# Fashion and AI converge to push boundaries at this show



he Blenders Pride Fashion Tour delivered a high-energy showcase in Vizag, blending fashion, technology, and entertainment. The event featured futuristic design concepts and live performances, presenting a "next-gen en-vogue universe". Tamannaah Bhatia walked the runway as the showstopper, modelling Akshat Bansal's Bloni collection. The event also featured culinary offerings from Chef Mohammed Ashiq and a musical performance by Ritviz. "The show, in partnership with the Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI), intended to redefine India's fashion landscape by showcasing the country's evolving style," a spokesperson shared.

Tamannaah Bhatia said,
"Walking as the showstopper
for Bloni at this event was an
amazing experience. Akshat
Bansal's collection, with its innovative use of technology and
avant-garde textiles, was truly a sight to
behold. I felt empowered and glamorous
in the show-stopping outfit, and the energy of the crowd was electric. It was an
honour to be a part of this revolutionary
showcase that's redefining the future of
fashion."

Kartik Mohindra, chief marketing officer and head of global business development at Pernod Ricard India said, "This event has always been about pushing creative boundaries and redefining fashion as an art form. This year, we are pushing the boundaries further by blending fashion with AI, creating an immersive experi-

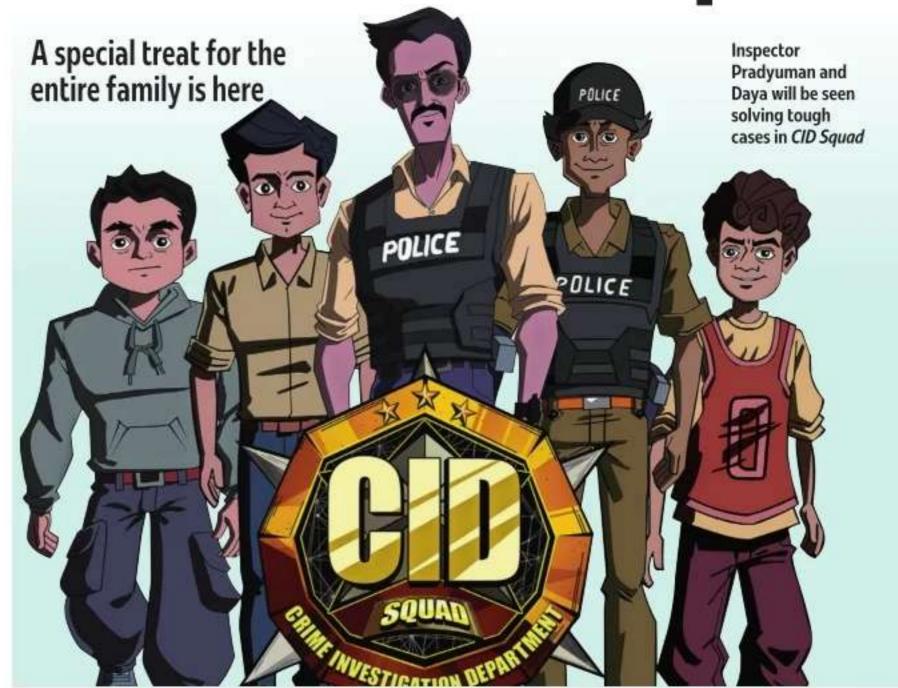


### 'Fashion is no longer just about clothing'

Designer Akshat Bansal, founder of Bloni, said, "Fashion is no longer just about clothing; it's an evolving cross-cultural dialogue between innovation, technology, and self-expression. With this collection, I wanted to push the syntax of design itself, blending unconventional and organic earth materials, visuals that are driven by both humans and machines, and handcrafted engineering to create something truly transformative. It's a vision of the future for the present—bold, dynamic, and ever-evolving." ence that defines the future of style. Our collaboration with visionary designers reflects our commitment to shaping India's evolving fashion landscape and inspiring the next generation of trendsetters. As we move forward, each experience will continue to showcase the ever-evolving landscape of fashion, solidifying 'The One and Only' platform as the ultimate convergence of innovation and iconicity like never before."

"The tour is now headed to Guwahati on March 23, and will feature innovative designs, live music, and an evening of fashion and entertainment," the spokesperson added

## CID now in an animated avatar with CID Squad



summer has arrived early on Sony YAY!, and it's going to be more exciting than ever. The words that once echoed across living rooms — "Daya, darwaza tod do!" — are back. But this time, it's "Daya, firewall tod do!" Sony YAY! is turning up the heat with the launch of CID Squad, a high-energy animated series.

The legendary Inspector Pradyuman is back, this time in an animated avatar. By his side is the unstoppable Daya, whose strength now goes beyond smashing doors to breaking digital firewalls and tackling cybercrime. His squad — a team of brilliant new detectives — is ready to crack the toughest cases using cutting-edge technology and razor-sharp skills.

