



Fashion and AI converge to push boundaries at this show



The 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-



Tamannaah Bhatia and Akshat Bansal pictured with the models at the showcase

‘Fashion is no longer just about clothing’

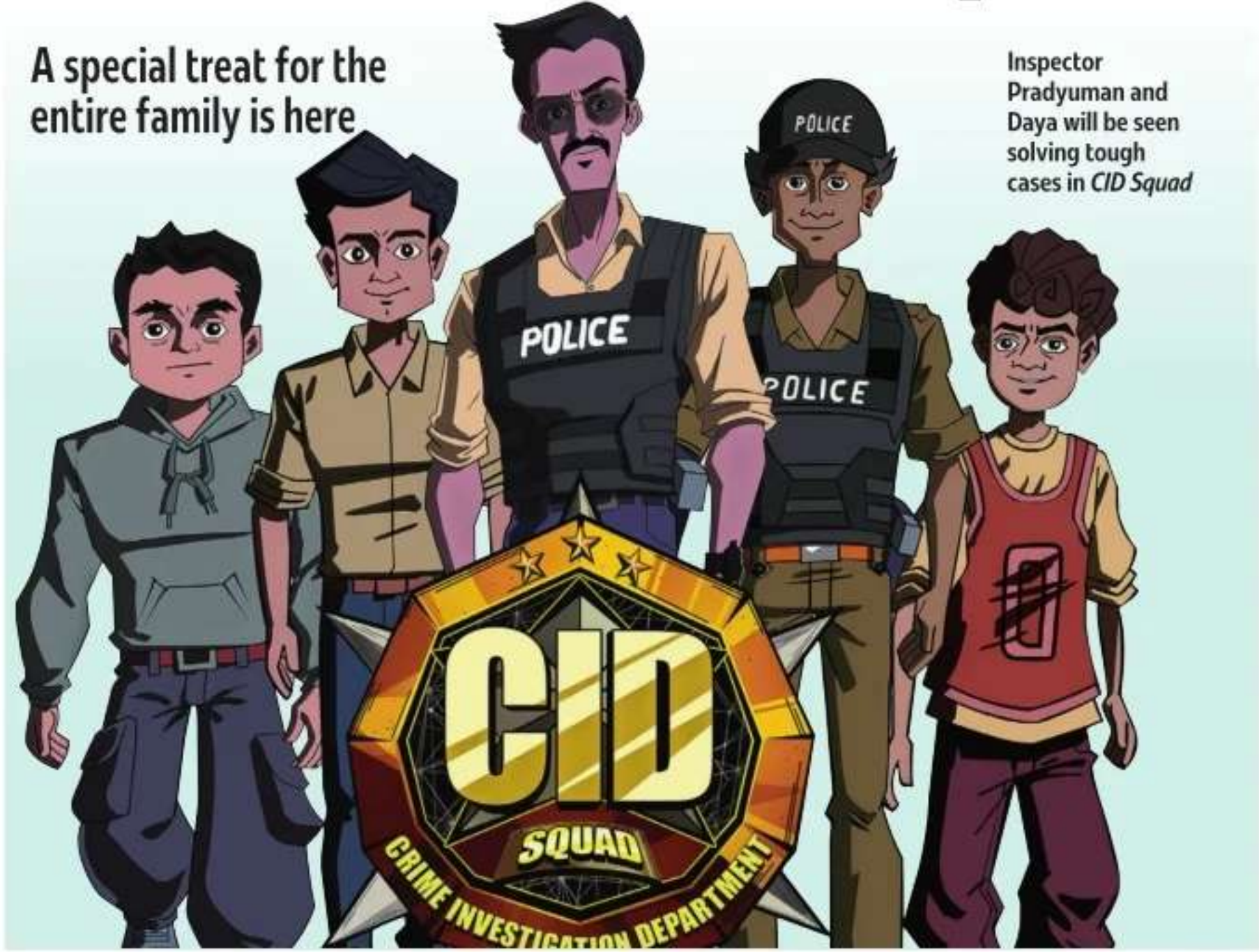
Designer Akshat Bansal, founder of Bloni, said, “Fashion is no longer just about clothing; it’s an evolving cross-cultural dialogue between innovation, technology, and self-expression. With this collection, I wanted to push the syntax of design itself, blending unconventional and organic earth materials, 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

A special treat for the entire family is here



Inspector Pradyuman and Daya will be seen solving tough cases in 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.



