

# Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara stars reunite for an epic journey

fter weeks of speculation surrounding the viral video featuring Bollywood's beloved Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara trio - Hrithik Roshan, Farhan Akhtar, and Abhay Deolthe mystery has finally been revealed. The new campaign for Yas Island, Zindagi Ko Yas Bol, brings together the original cast for a much-anticipated reunion, celebrating the spirit of adventure and friendship. Fourteen years after the iconic film, fans are getting the closest thing to a sequel, with the trio embarking on a brand-new adventure packed with challenges, thrills, and unforgettable moments on Yas Island.

A brand-new jingle was also created for this campaign, capturing the excitement and energy of the island and ensuring that the spirit of fun stays with you long after the journey ends.

Liam Findlay, CEO of Miral Destinations, says, "This campaign is all about celebrating the joy of friendship and adventure, just like the film did 14 years ago. This place is perfect for unforgettable moments, and we're happy to bring this experience to life with Hrithik, Farhan, and Abhay."

Filmmakers Zoya Akhtar and
Reema Kagti, who co-wrote the script
for the series, add, "We are excited
about this collaboration, and it's
amazing to see how the film still connects with people so many years later.



At its heart, the film has always been about stepping out of your comfort zone and living life to the fullest, and we are grateful for all the love it continues to receive."

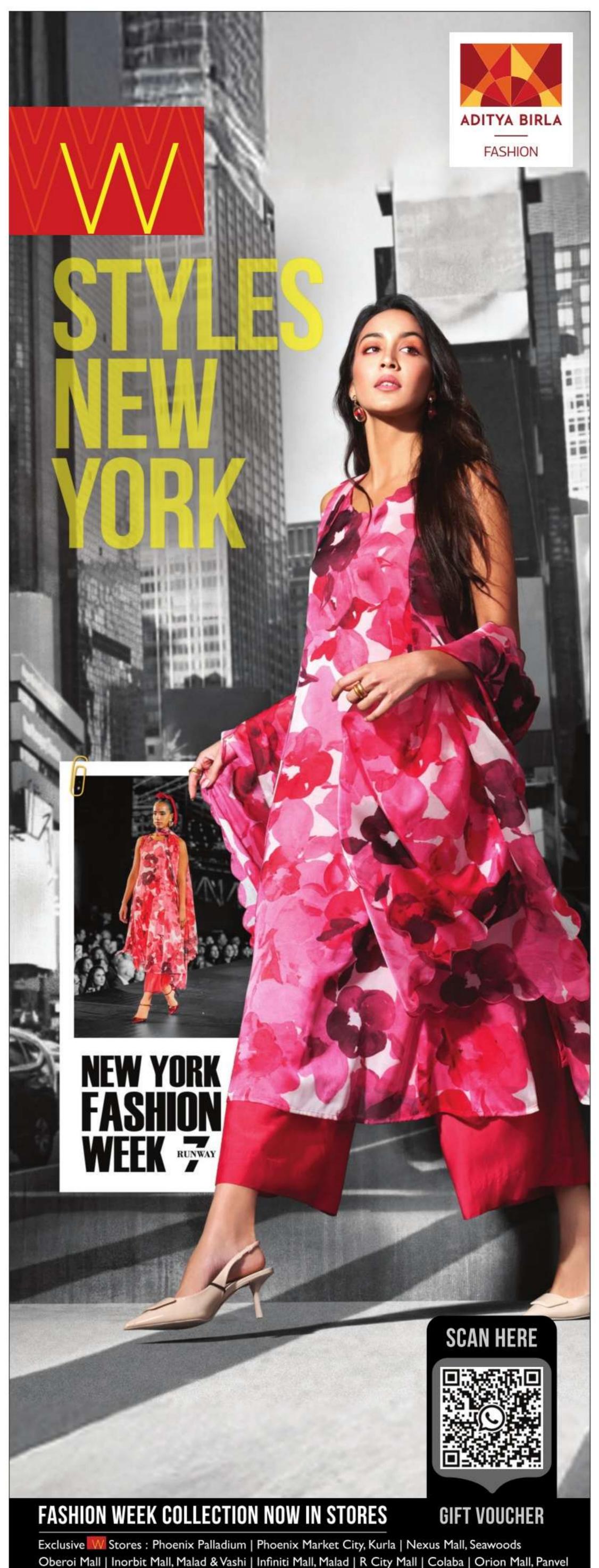
The campaign kicked off with an exciting trailer, marking the beginning of a five-episode series that takes Hrithik, Farhan, and Abhay across Yas Island's most iconic experiences. Reigniting the film's core theme, each character challenges the others, embracing the spirit of Zindagi Ko Yas Bol by saying 'Yas' to every adventure.

In the latest episode of the *Zindagi*Ko Yas Bol campaign, the 'Bwoys' took
their camaraderie to Warner Bros.

World™ Yas Island, Abu Dhabi. In a hilarious attempt to recreate an iconic scare moment from their own movie, Abhay set up what he thought would be the ultimate prank. But when the dark alleys of Gotham City fought back and the joke spiraled out of control, chaos erupted in ways our amigos did not expect.

Fans can follow the trio's adventure in the upcoming episodes. With each episode unlocking new challenges and breathtaking experiences, Zindagi Ko Yas Bol is set to be an unforgettable journey that celebrates the spirit of friendship, adventure, and saying 'Yas' to life.





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point to meet fans and

Kapoor says safety is her "top priority"

The performance arena in India is a rapidly changing landscape, with women at the forefront now. Ahead of Women's Day, artistes tell us what exactly goes into making and taking a show out on the road, being a woman

#### Ruman Ganguly & Sundas Jawed

or a while post-pandemic, it seemed like the world had come to a standstill as far as the live performance circuit was concerned. Over the past three years, it has taken a lot to build it all back.

In India, as always, women have been at the forefront of this rebuilding process singing, dancing, entertaining - as only women can. From Bollywood to hyperlocal industries, women are leading the charge. Being a woman, what exactly does

it take to build a show and take it out on the road? What hurdles do these artistes keep facing? As we approach Women's Day, we take a deep dive with some of India's

#### best known women performers. PERFORMANCE AS EXPERIENCE

There is a noticeably fresh energy and confidence in performances - from innovative stage designs to dynamic choreography - where women artistes are taking charge. "Many female singers now take charge of everything from visuals to choreography, making their concerts a comprehensive ex-

Rewrite

perience," said Chittiyaan Kalaiyaan singer Kanika Kapoor. Female artistes have "completely transformed" the live music scene, feels Shilpa Rao. "Artistes like Sunidhi Chauhan, Shreya Ghoshal and Shalmali Kholgade have revolutionised the industry," said Rao. Adding how a lot of female performers have become pop stars in its truest sense, Aaj Ki Raat singer Madhubanti Bagchi says, "From singing and dancing to acting things

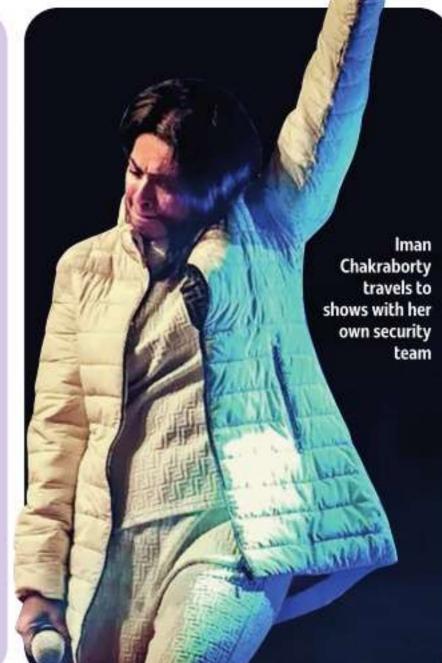
out - I think women are pushing boundaries a lot more than their male counterparts." "When I started doing live shows, questions

like 'Why is she dancing on stage while singing?" 'Why is she not in a sari?' were common," points out Iman Chakraborty, "Thankfully, the scene has evolved by leaps and bounds now."

#### **Better basics**

Antara and Ankita Nandy spoke of times when asking for a decent hotel was considered 'demanding'. "Asking for clean washrooms at the venue was considered a 'tantrum'. There were always comparisons with a male star; 'XYZ performed here yesterday, and he didn't demand these!" said Antara. The sisters feel that with rising female representation in events, artiste management and PR teams, things have "started to look a lot better!"

