one shot, so you have to make it count," he says.

> Analogue cameras rarely need repairs, but when they do, it's difficult – parts are unavailable, and fixing them requires extra time, effort and sheer luck
> – Mehrab Alam, a camera-repair specialist

The repair struggle

For many, the real challenge isn't just finding an analogue camera, but a place that can handle repairs and maintenance. Camera repair expert Ganendranath Samanta, says, "Analogue cameras are coming back, but the new generation of repairers have no clue how to fix them."

Chinese tourist town apologises for 'fake cotton snow'

iStock

A file picture of Sichuan province; (inset) screengrab from a viral video shows cotton used to simulate snow at the Chengdu village

A tourist village in China's southwestern province of Sichuan famed for its scenic snow landscape has apologised for using cotton and soapy water to create fake snow after online criticism from visitors went viral.

In a post on its official Wechat account on February 8, the Chengdu Snow Village project said that during the Lunar New Year holiday at the end of January, the weather was warm and the snow village did not take shape as anticipated.

Following criticism on social media, the tourist area began cleaning up all the snow cotton. The village authorities said it "deeply apologises" for the changes and that tourists could get a refund. The site has since been closed.

Photos on Wechat showed large cotton wool sheets strewn about the grounds, only partially covering the leafy areas. "A thick snow layer appeared to blanket the houses in the zone but as you got closer, it was all cotton," noted a tourist on social media. "A snow village without snow," said another user, adding "In today's age of well-developed Internet, scenic spots must advertise truthfully and avoid deception or false advertising, otherwise they will only shoot themselves in the foot."

Reuters

> To create a snowy atmosphere, the village purchased cotton for the snow... but it did not achieve the expected effect, leaving a very bad impression on tourists
> – Chengdu Snow Village authorities in a statement

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