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'AI speeds up treatment decisions for stroke'

Stroke (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 long-term 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 vision, 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



Dr P Muthu Kumar

- 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 (Glasg) 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'

A 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 cardiologist 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 stitches or cuts. It is implanted through the groin," he informs.



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

- Dr T Palaniappan



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

- Dr Jaishankar

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

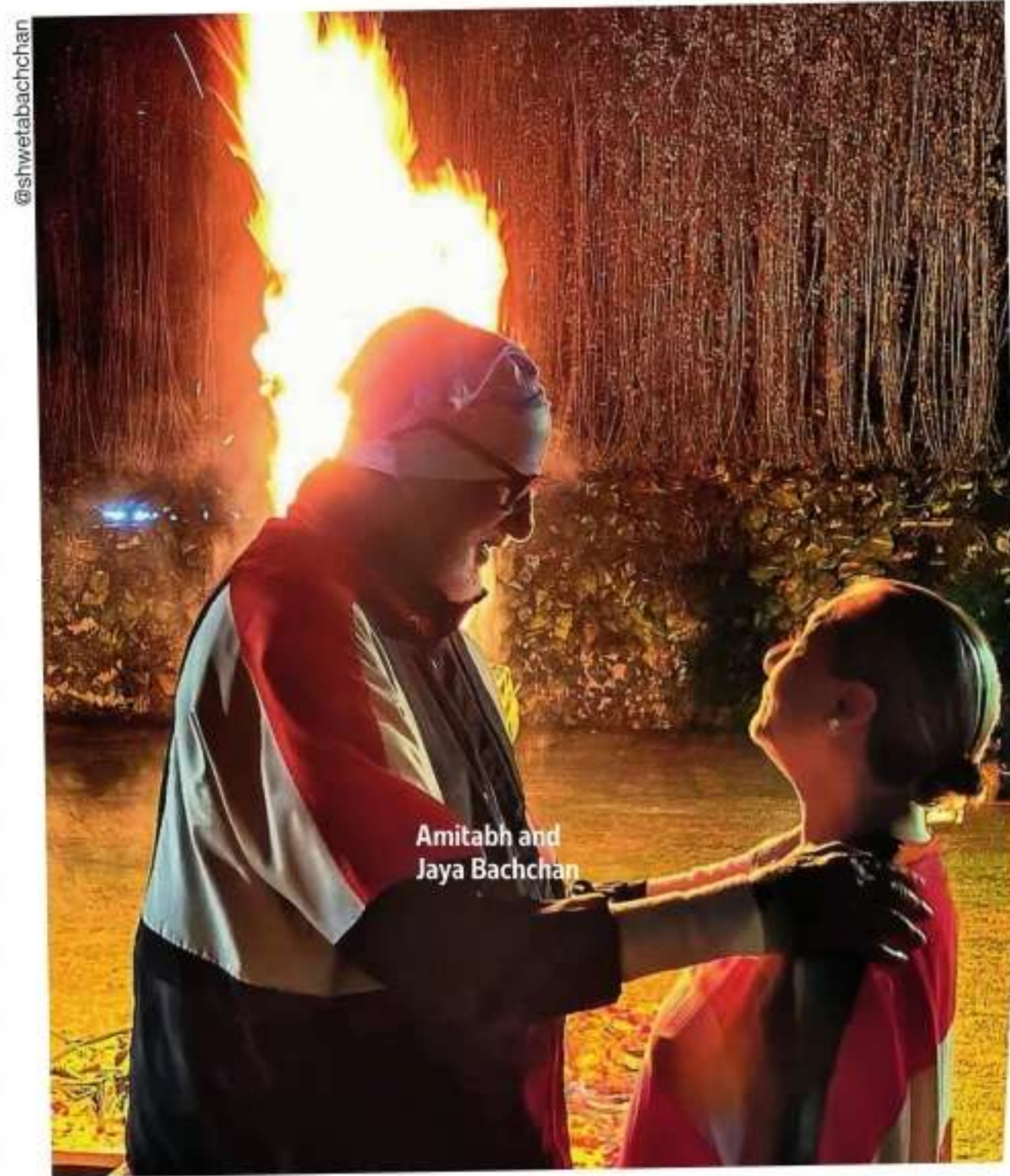
experience for patients, the cardiologist shares and adds, "It contains all the components (generator and electrical system) of a regular pacemaker housed in a small capsule. Its