"I have performed shows where there was no proper backstage, forget a vanity van. But I notice a major shift in the thought process, as basic comfort and security is provided for. I hope it only gets better for future generations," said



Kakar.

irritation," pointed out Kapoor. For Bagchi, dusty, field-like venues in remote areas are a concern. "I have been mostly affected by dust at open-air shows. There is also the hazard of choking, with confetti and haze guns, if the venue is not too spacious," said Bagchi.

Blood, sweat

Thakur had to stop mid-

In January 2025, singer Monali

performance in Cooch Behar - and

had to be immediately hospitalised

with breathing difficulties. Earlier in

December 2024, Thakur walked out

of a Varanasi concert, facing an

The demanding art of live

on a performer. "Air pollution,

especially in outdoor concerts,

heat and high humidity can be

challenging. Bad air quality or

may affect vocal health. Extreme

weather conditions, like excessive

high dust levels can lead to throat

performance has physical effects

and AQI

unruly crowd.



Indian 6 Indian artistes require highquality technical setups, but many organisers don't fully understand their importance. They often question why we need so many lights or pyrotechnics - Shilpa Rao

#### headlining their own concerts, experimenting with different musical styles. This shift is inspiring a new generation of female musicians and changing audience perceptions - Kanika Kapoor

Female singers are

Artistes like Sunidhi Chauhan,

Shreya Ghoshal and Shalmali

Kholgade have been very

influential in bringing about

major changes for women

performers in India

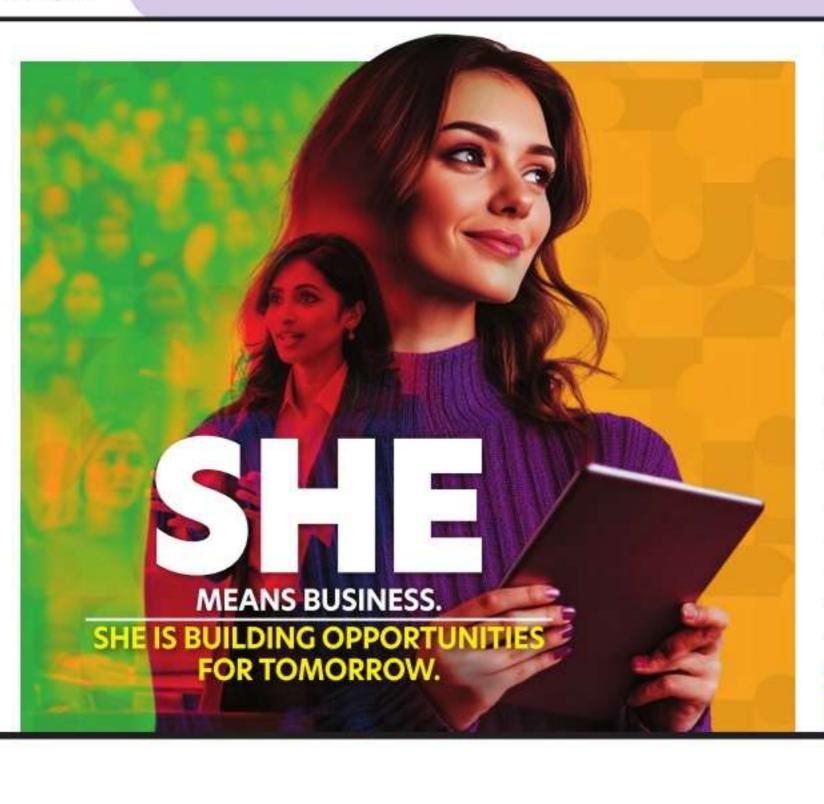
#### **Building safe spaces**

Being a star performer is one thing - and going up on stage as the lone woman, facing a crowd of thousands of people, is quite another.

"Crowd management is crucial in live shows," says Kakar. "I have learned from the past. For performances at remote venues, my team informs the local police so that security is ensured," said Chakraborty. Rao ensures the stage is barricaded properly, and security is in place. "Safety measures also include taking care of technical aspects to prevent accidents, such as ensuring radium lines are marked to avoid people falling off the stage and making sure pyros are placed correctly so that the audience isn't affected," she added.

#### This year, THE FUTURE IS **SHE SEASON 4**

is celebrating the power of our women leaders who believe in passing on the baton to fellow women. There will be an impressive lineup of events and conversations around this theme on March 7.



#### **SESSION SCHEDULE MARCH 07, 2025**

SESSION	TIME SLOT					
Good Vibes Only	7.30am - 8.15am					
Welcome Address by The Times of India	9.55am - 10am					
Passing On The Baton	10am - 10.30am					
The TorchbearHERs	10.30am - 11.15am					
Wander Women	11.15am - 12pm					
Accelerate Action	12pm - 12.45pm					
It's Our Birthright	12.45pm - 1.30pm					
Walk The Money Talk	2pm - 2.30pm					
HERstory Unfolded	2.30pm - 3.15pm					
Mother EartHERs	3.15pm - 4pm					
Sunshine Souls	4pm - 4.45pm					
The Catalysts	4.45pm - 5.30pm					
The Sisterhood Code	5.30pm - 6.15pm					
SHE Collective	6.15pm - 7pm					
She's Got Game	7pm - 7.45pm					
Lights, Camera, Power (Women in Entertainmnet)	7.45pm - 8.30pm					

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How would you like to pass on the baton? Scan and share your ideas here through stories, videos, poems or pictures

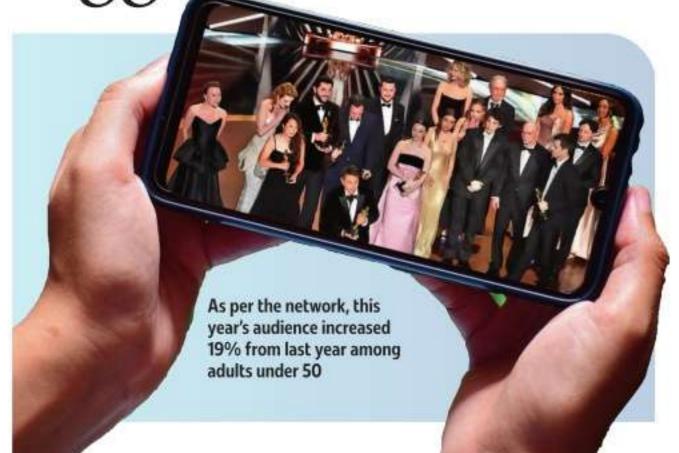
#TheFutureIsSHE #AccelerateAction





Ayushmann Khurrana, who pretended to be a visually-impaired man in Andhadhun, wore a special pair of lenses from London which, he said, impaired his vision by almost 80 per cent. The actor, who plays a piano player in the movie, trained for two months under Akshay Verma, a pianist based in Los Angeles.

# The Academy Awards get their biggest audience in five years



n estimated 19.69 million viewers watched the 97th Academy Awards ceremony, the biggest audience in five years, according to figures released by ABC on Tuesday. The show had an especially big lift among people aged 18 to 49, driven by mobile and laptop watches from younger viewers. "In the case of Sunday night's live telecast of the Oscars, we saw dramatic growth with younger viewers from mobile and PC viewing," the company said in a statement. This comes after a streaming glitch left fans frustrated during the Oscar livestream. Oscar viewership has steadily climbed since the hostless 2021 ceremony, which drew 10.4 million viewers. The infamous 2022 Oscars, marked by Will Smith's slap, saw a jump to 16.6 million, followed by 18.8 million tuning in for the 95th Academy Awards in 2023.