Launched under YAY! Animations, the show is

designed to entertain audiences of all ages, embodying 'Animation For All' with its engaging narrative, world-class artistry and fast-paced action. Shivaji Satam, the iconic ACP Pradyuman, said, "CID Squad keeps the thrill and suspense alive, bringing our investigations to a whole new generation in a fresh and exciting way."

That's not all, the channel is making this summer even more exciting with non-stop entertainment. Get ready for the mischievous charm of Shin chan, featuring never-before-seen movies and fresh episodes, along with the action-packed adventures of Jujutsu Kaisen. With so much in store, there's something thrilling for everyone.

Stay tuned to Sony YAY!, CID Squad begins tomorrow every Monday to Friday at 7:30 pm.





## 'Al speeds up treatment decisions for stroke'

troke (brain attack) is a life-threatening medical emergency caused by a reduction in blood flow to a part of the brain or the rupture of a blood vessel in the brain, "Stroke can cause brain damage, leading to longterm disability or even death. Among the diseases, stroke is the second leading cause of death. Each minute after a stroke, we lose 1.9 million neurones," says Dr P Muthu Kumar, senior consultant neurologist, Apollo Speciality Hospitals, Vanagaram, Chennai.

He states that unlike a heart attack, stroke patients do not feel pain, making early identification difficult. "Early warning signs of a stroke can appear unexpectedly and vary from person to person, but identifying them is critical for prompt

action," he says, adding that stroke symptoms are often confused with those of other common illnesses.

Some of the key symptoms that can be used to identify stroke symptoms, according to the doctor, are: B – Balance issues, such as walking difficulties, dizziness, loss of balance, or lack of coordination. E – Eye vision changes (vision problems, such as

double vision, blurred vi-

sion, or blackened vision in

one or both eyes). • F - Facial drooping (The smile will be asymmetrical, and one corner of the mouth may not lift as much as the other)

A – Weakness on the arm



● S - Slurring of speech

● T – It's time to call an ambulance Further, the neurologist says that treatment for stroke is time-dependent. "When a patient is diagnosed with an ischaemic stroke, we have the following weapons to fight it: IV thrombolysis: injecting a drug to dissolve the blood clot; and mechanical thrombectomy:

removing the blood clot from the blood vessel with a stent retriever or aspiration device," he adds.

Artificial intelligence guidance in

stroke (should the patient arrive after 4.5 hours to the hospital) identifies the difference between the core (dead brain tissue after stroke) and penumbra (stunned but still alive brain tissue after stroke) tissue in stroke patients, which can help in deciding the further treatment, shares the doctor. "AI accelerates treatment decisions by detecting strokes at an early stage. It detects large vessel occlusions in under three minutes, then sends the results to email or mobile app. Ischemic stroke can now be treated upto 24 hours by using AI driven perfusion scan," he concludes

Dr P Muthu Kumar MD, DM Neuro, FRCP (Glasa) Senior Consultant Neurologist, Stroke Specialist, Apollo Speciality Hospitals, Vanagaram, Chennai Contact: 8754464444

> Disclaimer: The views/suggestions/ opinions expressed in the article are the sole responsibility of the experts.

## 'Leadless pacemakers can revolutionise treatment for patients with slow or irregular heart rhythms'

team of doctors at Medway Heart Institute, Chennai, is said to have given a new lease of life to a 92-year-old patient who was diagnosed with having intermittent complete heart block, cardiogenic shock, and loss of consciousness, by successfully implanting a leadless pacemaker, recently.

"The condition of the patient was life-threatening. necessitating the implantation of a pacemaker to regulate her heartbeat. But the patient was too fragile to get a normal conventional pacemaker, as it takes longer time for recovery and is painful. In such a scenario, the infection rate is higher since the healing process becomes longer for such patients," says Dr Jaishankar, director & clinical lead cardiology and electrophysiologist at the hospital.

"Hence, we decided to use the leadless pacemaker. Unlike traditional pacemakers, which require chest incisions and lead wires connected to the heart, this new technology is implanted through a minimally invasive catheter, removing the need for stitch-



Leadless pacemakers offer a near painless experience for the patient, eliminate nearly all the possible complications with less hospital stay

-Dr T Palaniappan

es or cuts. It is implanted through the groin," he informs.

The leadless pacemaker is 90 per cent smaller than traditional models, thereby offering a more comfortable



Unlike traditional pacemakers, a leadless pacemaker is implanted through a minimally invasive catheter, removing the need for stitches

- Dr Jaishankar

experience for patients, the cardiologist shares and adds, "It contains all the components (generator and electrical system) of a regular pacemaker housed in a small capsule. Its

retractable design allows for safe removal if needed. With a battery life of 17-22 years, it is expected to revolutionise treatment for patients with slow or irregular heart rhythms. Also, it can be upgraded in the future to accommodate dual-chamber pacing."