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."

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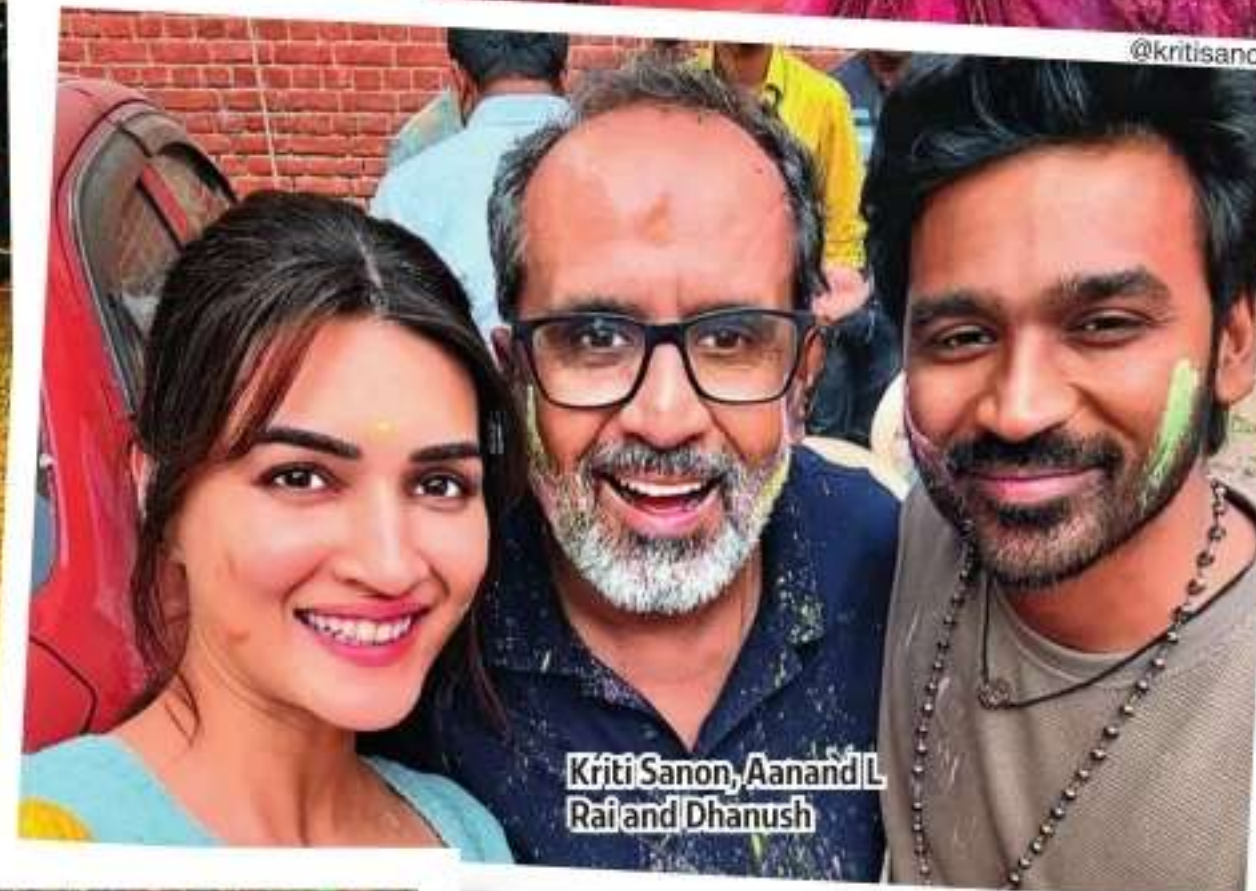
Holi hai, say celebs!