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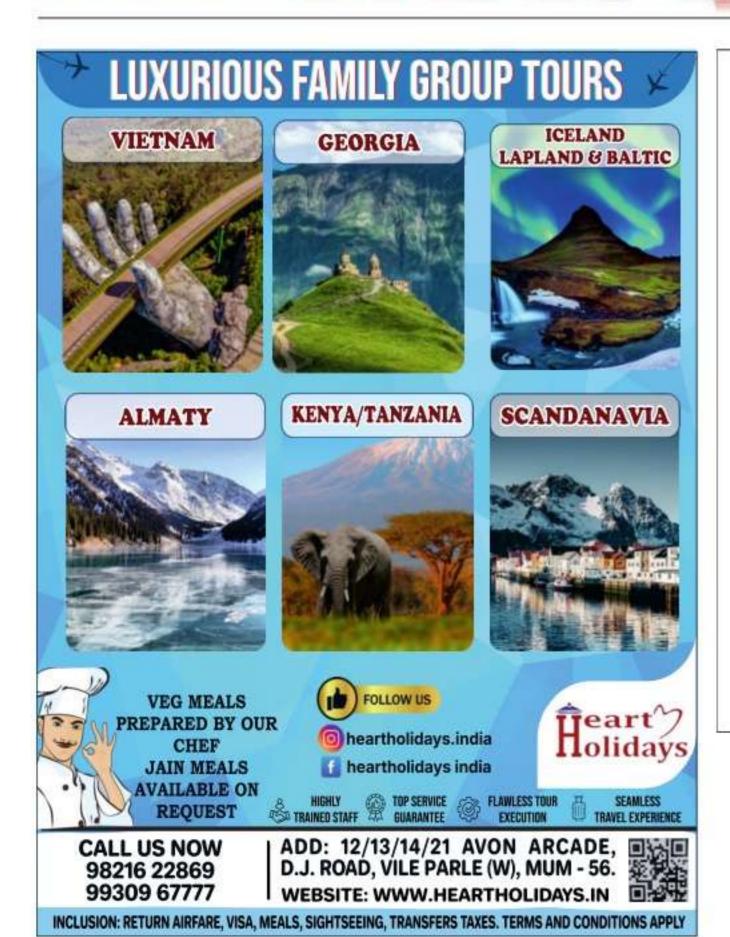
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ome journeys change more than just your location-they change you. Travel has a way of revealing these truths, often when you least expect it. As we prepare to celebrate International Women's Day, here are some stories that may inspire you or spark the desire to let travel transform you.

#### RIDING SOLO

For Ankita Nagwanshi, a Delhi-based bakery owner, the journey to transformation unfolded along the winding roads of Lada-

escape, but she had never driven alonethere was always a group or someone else leading the way. But in Ladakh, with a rented bike for company and an open road ahead, she decided to take the leap. "The first 50 kilometres were daunting, with questions racing through my mind: What if bike the breaks down? What if I get lost? But as I pressed on, fear gradually gave way to confidence. I rode past Bactrian camels in Nubra, glided

little monasteries where monks smiled and waved. When my bike's chain came loose, a kind stranger



kh. Road trips had alongside frozen rivers always been her in Zanskar, and passed **VIETNAM** 08 DAYS: ₹ 1,14,999 **A**njali Fixed Dep: Mar 16,25 • Apr 6,16 • May 12 Simi Travels Pvt Ltd **BAKU & GEORGIA** 08 DAYS: ₹ 1,59,999 Fixed Dep: Mar 15,22 • Apr 5,15 • May 10

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it. By the time I reached Pangong Lake, I felt transformed. This wasn't just another road trip-I had pushed beyond proven something to myself. Now, whenever life feels

sipped suja (butter tea) at a small roadside stall, I asked my guide, Sonam, what Bhutan's famous hapmy limits and pointed at his uncle.

piness index really meant. He smiled and who was laughing with a friend. 'It means we don't chase things. We enjoy what we have. If people understood that, they'd stop feeling low and just be happy.' That moment stayed with me. I had always believed happiness came from reaching the next goal-a better job, a higher salary, a bigger house. But maybe it's about appreciating what's already there," she shares.

LOST (AND FOUND) IN TRANSIT While Jain found wis-

dom in stillness, Dhwani Kamdar, a chartered accountant, discovered hers during an unexpected layover. A delayed flight left her with 24 hours in Istanbul-a city she had never planned to explore but turned out to be the perfect place for a spontaneous adventure. "I could have stayed at the airport, but then I thought, why not do something spontaneous? With no plan, no guide-just curiosity-I stepped out. With its seamless transport, rich history, and vibrant culture, Istanbul is a layover city that rewards spontaneity, proving that even a few hours can lead to unforgettable experiences. I wandered through the Grand Bazaar, sipped the strongest coffee of my life, and somehow ended up on a rooftop café, watching the sun set over

the Bosphorus.

I've always been someone who loves having a plan. But that day, I realised that the best moments happen when you stop planning and simply go with the flow," she notes.

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decisions, and

handling the

confidence

yourself. Finding your

way, making quick

unexpected builds

You stop overthinking

When you're on the

to second-guess-

you just go with it

You see life beyond

breaks the cycle of

work and deadlines

reminding you that

there's more to life

You realise people

everywhere are more

alike than different. A

smile, a shared meal,

or a kind gesture from

a stranger proves that

connection goes

beyond language

LIFE'S A CLIMB BUT

THE VIEW IS GREAT

Some journeys test you-

not just mentally, but

physically. For Ruchi

Krishna, a fashion grad-

uate, a trek to Meesapulimala in Kerala reshaped

routines. Travel

move, there's no time

it, something in me

wanted to give it a go. The

trail started off easy,

winding through tea

plantations and misty

hills. Then the climb

grew steeper, the air

thinner. Halfway up, my

legs burned, and doubt

crept in. Our guide, an

elderly man who had

been doing this for years,

noticed my struggle and

said, 'One step at a time.

Don't think about the

peak, just the next step.

So I did-one step, then

another. And after what

felt like forever, I stood at

the summit, 8,600 feet

above sea level, watching

clouds roll beneath me. I

had never felt so small,

yet so powerful. That day,

I learned that strength

isn't about how fast you

get there-it's about not

giving up," she remarks.

past fear, embracing

spontaneity, or finding

strength in the climb,

travel shows you what

you're truly capable

of. So, what are you

waiting for? Take the

leap-you just might

Whether it's pushing

# Go far, grow further

Sometimes, the best thing you bring back from a trip isn't a souvenir, it's a new version of yourself



tough, I remind myself: if I could handle Ladakh, I can handle anything," she reflects.

#### SPILLING THE TEA ON

HAPPINESS A trip to Bhutan offered Tanvi Jain, a financial analyst from Pune, a different kind of revelation-not through adrenaline, but through a quiet moment of reflection. Exhausted from her corporate routine, she took a break, expecting a simple getaway. What she didn't expect was a lesson in happiness. "One evening, as I Head Office: 14/15 - Kakad Arcade, Opp. Domino's Pizza, New Marine Lines. Mumbai - 20.

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the way she saw herself. "I've always been more of

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## My goal is to win a medal for India in archery: Vikas Gupta

Vikas Gupta

Vikas Gupta

Vikas Gupta

ikas Gupta, who is a creative director, producer and reality show contestant, has been away from the limelight for quite some time now. While people may be wondering where he's been, he has found a new passion - archery. He shares, "Sports were never my strong suit. I'd always avoid the games period in school. It was actually Simba, my son, who got me into archery. After watching a Chinese series, he fell in love with the sport. I got him an archery kit just before the pandemic, but due to his obsession with football and Cristiano Ronaldo, the kit remained un-

touched for months.
One day, I decided to
give it a try, and to
my surprise, I was
actually good at it."

What began as a casual evening activity soon turned into a passion, and now archery has become an integral part of his life. He has par-

gral part of his
life. He has participated in
several tournaments and won
medals. He recalls, "Qualifying
for the finals in
my first National
Open Archery
Tournament and
winning bronze
was a great experience. But winning silver at the
Open National

Archery requires focus, discipline and patience. Every shot demands full attention and that helps me stay in the moment in my day-to-day life

Indoor Archery Championship in 2024 truly validated all the practice I'd put into the sport."

He further adds, "Despite the lack of resources for archery in Mumbai — finding equipment or training grounds can be difficult — I'm determined to keep going. My goal is to win a medal for India. And fortunately, I am able to balance my sport and my creative work. Currently, I'm scripting the final three episodes of a new web series with my team."

— Neha Maheshwri







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# Why do cats make a strange face after smelling something?

f you've ever caught your cat sniffing something and then making a funny face, you're not alone. Many cat parents assume their feline is put off by the smell. but it isn't that. Instead, your cat is tapping into a biological tool that helps them decode hidden messages in their environment.

This expression, known as the Flehmen response, is a specialised way for cats to analyse pheromones -

chemical signals that carry crucial information about other animals. A study, published in the Journal of Comparative Physiology A, explains how cats rely on their vomeronasal organ to process phero-



mones, which trigger instinctive reactions. The study details how this biological mechanism influences feline behaviour, from marking territory and identifying potential mates to strengthening social bonds.