Dr T Palaniappan, chairman, Medway Group Of Hospitals, Chennai, says. "Our hospital has always been on the forefront in setting new benchmarks in advanced cardiac care. We are committed to offering comprehensive solutions that go beyond treating symptoms and address the root issues and offer solutions. The implantation of the leadless pacemaker is a milestone in cardiac care. It is indeed a medical marvel with a near painless experience for the patient, eliminating nearly all the possible complications associated with a regular pacemaker with less hospital stay."

Disclaimer: The views/ suggestions/opinions expressed in the article are the sole responsibility of the experts.

## Holi hai, say celebs!



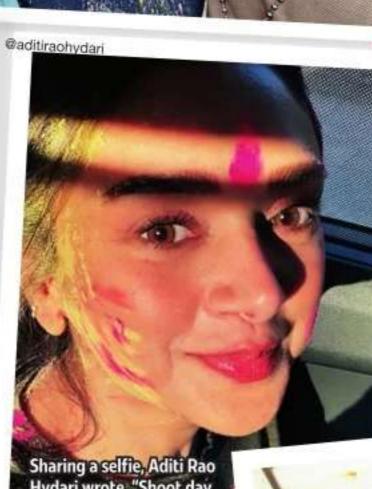
Dr P Muthu Kumar



From Holi celebrations in B-Town





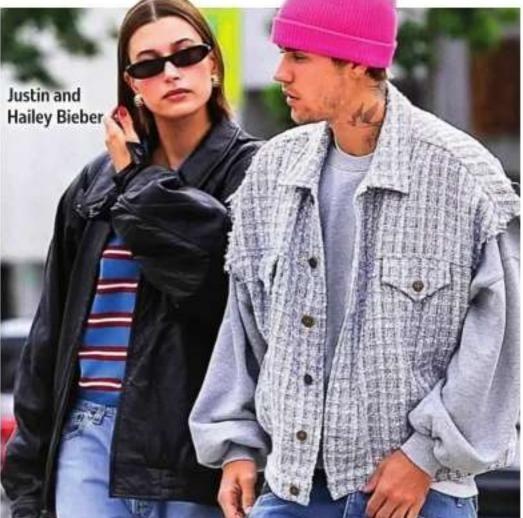








**Are Justin-Hailey** leaving US for fresh start in **Europe?** 



fter being hit by rumours about the state of their marriage, Hailey Bieber and Justin Bieber are reportedly considering relocating to Europe in an effort to escape Hollywood and reconnect with each other. The couple, who have been the subject of intense public scrutiny in recent months over the state of their marriage, and Justin's mental and physical health after he was spotted looking gaunt, have reportedly reached out to a real estate agent to help them find a home abroad.

A source told The US Sun, "They want to enjoy a simpler life again - a slower pace of life to reconnect in a quiet environment." The singer and his wife, who had their son, Jack Blues, last August, are allegedly looking for a property that offers privacy, countryside views and warm weather.

### Nikki Glaser confirmed to return as Golden **Globes host**

ikki Glaser will host the Golden Globe Awards for the second time next year. The 40-year-old comic took the reins for this year's ceremony in January, and her stint at the helm proved to be so successful, organisers have invited her back for next year. Nikki, who was the first woman to host the ceremony

solo, said in a statement, "Hosting the Golden Globes this year was without a doubt the most fun I have ever had in my career. I can't wait to do it again." She added, "I can't wait to do it again, and this time in front of the team from The White Lotus, who will finally recognise my talent and cast me in Season Four as a Scandinavian Pilates instructor with a shadowy past." And Globes bosses are delighted to be bringing back Nikki for a second

time. Helen Hoehne, president of the Golden Globes, said, "Nikki Glaser brought a refreshing spark and fearless wit to the Golden Globes stage this year. Her sharp humour and bold presence set the tone for an unforgettable night, making the ceremony feel vibrant and most of all fun."

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Nikki

Glaser

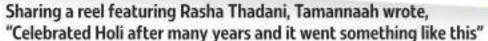
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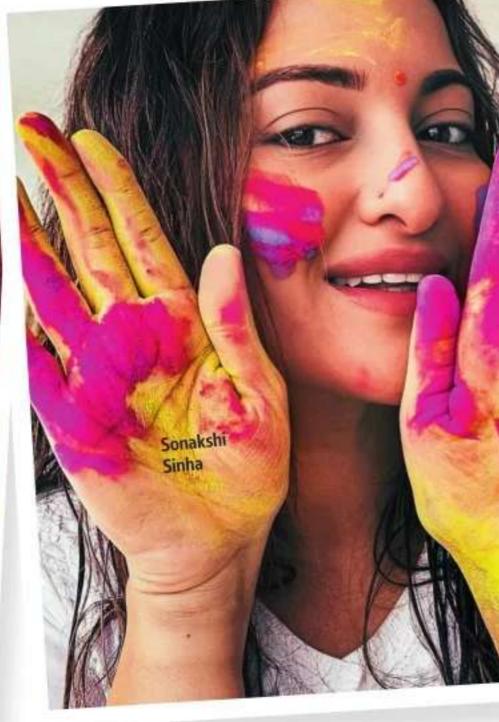


Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal celebrated Holi

with their family, including Katrina's sister

Isabelle (R) and Vicky's brother Sunny (L)











**HOW TO** 

The numbers

squares refer

to the sums

of the digits

fill into the

that you must

empty spaces

directly below

or to the right

oured square

of the col-

containing

in the coloured

PLAY

## Level: Medium 9 5 2 9 3

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.