Amitabh and Jaya Bachchan



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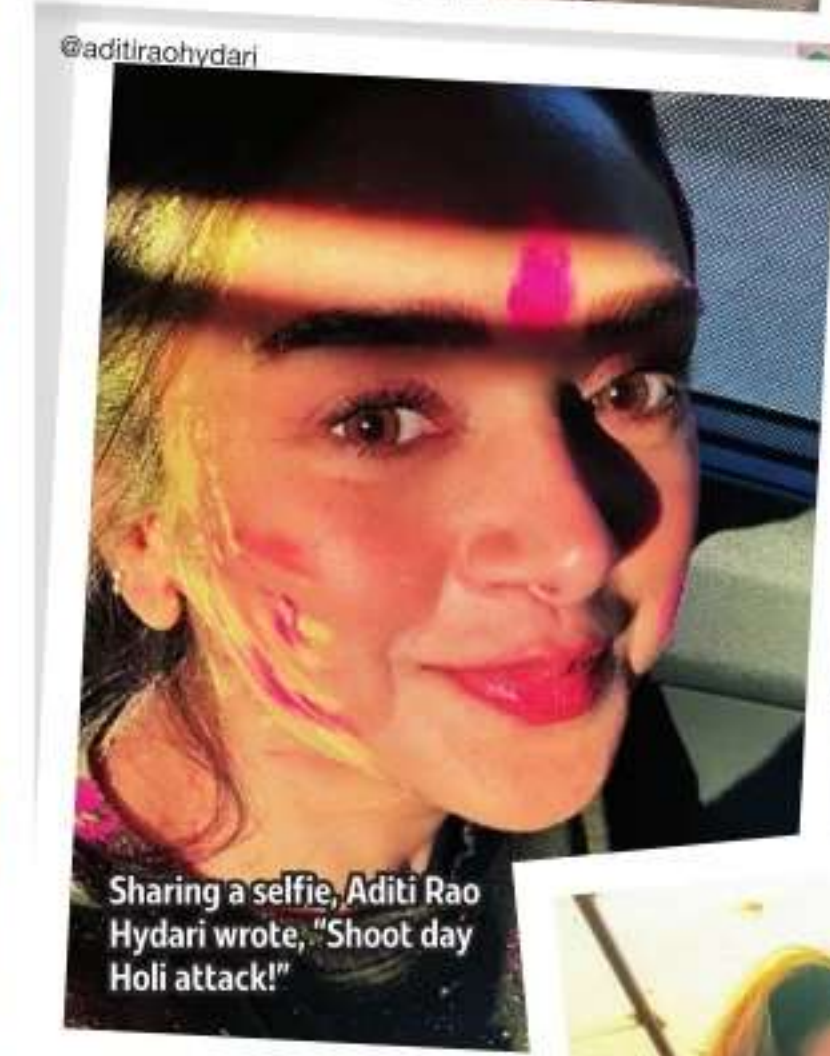
Kriti Sanon, Anand L Rai and Dhanush



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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)



@aditiraohydari

Sharing a selfie, Aditi Rao Hydari wrote, "Shoot day Holi attack!"