### Studying abroad simplified that professional guidance makes: an

or many students, studying abroad is not just the final pursuit of their academic degree. It is a ticket to a world-class education, opportunities for a global career and growth as an individual. Nonetheless, the transition from dreaming of success to actualising it seems overwhelming. The admission process can feel like a whole load of paperwork and deadlines. Scholarships, visa & accommodation application processes seem maze-like. But with effort, this dream can turn into reality.

One of the major challenges faced by Indian students is the unawareness of their opportunities. Varsity choices are tremendous. With

We're here for you. We're just a call away on your study abroad journey

Dennis

Joseph

thousands of universities available, choosing an institution, course and specialisation becomes overwhelming. Entrance requirements, deadlines and application procedures tend to vary, which is why it is important to get the right guidance to make an informed choice.

Finance is also a massive barrier. But with numerous scholarships and grants on offer, prospective students should be guided in accessing the information

> available. Though the visa procedure is lengthy and tedious, with proper groundwork and documentation, it can be navigated with successful results.

> > difference

Such is the

plify different processes related to university selection, funding and visa applications for students. Trusted educational consultancies with knowledge in global admissions ensure that students get the support they need. With skilled mentorship and connections to universities, students can confidently progress toward their dream of an international education. Fragomen Educa-

expert study-abroad consultant can sim-

tional Services (FES). which was established in 2023, is a venture of Fragomen Immigration Services India (Pvt) Ltd., a company globally recognised for its ex-



scan the QR code

Our global network of consultants offer tailored support, ensuring students navigate admissions with confidence

- Saju James



pertise in immigration and mobility solutions. Dennis Joseph (Managing Director) and Saju James (Managing Partner) of Fragomen India say that the company has helped students across the world through its 70-year history and a footprint extending to over 170 countries. With a network of 6,000 professionals located in 60 offices across the globe, it provides insights into overseas education and views on employment.

Where: Ground Floor, Chintamani Plaza, Mohan Studio Compound, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (E). Call: 8089 034 126. WhatsApp: 999 505 1000.

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#### अखिल भारतीय अग्रवाल सम्मेलन हास्य कवि सम्मेलन 6:30pm Friday 7th March 2025 Onwards Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium, Worli, Mumbai —— मुख्य अतिथि: **डॉ स्दीप गृप्ता**, MD, DM Director, Tata Memorial Centre विशिष्ट अतिथि: श्री मधुसूद्व अग्रवाल (Hon. Consul. Uganda. Co Founder and Vice Chairman Ajanta Pharma Ltd.), श्री एम. एल. अग्रवाल Industrialist & Social Worker, श्री रमेश अग्रवाल CMD-Agarwal Packers & Movers Ltd, डॉ. ओमप्रकाश शेंटे Chief of Ayushman Bharat - Mission Maharashtra सम्माननीय अतिथि: श्री कैलाश अग्रवाल, श्री जगदीश मित्तल, श्री अनिल काशी मुरारका, श्री एम. पी. अग्रवाल, श्री नरेन्द्र अग्रवाल, श्री डालचंद्र गुप्ता, श्री ईश्वरदास रासीवासिया, श्री पुरुषोत्तम अग्रवाल, श्री कपिल गर्ग, श्री सचिन अग्रवाल, श्री रामसिंग अग्रवाल, श्री गोपाल तुलशान, श्री संजय रुईवा, श्री जीतू भाई शाह, श्री अशोक गोयल राष्ट्रीय समितिः 🗃. राजेन्द्र अग्रवाल (शब्द्रेष वश्ळि उपाध्यक्ष), अनुप गुप्ता (शब्द्रेष उपाध्यक्ष), 🗃. सुमन आर. अग्रवाल (शब्द्रेष मंत्री) ॥ अखिल भारतीय अग्रवाल सम्मेलन मुंबई महानगर केन्द्रीय समिति ॥

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स्नील सिरसलेवाला



मंजु गुप्ता



7th March 2025 Contact - Rajasthani Mahila Mandal 2386-1332 / 2380-1353





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• अग्रवाल जनरेशन नेक्स्ट इंटरनेशनल फाउँडेशन

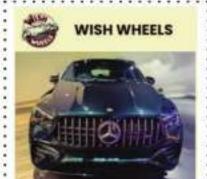
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BMW X5 X-Line 30d. 2021, MH Registered, Diesel, 55000 Kms, Insurance Valid Call @



DISCOVERY SPORT Dynamic SE, MY 23, UNREGISTERED (NEW), Petrol, 100 Kms, Warranty Valid Call @ 9967164485



MERCEDES BENZ GLS 400d Maybach Line, 2022, MH Registered , Diesel, 48000 Kms, Insurance ValidCall @ 9967164485



class S350D Maybach Line 2018, 1st Own, Diesel, 48000 : KM, MH Reg, Insurance Valid, Call @ 9967164485



 MH Registered , Petrol. 2000 Kms done, Under Warranty Call @



UNREGISTERED (NEW). Wrnty Call @ 9967164485







BMW Z4 M40i Convertible, 2024, 1st Owner , Petrol, 1000 Kms, · Under Warranty Call @



MERCEDES BENZ S350d Maybach LWB 2022, 1st Own, Diesel, 13500 KM, MH Reg., Under Warranty,



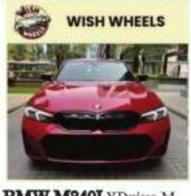
DEFENDER HSE 110 CBU, 2025, MH Registered Petrol, 200 Kms done. Warranty Valid Call @



BMW X7 M40d M Sport 2023, 1st Owner, Diesel, 20000 KM, MH Reg., Under Warranty, Fancy Number,



MERCEDES BENZ C300 Cabriolet 2021, 1st Owner, Petrol, 3000 KM, MH Reg., Under Warranty, Fancy Number, Call @ 9967164485 1



BMW M340I XDrive M Shadow Edition 2023,1st Owner, Petrol, 10263 KM. MH Reg. Under Warranty.



LAND ROVER Defender 130 HSE Dynamic LWB, 2023, UNREGISTERED (NEW), Diesel, 30000 Kms,



BMW X5 M40i M Sport . MY 2024, UNREGISTERED (NEW), Petrol, 0 Kms. Under Warranty Call @



BMW X6 M40i M Sport 2021, MH Registered, Petrol, 10000 Kms, Insurance Valid Call @



MERCEDES GLS 400c AMG Line (7 Seater) 2021 Diesel, 30000 KM, 1st Own, Fancy No., MH Reg. Under Wrnty Call @ 9967164485

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### Have you found your True Calling?

ecently, iPhone users woke up to the news that they could 'finally' use the app that has been a hit with the 'lesser mortals' of the Android club - in real-time. The 'tech snobs' could now receive and block a call from 'Shah Rukh Khan' or 'Bluffmaster', 'World's Biggest Gangster' or 'Famous Scammer,' not to mention some unprintable names. All unbeknownst to the callers.

India is the biggest market for Truecaller, an app that not only keeps strangers at a safe distance but brings in the occasional chuckle as well. Popular for its real-time, live-caller identification, there is life before and after this app. Think of our collective innocence a decade back. giving out our numbers - and with that, our personal information – to every retail outlet, restaurant, blood bank and car showroom. For a country as hugely populated as ours, this database was gold. And duly mined.

There was absolutely nothing you could do to keep telemarketers and spam-

Level: Medium



mers at bay. Not DND, not actual complaints, not blocking. Almost everyone you know would have received two to three spam calls daily in the early 2010s and there was no way you could block out the same guy calling from five different numbers. But now you know not to tap the green button for a call from

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

RULES

Connect adjacent

dots with vertical

or horizontal lines,

creating a single

branches are not

allowed (As shown

by dotted lines in

puzzle indicate the

number of lines that

should surround it,

while empty cells

may be surrounded

by any number of

Numbers in the

loop (Fig A).

Crossovers or

Fig B).

'Spammy Badshah', 'Agent No-Call', or 'Gabbar Singh'.

Like all things automated, such a vast, automated database could not only lead to creative nomenclature, but utterly hilarious confusion as well. While Gabbar may be a well-flagged spammer, it is not unlikely for your distant relative from the wife's side showing up as 'Pizza delivery service' on the app - a reference to the profession you may have had no clue about. In case your 60-plus house physician bought a new SIM, he'd better let you know - or risk showing up on your screen as 'Katrina Kaif'.