#### **SPELLATHON**

#### **Today's Ratings:** 15-average 17-good 119-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.

#### SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to

each square/circle, to make four ordinary words DLREE **TARTS** HOOWLL **GILTBH** HOW TO PLAY

Hope is like a

#### the number. For instance, in the given example, the 2

boxes below 12 must contain 2 digits that add upto 12, whereas for 20, the 3 boxes placed horizontally next to it must add upto 20. No zeroes are used here, only the digits one through nine.



**TIMES KAKURO** 

32

example, we cannot 1220 have the combination of 8+4+8 Example for 20.

11 13

#### LOOP THE LOOP

									_						
RULES							•		٠						
Connect adjacent dots with vertical	: •	•				•	٠	^	٠	2	٠		٠	3	
or horizontal lines,		3		1		3	0	U	2	2	2		:		
creating a single	15.5%					3								2	
loop (Fig A).			٠		٠	-			18	0020	٠			020	
Crossovers or	580	2		2		3				2		1		3	
branches are not		2	•	1	•	1	•				•	3	Ī		•
allowed (As shown	0.00						10		325		2.5				

2 3 2

(Fig A)

2

[3]

. . .

(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

by dotted lines in

Fig B).

around zeroes. · Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

HOW TO BEGIN: Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Not allowed 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

2 3 1 2 2 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).

#### **SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES**

#### TIMES SUDOKU

Now arrange the letters in the

the riddle or to fill in the missing

circles to form the answer to

word as indicated

Þ	9	2	8	L	6	3	9	1
1	L	6	3	9	t	8	2	9
8	9	3	2	9	1	L	6	Þ
1	Þ	8	L	3	2	9	9	6
3	1	9	L	6	9	t	8	2
6	2	9	Þ	8	9	L	L	3
9	3	Þ	9	2	L	6	1	8
9	8	1	6	1	3	2	Þ	9
2	6	1	9	Þ	8	9	3	ı

#### LOOP THE LOOP

from its birth. - Christina

Rossetti (8)

trembling

<u>ا</u> را		××	×	×
; * F	- × L	×	$\Box$	×
	مَ دِيا		) × 1	7
-	- "	× ~ E	× ×	×
× 2	× × ·	× [5]	×	
×	× 2	3 × 0	1	3
0 -	×	2		- 6

#### **TIMES KAKURO**

9	6	12	6	8	3	/50			
ŀ	Þ	9	1	3	2	155	Þ	1	5
14	9	7	8	201	9	6	8	1	129
	181	L	Þ	6	1	Þ	2	10	
	5	6	/BE		111	8	3	14	
		8		/53	8	9	X		
Þ	1	1	2	100	Þ	2	L	1	
6	3	100	9	1	1	3	2	t	2
6	100		8	9	6	22	Þ	8	12
			/es	10	182		1	121	

#### SPELLATHON

plate, plea, pleat, tale, tall, teal, tell pall, pallet, PATELLA, peal, pelt, petal lapel, late, leap, leapt, palate, pale

#### SCRAMBLE

Rossetti trembling from its birth - Christina Answer: Hope is like a harebell Words: Elder, start, hollow, blight

Celebrity astro numerologist Anupam V Kapil explains the significant impact of the entry of Saturn in Pisces and its transit from your moon sign from 29 March, 2025 to 2 June, 2027 and from 20 October, 2027 to 22 February, 2028. He says, "For results of any transit to manifest, Saturn must cross the degrees of your natal Moon, so if your Moon is above 7 degrees in any sign, the good/bad effects will be deferred to next year"



Your sade satti begins from this month's end till 2029. Don't trust people during this pe-ARIES riod, usually, there is a loss of wealth

a non-productive business. Heavy expenses and successive miseries, attending funerals of close ones are some of the negative effects of this phase. For those with natal Saturn in the twelfth house, this can create problems through the government. One is forced to live separately from family, have differences of opinion with one's own people, change in service/business, litigations, and serious differences with relatives and respectable people. Jupiter remains favourable to you till May 14, so do your best to execute important deals and get your money, if you have lent money to someone, please recover everything. Transit Rahu also moves to your eleventh house promising good gains this year. Problems through government in April, the six planets in your 12th house in April are problematic for your job/career. Barring mid-June to July and November, it is a tough year.