Concerns have been raised about whether this live ID feature, developed in Sweden, breaches user privacy. It may be a grev area for now, but as digital arrests and the infamous 'courier service' scams continue to test our commonsense, you know why most Indians prefer to quickly click on 'I agree' to the app's consent form over losing their money and peace of mind.

In a unique carnival tradition, the Gilles - men in wax masks and feathered hats - dance through the town of Binche, tossing oranges at spectators for good fortune



Wax masks, feathered hats keep tradition alive at Binche Carnival

During the carnival, drummers and brass bands march through the streets, filling the air with music and dance

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

#### **SUDOKU CHALLENGE**

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

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. 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.

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).

marking crosses

			3	3		3					
•		٠			•			•			
	2		2	0		2	2		2		2
										٠	
			3						2		2
					•						
			2			2	2		3		
•										•	
						2			3		2
•											
				1			1				1
•		•			•			•			
	3			3		3	3				3

LOOP THE LOOP

# Games



Play now! Scan the QR code or visit toi.in/games

#### THE RESERVE ASSESSMENT OF THE PARTY OF THE P

		IME	S H	TO	RI			
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, un-	2	2	2	3	7	4	2	8
	2	3	4	5	7	9	1	6
	2	1	4	4	1	7	1	2
	3	5	2	1	4	8	9	7
	6	6	7	3	5	6	4	6
	1	4	1	6	7	2	8	3
	2	8	6	9	1	5	3	8
divided by darkened		_			_	_	_	_

ENTERTAINMENT

Adapted from the

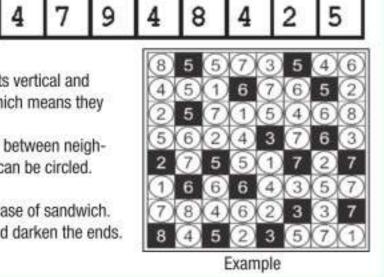
divided by darkened Every time you

(e.g. 666)

**TOMORROW 5 PM** 

darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled.

(e.g. 646 A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends.



### I'VE CRUNCHED THE NUMBERS GARFIELD

WE'RE A LITTLE BIT LATE,

BUT MAYBE WE CAN JUST SLIP INTO CLASS!

**DENNIS THE MENACE** 



CONSIDERING THE

SPIKE IN HOURS DOZING,

SLEEPING AND LOUNGING ...



JAM DAVTS 1-23

JANUARY IS OFFICIALLY

THE LAZIEST MONTH

LVEEE

MYARR

**EGNIIT** 

EUZZLM

#### SPELLATHON Today's Ratings: 13-average | 15-good 117-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.

	c
	Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to each square/circle, to make four ordinary words
PUTIT"	The :

**EXPLOSIVE** 

PLAY EVER

by PRADIP DALV

Adapted from Original play

"I MADE YOU A VALENTINE, MC BUT I DON'T REMEMBER WHERE I PUT IT.

After standing ovation in Kolkata and Pune now in Mumbai

MUST DIE

SCRAMBLE **HOW TO** PLAY Now arrange the letters in the circles to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the

The scholars and poets of an can be read only with a dictionary to help. - Carl Sandburg (7.4)

# 62 By Gary Larson & Amy Ensz 07/03/2025

**ACROSS** 1 Made-up band

5 EPA concern 9 "Rules rules" 12 Native of Pre-Columbian Peru 13 Gaze

14 T. follower 15 Casino employee, obviously? 17 Red block in Minecraft

18 Retinol Correxion skin care brand 19 Hair-raising 20 Manitoba people

21 "Plus some other folks" abbr. 23 Natural pillow

stuffing, obviously? 26 Leave the band, perhaps 28 Rejected

29 Pirouetting. 30 Call on 33 Physicians, briefly

34 Actor Jude's offspring. obviously? 37 Coolers, briefly 40 A mile a minute 41 "Up in Smoke"

co-star 45 New Jersey city 47 Black eve 48 Honorific, obviously? 52 Cacio e pasta 53 Not pretty

54 Plays 56 GPS display 57 Was on the bottom? 58 Convenient excuse.

obviously? 61 Before, before 62 Filch 63 Nature or nurture

64 Leb. neighbor

65 Schnoz

6 "Bohemian Rhapsody" Best Actor Oscar 7 Lode load

66 III at

2 Plastered?

4 Sensible

DOWN

8 Neighbor of Aus. 9 Creative venue 10 Like some library books or contracts 11 Stretches out

13 "Buona 15 Barilla rival 16 Expo presentation 20 Chi. summer setting 22 Aerial maneuver

24 Malicious 25 Rip off 27 Landlord 30 Bother 31 Abbr. on a bank

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 06/03/2025 statement 32 Mud hole 35 Shade 1 Unit of explosive force 36 Blender setting 37 Charges 38 Home of the

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

|P|O|P|P|S|Y|C|H|O|L|O|G|||S|T

SUMMERVACATIONS

GREENTECHNOLOGY

ROBES

A P P L E T U R N O V E R

S|W|||F|T|R|E|C|O|V|E|R|Y

STALK

HASAT

LOP

BONUS

Stampede 39 Place of refinement?

42 Burdensome 43 Planet with the Great Dark Spot 44 Welcome 46 Same-

delivery 47 Formal introduction? 49 Actor Elba 50 Drivel 51 Camp sight

55 Celebrity Burrell 58 Digits from the

government 59 Wee hour 60 Indian state whose capital is Panaji

#### Cast: Rakesh Bedi, Avtar Gill, PARITOSH PAINTER Om Prakash Sharma, Raajan Kapoor, Manju Sharma, Akbar Khan, Poonam Jha, Vikas Rawat, Prashant Padale and others. SEJAL DIPAK PAINTER SUN. Have you seen the play that's



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rib-tickling comedy Bancharamer Bagan

Written by Manoj Mitra

Adapted by Santwana Nigam

Set Design by M S Sathyu

Directed by Masood Akhtar

s: Masood Akhtar, Niraj Pandey, Om Prakash Sharma, Vikas Rawat

Shivkant Lakhangal, Ruchi Sharma, Ankita Pandey and others.

**9TH** March

इस दशक का सर्वप्रसिद्ध

हिंदी महानाट्य

(11 वर्ष | 140 मंचन

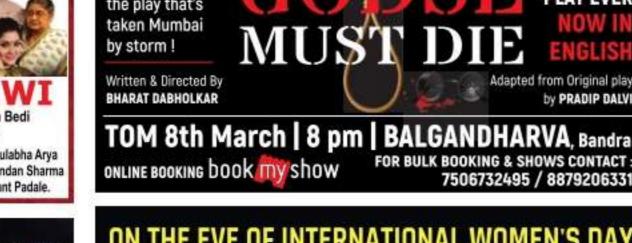
लाखाँ दर्शक | कालजधी संदेश)



Writer: Ajay Shukla Music: Kuldip Singh

Direction: Salim Arif

Written & Directed by Rakesh Bedi Music by Kuldip Singh Cast Rakesh Bedi, Sudha Chandran, Sulabha Arva Avtar Gill, Raajan Kapoor, Manju Brijnandan Sharma Priyall Ghore, Ankita Pandey, Prashant Padale.





#### ARIES: You're at a pivotal turning point. A growing sense of responsibility will give you the rewarding feeling of maturity. The pace of life is hectic, so stay grounded and remember to keep up with your exercise routine. TAURUS: Your loved ones

are showering you with affection, but avoid falling into your old habits. Though responsibilities may weigh on you, you'll feel more

focused and productive. Pay attention to your health - there might be more on your plate than you realise. GEMINI: You'll face minimal resistance in bringing your well-thought-

out ideas to life. It's time to pursue your desires. However, stress from increased work demands could leave you feeling nervous or irritable. Expect a fast-paced day. CANCER: You have the power to make significant changes. Staying connected with loved ones will help you manage any tension. Don't forget to check in with yourself and your energy levels at the

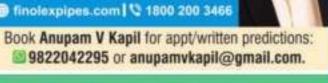
end of the day. LEO: Opportunities are yours for the taking, and you'll be able to make decisions with confidence.