through enemies. One usually

gets engaged tempted and starts



over, the time for rewards has begun as Saturn enters your eleventh house and is the best transit promising all kinds of happiness, wealth,

continuous progress in business, gain of property, fame and good reputation, but all this will only indicate this year if your Moon is within 7 degrees. Good health, financial gains, property and honour are indicated. Support and help from spouse's family can bring progress in the profession, one may have helpful friends. There is an increase in courage and authority. The rise of position and gain from high authorities are indicated. You shall see new opportunities and overall financial gains. All worries come to an end, if there are legal disputes, pending, you shall win them as your period gets progressively better from mid-May onwards. Gain of new friends, clothes and wealth are indicated. There shall be a rise in position and additional responsibility. Most plans will be successful, so execute all your wishes and difficult plans which were getting post-

X YAKKAI



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poned earlier. From May 18, even Rahu moves into your tenth house and from May 14, Jupiter too moves into your eleventh house bringing huge gains, influential friends, a rise in esteem and honour, gain of wealth and gold.

according to your moon sign.



Saturn's transit in the tenth house from the Moon in your case is through the tamramoorti pada (copper), which is considered trouble-

some and might

GEMINI

bring changes/obstacles in profession, loss of image, differences with spouse and restlessness, loss of wealth, though the second half part of the transit is better. If in a business, losses and increases in debts are indicated, but few authors say that one gets the friendship of a businessman who helps in one's career. Those working are likely to have a change of job/place, and often a break in profession is also noticed. Do not neglect any health condition, being casual will bring pain through disease later on as Saturn is in trine from the sixth house now, if there are no planets in your sixth house, problems will soon get over, not otherwise. There are obstacles/ delays in important activities and business/profession. You may not have a good relationship with superiors, just being alert and working hard are the solutions, apart from remedies for Saturn and Jupiter.



your ninth house and the dreaded Astham Shani gets over this year for those whose Saturn is below 7 degrees, CANCER and as per classical

authorities puts pressure on your finances and reduces your happiness. Saturn destroys the house from where it is placed eighth, and as it is placed in

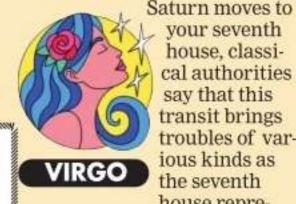
the eighth from the second house which indicates family and wealth, it shows pressure on the family, wealth and joint resources. Therefore, vou must not make rash and unwise investments, nor lend money to anyone as it chances of it coming back are less. One experiences a lack of freedom. Those in jobs might get transferred to undesirable places, or feel stagnated for not getting due promotions/rise in salary. Unnecessary allegations and impediments cause

mental anxiety. One often suffers losses in an attempt to make quick money. Transit of Rahu from mid-May too is not good on the health front, remedies for Rahu, such as recitation of mantras and daan for Rahu must be done as during this time there will be conspiracies from jealous people who will plot mischief against you.



Saturn's transit in the eighth house, popularly known as Kantak Shani is most difficult and inauspicious as per classical authorities as this gives effects of a compressed sade satti and one feels

extremely helpless due to the unavoidable situations one is subjected to. A time to be on guard and very cautious with your conduct and behaviour as misunderstandings lead to the loss of friends and relatives. One must take special care now to avoid misunderstandings with family. Even the financial sector and cash flows get impacted as Saturn aspects the second house of finances. Usually, one develops speculative tendencies which cause losses. Guard your wealth/valuables, and install proper security mechanisms. One cannot but feel helpless from situations like litigations, diseases and fear from the State, bad company will bring disrepute. Therefore, it is best to avoid rash decisions and guard your reputation. Extreme caution is advised while driving, don't get involved in any road rage. Displeasure of elders in the family must be avoided. Rahu in the seventh house, causes problems in relationships and partnerships. Remedies for Saturn are compulsory as this is the most difficult transit.



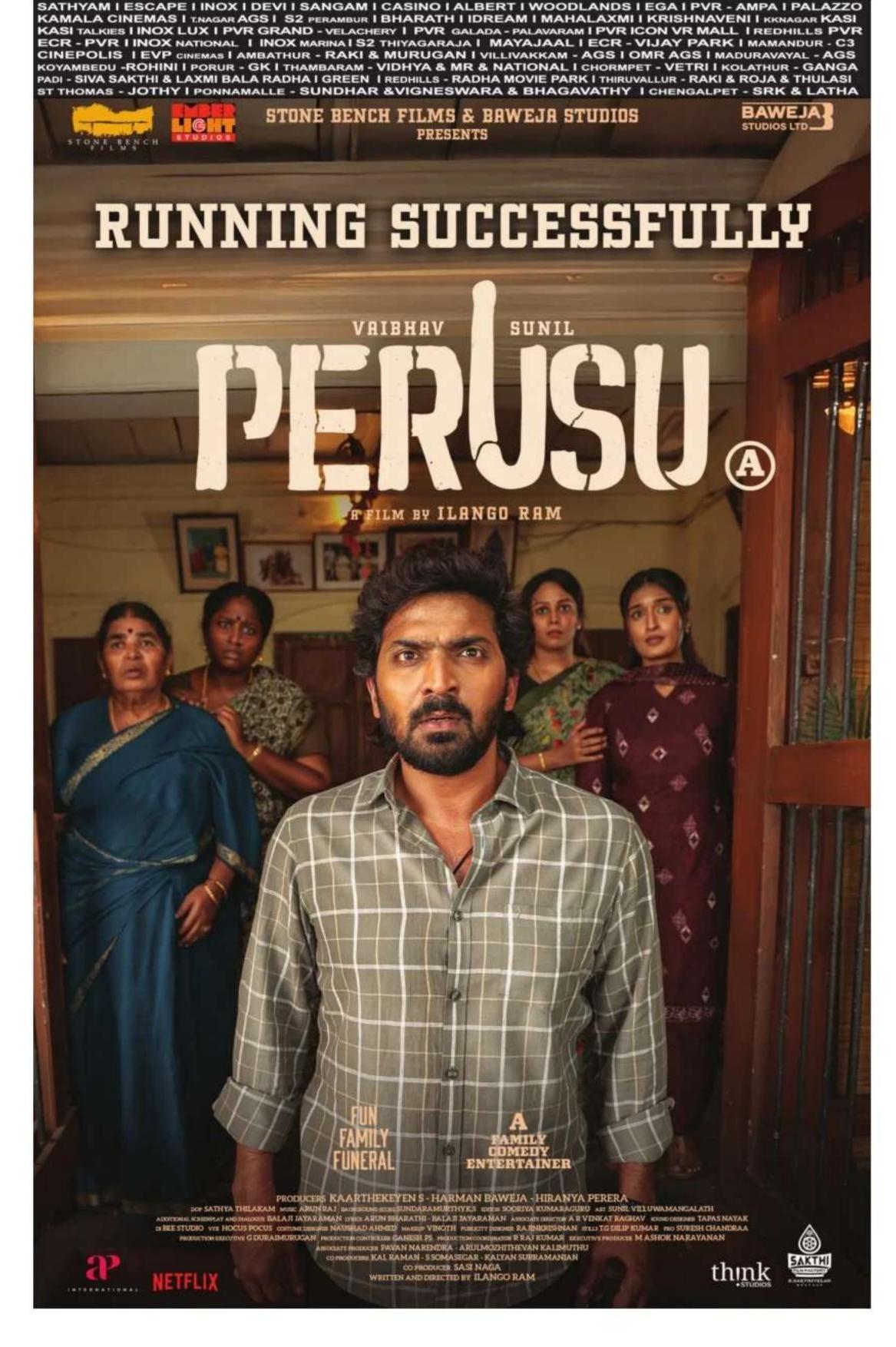
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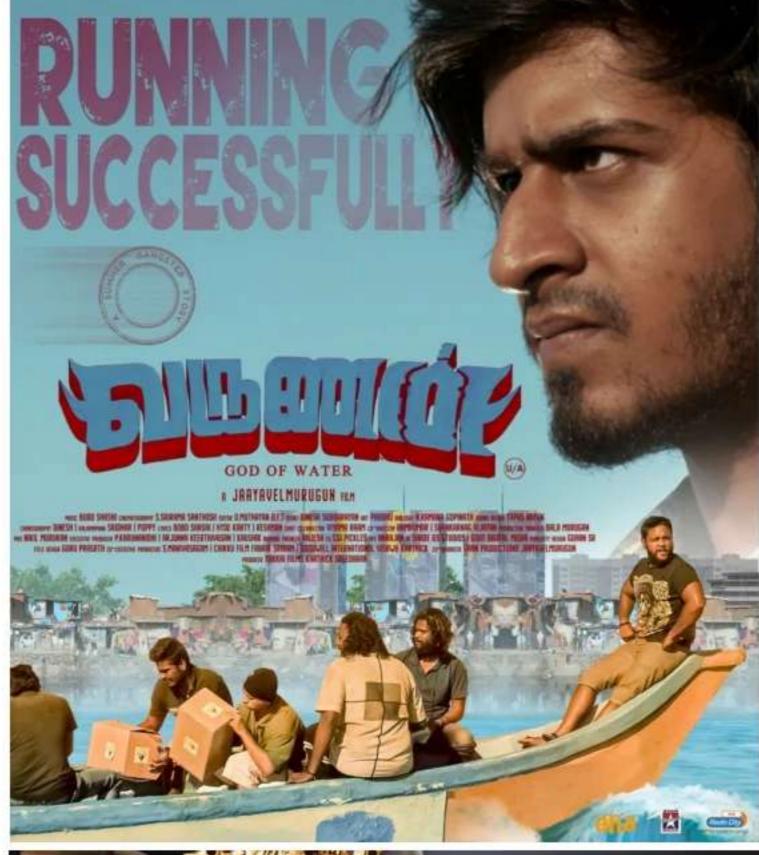
cal authorities say that this transit brings troubles of various kinds as the seventh house represents the spouse, travel, mar-