Registration No. MAHENG/2000/2180, VOLUME No. 26, ISSUE No. 65

### **FINOLEX** FORTUNE

missing word as

indicated



See what the stars have in store for

you - according to your moon sign

New insights in your relationships are possible, though friction may arise first. It's a good time to reas-

sess your investments. VIRGO: With careful management and a dash of creativity, you'll find success and perhaps recognition Be observant to understand others' feelings better. This is your time to shine, as your natural spirit is strong. Casual conversations may spark exciting ideas.

LIBRA: You might feel overwhelmed by the workload, but remember to take time for yourself Use this energy to focus on your plans, which are coming together. Big actions are calling for you now is the time to act. SCORPIO: You're ready to initiate

change. Your focus and patience will serve you well as you tackle tasks requiring precision. This is

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the moment to make decisions that reflect your maturity and put your new ideas into action.

SAGITTARIUS: Your energy is high and your drive strong. Important connections could be made, and you will feel inspired to act on your brilliant new ideas and strategies. This is also a good time to relax and recharge.

CAPRICORN: You may feel drawn to work with younger people, especially in mentoring or guiding them toward opportunities. Communicate carefully and listen to your body's needs. It's a great time to focus on your goals and enjoy a sense of excitement. AQUARIUS: Use your positive en-

ergy and charm to make deals or establish connections. A broader perspective on life will come naturally now. If you're struggling to move forward in your work, encourage your colleagues to find the positivity in their current tasks. PISCES: You're in charge of your own schedule today. A feeling of happiness and the desire to share will inspire you today. Interesting and informative conversations are likely, but don't ignore your emotions in favour of logic.

#### **SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES** TIMES SUDOKU



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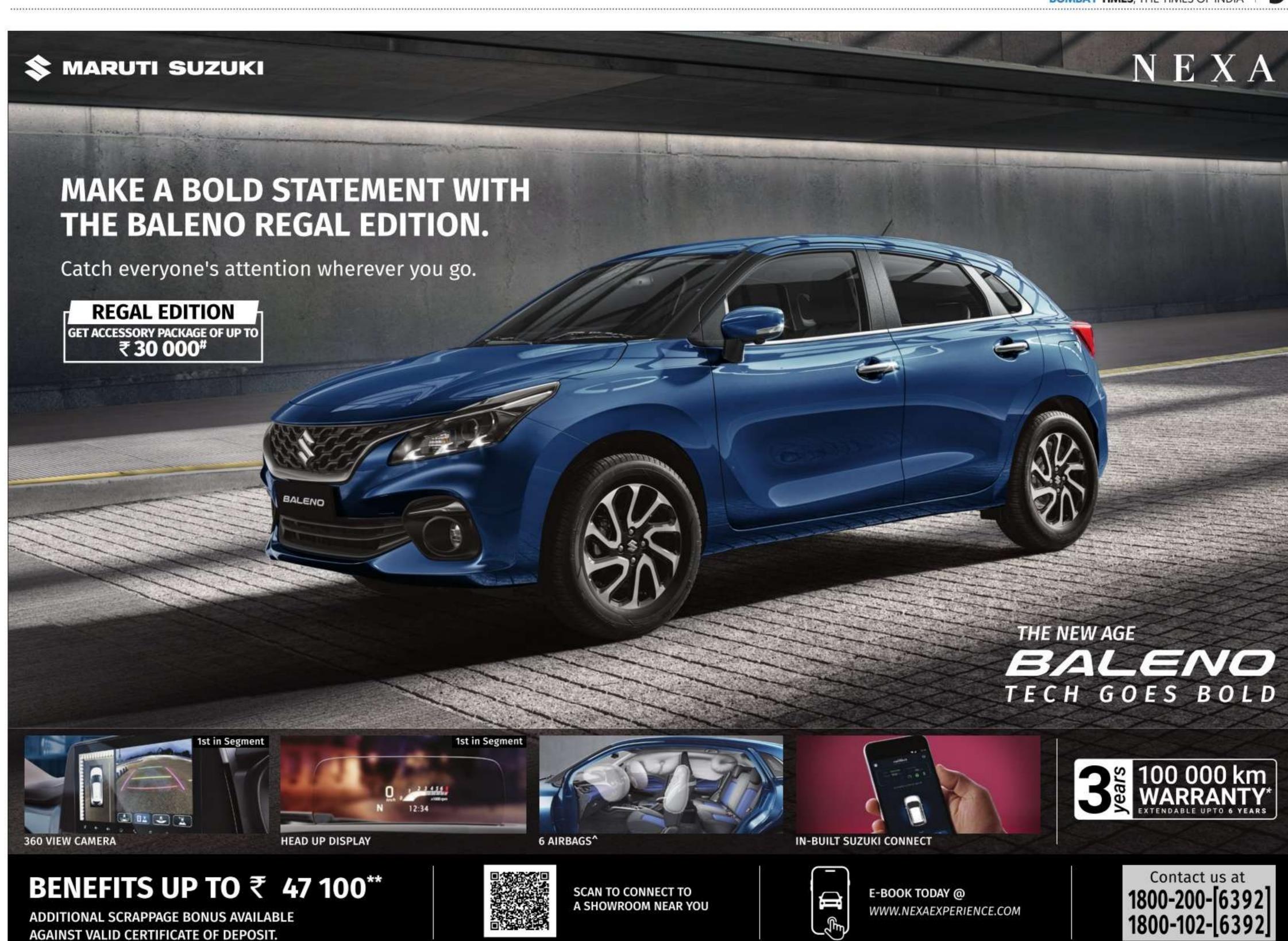
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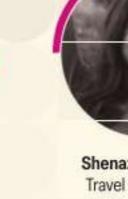
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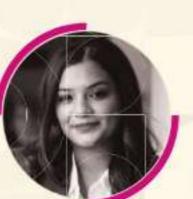
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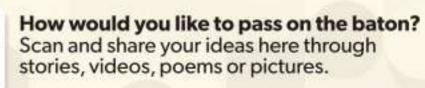
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# 'The Kolhapure sisters are always there for each other'

Sisters Padmini and Tejaswini talk about working together and the bond they share

Debarati S Sen

isters and now co-stars Padmini and Tejaswini Kolhapure shared the stage for the first time in the play Ammi Akhtari last October, which also featured Talat Aziz. While their artistic journeys have been vastly different, their deep-rooted connection with performing arts remains unchanged. In a candid conversation, the sisters discuss theatre, family and navigating comparisons.

#### WE ARE LIKE ONE UNIT, BUT WE ALSO ARGUE: **PADMINI**

Talking about working together, Tejaswini said, "It was comfortable, but there was a lot of learning, especially trying to perfect Urdu. Padmini guided me with diction, and of course, Talatji helped us both." Padmini added, "There was also extra pressure. I felt if Tejaswini is loved on stage, then it'd be like a reflection on me as well and vice versa." When asked about the bond they share as sisters, Padmini laughed and said, "We are like one unit, but

arguing and nagging each other. Our elder sister, Shivangi (Shraddha Kapoor's mom), is also a nag — it just runs in the family!"

we're also always

#### INEVER WANTED TO ACT. I WANTED TO BE IN AVIATION: TEJASWINI

Coming from a family deeply rooted in cinema and music, acting seemed like a natural choice. But not for Tejaswini. "I

never wanted to act. I'm the only graduate in our entire family. I admired my mother and wanted to be in aviation like her. I even worked with an airline. But during training, my

Over time, people saw we're very different. Padmini preferred commercial projects, while I was more inclined towards offbeat roles. I don't think she'd be interested in the kind of work I do. I like to take risks, but she doesn't

- Tejaswini Kolhapure

instructor told me, 'You are meant to act'. Acting is an endless learning process — you never reach a point where you know it all."

#### EARLIER, COMPARISONS WITH PADMINI WERE VERY DISHEARTENING: TEJASWINI

With Padmini being a well-established actress in Bollywood, comparisons between the sisters were inevitable. Tejaswini shared, "I didn't feel the pressure, but others did. Directors would say, 'Padmini used to act like this, waise karke

> dikhao.' My response would be, 'Then take her, why call me?' Those comparisons took a toll. In my early 20s, it was very disheartening. I withdrew for a while and went into a shell, but theatre and Satyadev Dubey's encouragement kept me going." Padmini added, "Tejaswini is a brilliant actor, and I'm not just saying this because she is my sister. Her performances in Paanch. Ugly and Yes Papa were exceptional. She's incredibly composed on stage, and she was outstanding in the English play The Graduate."