your seventh

riage, kidneys and also the profession. There is indecisiveness regarding plans in career. Due to the slow progress/ constant hindrances, your mind shall be unsteady and those in partnerships may suffer from deception by partners, defeat in court cases, separation from beloved etc Travels and journeys will be fruitless. So troubles to wife and danger through troublesome journeys, aimless wandering are indicated, try to avoid risky/unnecessary travel, but it is seen that distant travels have to be undertaken and some kind of danger also arises. On the health front, one must be alert as one is prone to disease of the kidneys/stone/of the urinary tract/or of the reproductive organs. Do not do any activity that can lead to a loss of honour as Saturn in the seventh house is known for leading into such circumstances. From mid-May onwards Jupiter too is not favourable on the professional front, though Rahu shall be favourable from mid-May in competitive situations. Remedies for Saturn and Jupiter are important.

> The forecast for Libra to Pisces will be continued next Sunday, March 23





SATHYAM I ESCAPE I INOX I DEVI I SANGAM I CASINO I ALBERT I WOODLANDS I EGA I PVR - AMPA I PALAZZO

KAMALA I TNAGAR AGS I UDHAYAM I S2 PERAMBUR I BHARATH I IDREAM I MAHALAXMI I KRISHNAVENI I KKNAGAR KASI

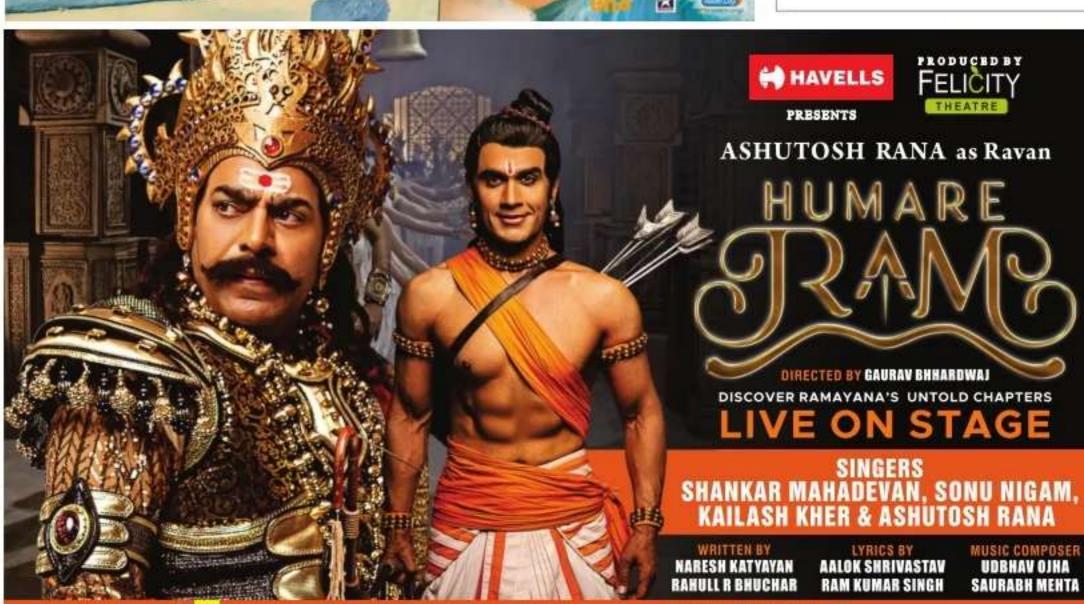
KASI TALKIES I INOX LUX I PVR GRAND - VELACHERY I PVR GALADA - PALAVARAM I PVR ICON VR MALL I REDHILLS PVR

ECR - PVR I INOX NATIONAL I INOX MARINA I S2 THIYAGARAJA I MAYAJAAL I ECR - VIJAY PARK I MAMANDUR - C3

CINEPOLIS | EVP CINEMAS | AMBATHUR - RAKI & MURUGAN | VILLIVAKKAM - AGS | OMR AGS | MADURAVAYAL - AGS

KOYAMBEDU -ROHINI I PORUR - GK I THAMBARAM - VIDHYA & MR & NATIONAL I CHORMPET - VETRI I KOLATHUR - GANGA

PADI - SIVA SAKTHI & LAXMI BALA RADHA I GREEN | REDHILLS - RADHA MOVIE PARK | THIRUVALLUR - RAKI & ROJA & THULASI



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Celebs soak in the spirit of the festival at Vineet Jain's Holi party

and Rithvik

Madhur Bhandarkar

(L-R) Ayushree Malik (LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2024), Trisha Shetty (LIVA Miss Diva 2023