#### 'We are always there for each other' The Kolhapure sisters share an unbreakable bond. "Padmini and

Shivangi have been like mothers to me. Padmini is always there for us, and she is the person that everyone in the family goes to for advice," Tejaswini shared. Does niece Shraddha Kapoor also bond with her maasis? "She values our opinions, asks for advice, but eventually, does what she likes. We're tight-knit - Shivangi, Padmini, Shraddha and I are always there for each other," she added.

Padmini and Tejaswini in the

play Ammi Akhtari

# **Prince and** I have only got closer: Yuvika The actress talks about rumours

motherhood and returning to work

of trouble in her marriage,

Hasti Doshi uvika Chaudhary is enjoying motherhood and says it has brought about a lot of positive changes in her life. The actress and her husband, Prince Narula welcomed their baby girl Ikleen in October 2024. She says, "Becoming a mother is a gift, but it does alter your life... there are sleepless nights and added responsibilities. The body goes through changes, which you don't understand initially, but gradually you come to terms with it. The body and mind

take time to heal, but when I see my baby smile, I forget about everything. Motherhood has brought me happiness and made me feel complete."

#### 'I WANT TO GET BACK TO WORK SOON'

The actress, who was last seen on TV in Laal Ishq and Kumkum Bhagya, was also doing web shows before her

pregnancy. Ask her if she plans to return to work soon, and Yuvika shares, "I am working on getting back in shape, and I want to take up some good roles, no matter what the medium."

Narula and their

daughter Ikleen

She adds, "I had my baby through IVF, so I had to give a lot of time initially to the entire process, which is why I had slowed down on the work front. Later, I wanted to focus on my child. But now, I am ready to get back as I know I can balance both.'

'I DIDN'T FEEL THE NEED TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO PEOPLE'

There were rumours of trouble in her marriage, but Yuvika says all is well between

Prince and her. "This is a new journey for both of us. I didn't react to rumours back then. Prince is very emotional and the rumours affected him, but sometimes I feel there is no need to clarify things. At one point, when I said Prince was busy, I meant he was busy with work. Then people started saying that I was living at my mother's house, but that was

because there was construction work going on in my house. I didn't feel the need to explain things to people," she says.

The couple completed six years of marriage last October. Reflecting on their journey, Yuvika says, "Every phase is different, from being friends to dating, getting married and now becoming parents. We have seen some fun days and some tough days. But as we keep moving forward, we realise that it has been an uplifting journey and only brought us closer."

### Acting in films is not a 100-meter race, it's a marathon: Vardhaan

The body and mind take

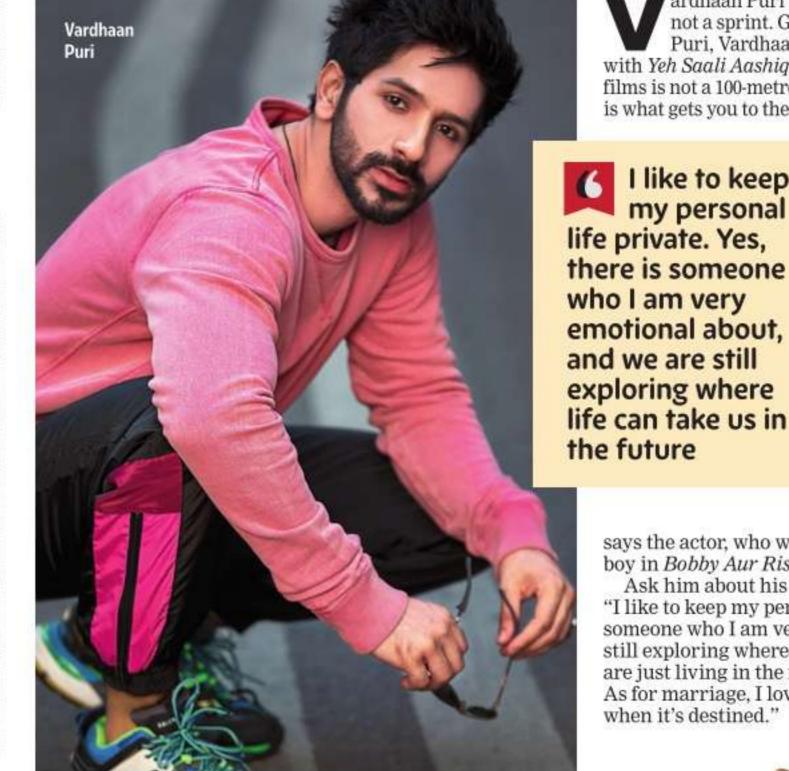
The body and mind take time to heal, but when I

about everything. Motherhood

has brought me happiness and

see my baby smile, I forget

made me feel complete



ardhaan Puri believes that acting is a marathon, not a sprint. Grandson of legendary actor Amrish Puri, Vardhaan made his acting debut in 2019 with Yeh Saali Aashiqui. He says, "I believe that acting in films is not a 100-metre race; it is a marathon. Endurance is what gets you to the finish line. And in films, there

I like to keep my personal

must never be a finish

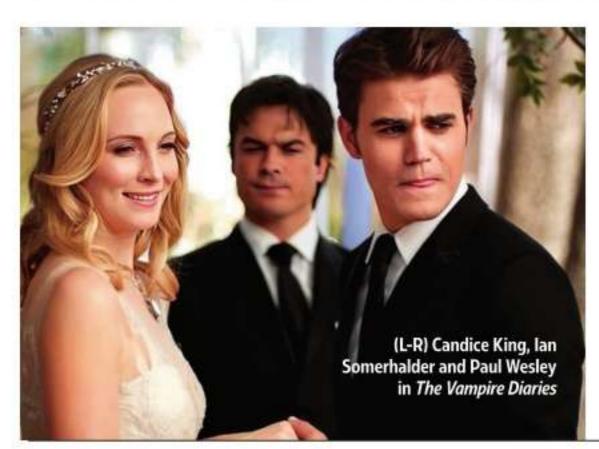
Vardhaan's debut film may have faced initial setbacks, but it eventually found its audience on OTT and satellite platforms. "Post that, I signed four films, but then the pandemic struck. It definitely broke the momentum for all of us actors and creators, but I have no complaints. I have always opted for quality over quantity because I want to do films that have the power to either entertain, engage or educate,"

says the actor, who was recently seen playing a lover boy in Bobby Aur Rishi Ki Love Story.

Ask him about his love story in real life, and he says, "I like to keep my personal life private. Yes, there is someone who I am very emotional about, and we are still exploring where life can take us in the future. We are just living in the moment and going with the flow. As for marriage, I love the idea of it, and it will happen when it's destined."

- Vinay MR Mishra

### Stefan-Caroline pairing in The Vampire Diaries felt forced, admit Paul and Ian



hile many fans of *The Vampire Diaries* adored the romance between the characters Stefan Salvatore (Paul Wesley) and Caroline Forbes (Candice King) - dubbed Steroline - toward the show's end, Wesley doesn't quite share the sentiment.

On a recent episode of the TV show Hot Ones Versus, Wesley was asked by his former co-star Ian Somerhalder (who essayed the other male lead in the show, Damon Salvatore) to choose "one storyline you think should've never made it out of the writers room" on the hit show, which ran for eight seasons from 2009-17.

Wesley immediately responded, "After Nina (Dobrev, who essayed the female lead, Elena) left the show, they (the makers) were like: We need to pair Stefan with some romantic partner. And then Stefan and Caroline ended up having a wedding and getting married." "It was a little forced but it was cute," Somerhalder admitted about the pairing.

### Adarsh Gourav set for his Telugu debut Adarsh Gourav gained international recognition for his role in The White Tiger, earning a **BAFTA** nomination

darsh Gourav, who became popular with his roles in The White Tiger and Kho Gaye Hum Kahan, is set to make his Telugu film debut with an upcoming psychological horror film. "I've always believed that great stories transcend language, and as an actor, my biggest thrill is to explore diverse narratives across industries. The South film industry has consistently delivered some of the most

compelling and innovative films, and I'm excited to finally be a part of it," the actor said.

He also spoke about venturing into the psychological horror genre for the first time. "This project is unlike anything I've done before. It has a gripping story that immediately drew me in. I can't wait for audiences to see what we're creating," he added.