Runner-up), Shubham

2024 - 2nd Runner-up)

Sharma (Mr India

Supranational 2025) Aayushi Dholakia (Femina Miss India

and Nikita Porwal (Femina Miss India

World 2024)







(L-R) Suman Rao (Miss World 2019 - 2nd Runner-up and Miss World Asia 2019), Gayatri Bhardwaj (Femina Miss India United Continents 2018), Shivani Jadhav (Femina Miss Grand India 2019) and Ritika Khatnani (Miss Supranational Asia 2022)





TIME: 10AM TO 8PM (MONDAY TO SUNDAY)

Gurfateh Singh Pirzada









(L-R) Manika Sheokand (Femina Miss Grand India 2020) and Sini Shetty (Femina Miss India World 2022)



(L-R) Rohit Khandelwal (Mr World 2016) and Altamash Faraz (Mister Supranational Asia & Oceania 2017)



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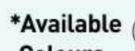








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8883170707; • Sivakasi: Rithu lights - 9894882334; • Tanjore: Malika Furniture - 9367959367; Modern Radio Services - 9585514803; • Salem: Alif Agency - 9787191408;











**Anagha Sawant** 

eekday weddings are definitely gaining popularity in India," says wedding planner Vartika Chandani, indicating how weddings have seen a slight shift towards weekday ceremonies. Monday is emerging as the most popular weekday, accounting for 15.3% of all weddings in 2024, according to a wedding study report.

Tuesday follows closely in popularity. Experts and couples attribute this trend to the availability of venues, along with reduced costs. "They may not completely replace weekend weddings. While weekends remain popular for convenience, weekday weddings offer a smart, budget-friendly choice for modern couples," adds Chandani.

#### Giving preference for prewedding ceremonies

Shloka Tiwari, who got married recently, chose a Monday wedding. She shares, "We opted for a Monday so that our pre-wedding functions could take place over the weekend. Since our wedding wasn't in our city, this allowed guests to attend without disrupting work, making travel and celebrations more convenient for everyone."

Similarly, Mumbai-based Siddhesh Dalvi, who got married on a Monday in February, highlights the importance of weekends for pre-wedding celebrations. He says, "Hosting pre-wedding functions, like sangeet and haldi, on weekends makes it easier for guests to attend all ceremonies."

#### **Budget-friendly**

Weekday wedding venues offer at least 10-20% lower rates, as weekend dates are often booked in advance. "Weekday weddings are generally more budget-friendly, with venues offering reduced rates. Many banquet halls provide attractive weekday packages, including discounts on venue rentals, catering, and décor, making it a smart choice for couples," explains Vinayak Shah, founder of Elegant Banquets in Mumbai.

**Auspicious** wedding dates falling on weekdays

**BACK BEAT** 

Muhurat plays a crucial role in Indian weddings. Snigdha Johar, consumer marketing manager at WeddingWire India, shares, "Muhurats remain a key factor in selecting the perfect wedding date. While weekend weddings gained popularity in 2023, the focus in 2024 shifted back to shubh muhurats, with many couples prioritising these auspicious dates for their big day. The trend continues in 2025, with the majority of muhurats falling on weekdays."

#### **Keeping it intimate**

Intimate celebrations are gaining popularity. Chandani, a wedding planner at The Vara Weddings, explains, "More couples now prefer intimate weekday weddings over traditional weekend ones. Post-Covid, many prioritise meaningful celebrations with close family and friends rather than large gatherings."

Weekday weddings may not completely replace weekend weddings. Cost savings and a preference for intimate celebrations make weekdays an attractive choice. However, weekends remain more convenient for guests travelling from far

- Vartika Chandani, wedding planner

There has been a noticeable rise in weekday weddings, especially on Mondays and Tuesdays. Couples opt for these days to secure premium venues at better rates while ensuring the availability of their preferred vendors. It's a trend driven by costeffectiveness and flexibility

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- Vinayak Shah, founder of a banquet hall in Mumbai

#### Venue availability plays an important role

Explaining why he got married on a Monday, Himanshi Tiwari, who tied the knot in December last year, says, "We had the option of another date in the same week, but the venue we liked the most wasn't available on those weekend dates."

Pranal Mane, founder of a wedding planning agency Dynamic Entertainment, says, "We've noticed a growing preference for weekday weddings, particularly among couples seeking an exclusive and bespoke celebration. With venues and vendors more accessible, weekday weddings allow us to create highly personalised experiences without the constraints of peak-season demand."

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Shloka and Himanshu Tiwari chose

to get married on a Monday













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