# Shania 'hated being a girl' due to 'abusive situations'

hania Twain has opened up about dealing with body image issues after being in "abusive situations" during her younger days. In a recent interview with an international publication, the singer got candid about how she "hated" being a woman while growing up. "I was always insecure about my body," the You're Still The One singer confessed. She revealed that "throughout my youth (I was) touched inappropriately many times," which made her feel uncomfortable in her own body.

The Grammy-winning artiste added, "I was in abusive situations where you hate being a woman. I hated

My mother asked, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' and I said, 'A bodybuilder'. I wanted to be a big, strong man that nobody was going to f\*\*\* around with

being a girl," she added. The trauma gave rise to a desire to become strong enough to fend off those who would try and harass her. "My mother goes, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' and I said, 'A bodybuilder,'" she recalled, adding, "I wanted to be a big, strong man that nobody was go-

ing to f\*\*\* around with." Talking about her teenage days, she said, "I was hiding all through my teens," Twain said, adding, "I think a lot of that was also because a lot of the models when I was a kid were very, very thin. That was a

> sign of elegance and feminine beauty to me."

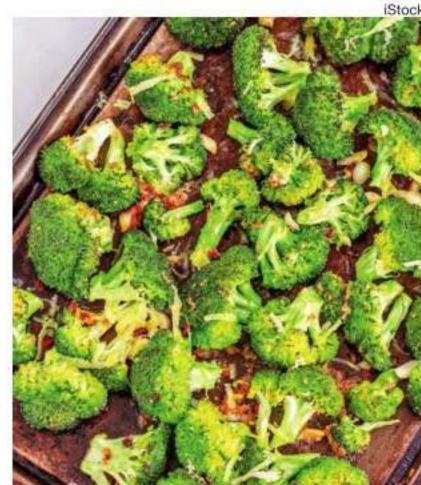
When asked how she overcame her body image issues, Twain said, "Once I got behind the camera and started looking at clothes and fashion, I was like, 'Wow, I'm actually a woman after all, and I think I might like it."

Agencies





### **Enhance your** roast broccoli



ADD CRISPY CHEDDAR: Broccoli and Cheddar is a match made in heaven as the tenderhearted broccoli marries the assertiveness of a sharp cheese. Broccoli also works great with feta, Parmesan and other

MAKE A BUTTERY SAUCE: When the broccoli comes out of the oven, stir it with a pat of butter and other flavourings on the hot sheet pan until the florets shine with melted butter.

**KEEP IT SWEET-SPICY-SALTY:** Honey is the secret ingredient, complementing the savoury notes of broccoli. Its caramel quality is a natural pairing for those golden florets.

MAKE IT HOT: Fresh jalapeños or serranos, pickled peppers, chilli oil, chilli crisp, hot sauce or crushed red pepper - let one of these bring heat to the mellow, bittersweet

**ADD NUTS:** Bring out broccoli's nuttiness by topping with a garnish of toasted nuts or seeds. The simplest version is a shake of sesame seeds, but that's not where the possibilities end.



Banana blossoms are a traditional ingredient in Indian and Southeast Asian cooking. They can be eaten raw or used in dishes like vazhaipoo vadai, mochar ghonto, and Sri Lankan stir-fry. It is an ideal replacement in fish or meat dishes, making it a perfect vegan ingredient.



# They have a very special friendship: Alia Bhatt on Ranbir and Raha's bond



The feeling of motherhood is ever-evolving, but one thing I can say for sure is that I have become incessantly protective ever since she (Raha) was born. I remember the early months after she was born; it was bliss for me - Alia Bhatt

lia Bhatt spoke about how life has changed for her and her husband, Ranbir Kapoor, after becoming parents to their daughter Raha. Reflecting on being a mother on Jay Shetty's podcast, Alia said, "I don't think you can prepare yourself to feel what you are about to feel. I've forgot-

> wonder what I was doing earlier." Speaking about her two-year-old daughter Raha and the things that surprise her the most, the proud mom added, "When you speak about surprises, there are many because she is a toddler now - she is always bubbling. The feeling of motherhood is ever-evolving, but one thing I can say for sure is that I have become incessantly protective ever since she was born. I remember the early months after she was born; it was bliss for me. I enjoyed the survival and nurturing feeling."

> Alia revealed that Ranbir had always dreamed of being a "girl dad". Calling him an "amazing" father, she said, "He is very creative when it comes to entertaining her, and she entertains him as well. They have a very special friendship. You'd feel like they are two friends - two adults or two toddlers. When he looks at Raha, there are stars in his eyes. I've known him pre-fatherhood, and now, and I see the difference. I see how he is different with people. As a father, he is so full - there's a fullness that I have experienced, and I see it on a daily basis. It's sweet and special to watch their conversations. I'm always secretly video-recording their random moments."

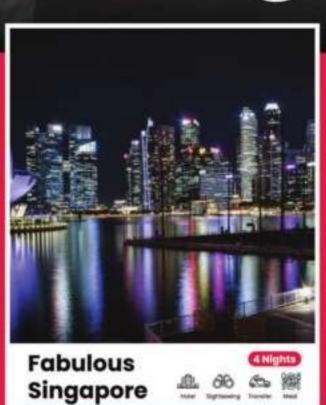


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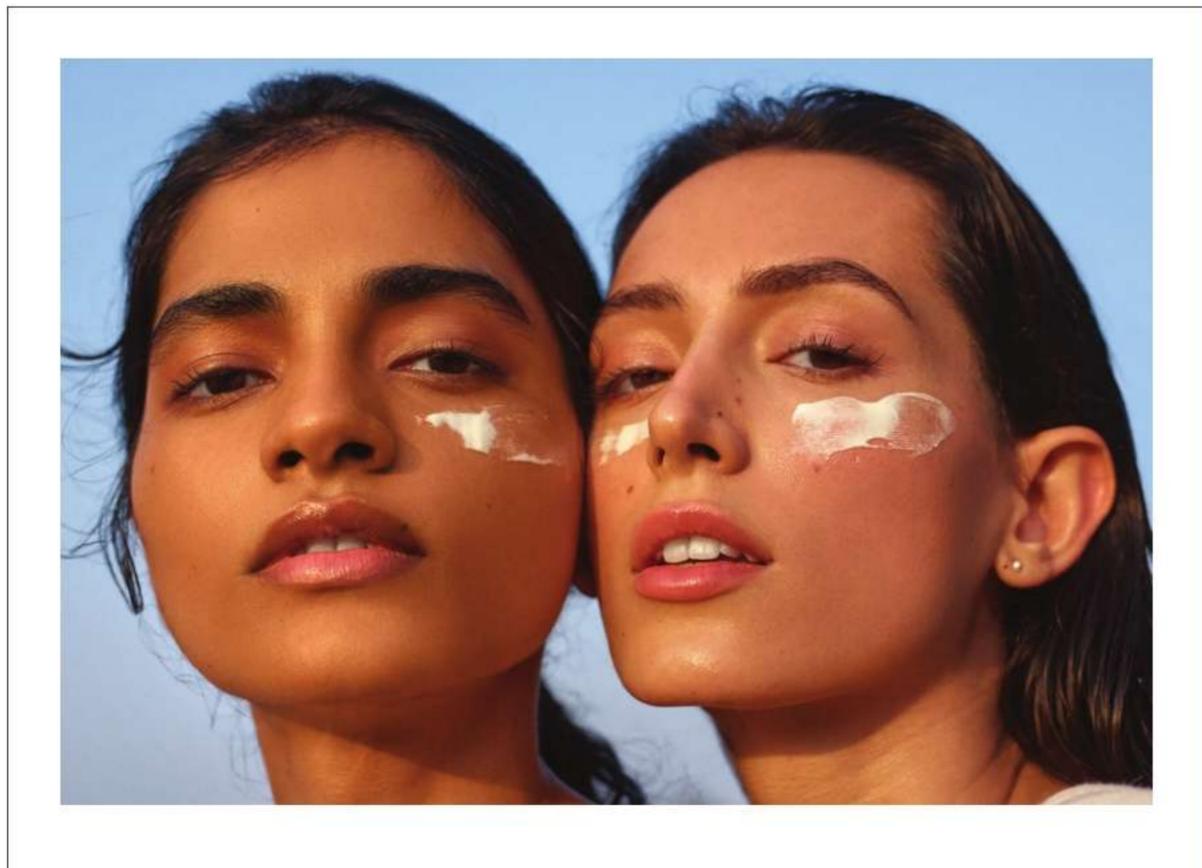




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