Sakshi Agarwal

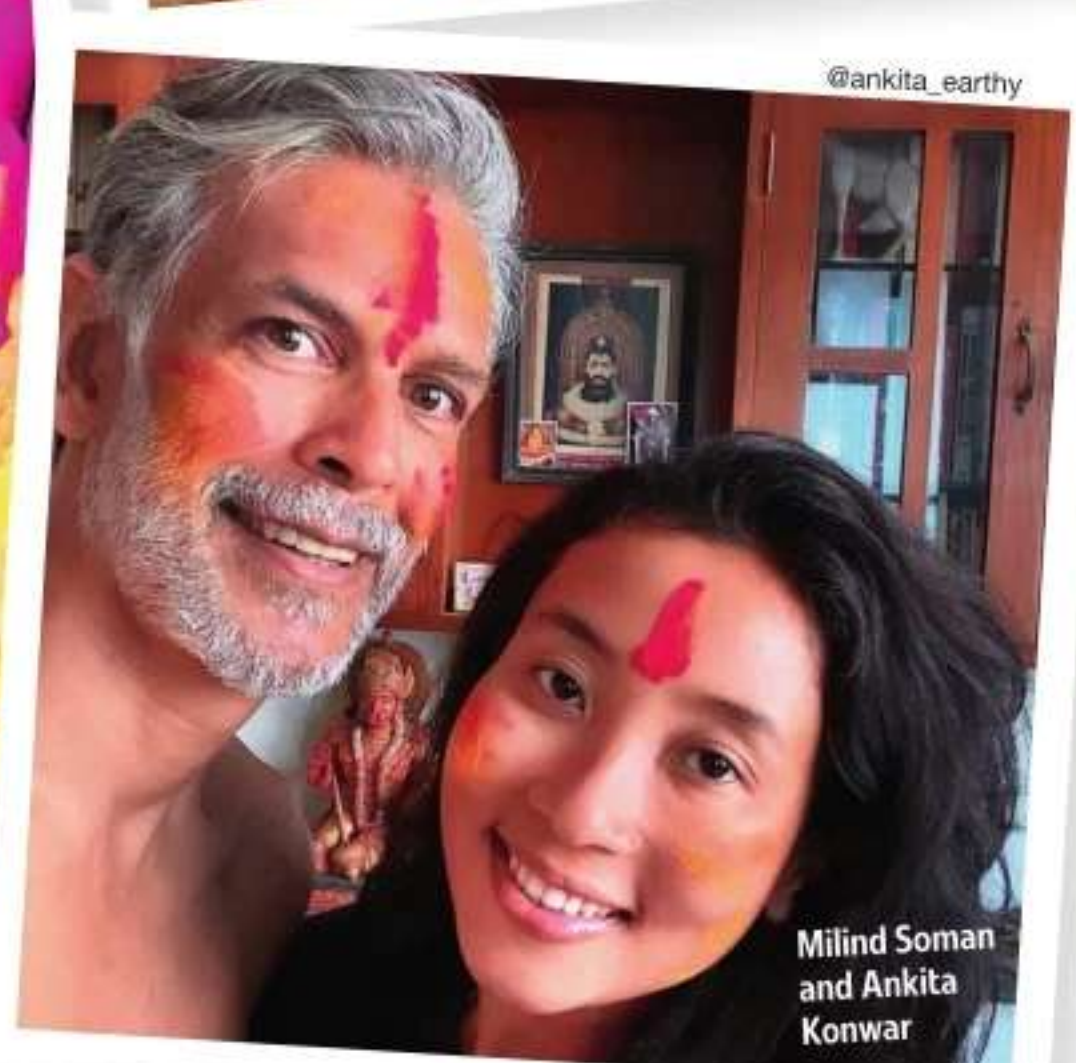


Sharing a reel featuring Rasha Thadani, Tamannaah wrote, "Celebrated Holi after many years and it went something like this"



@asisona

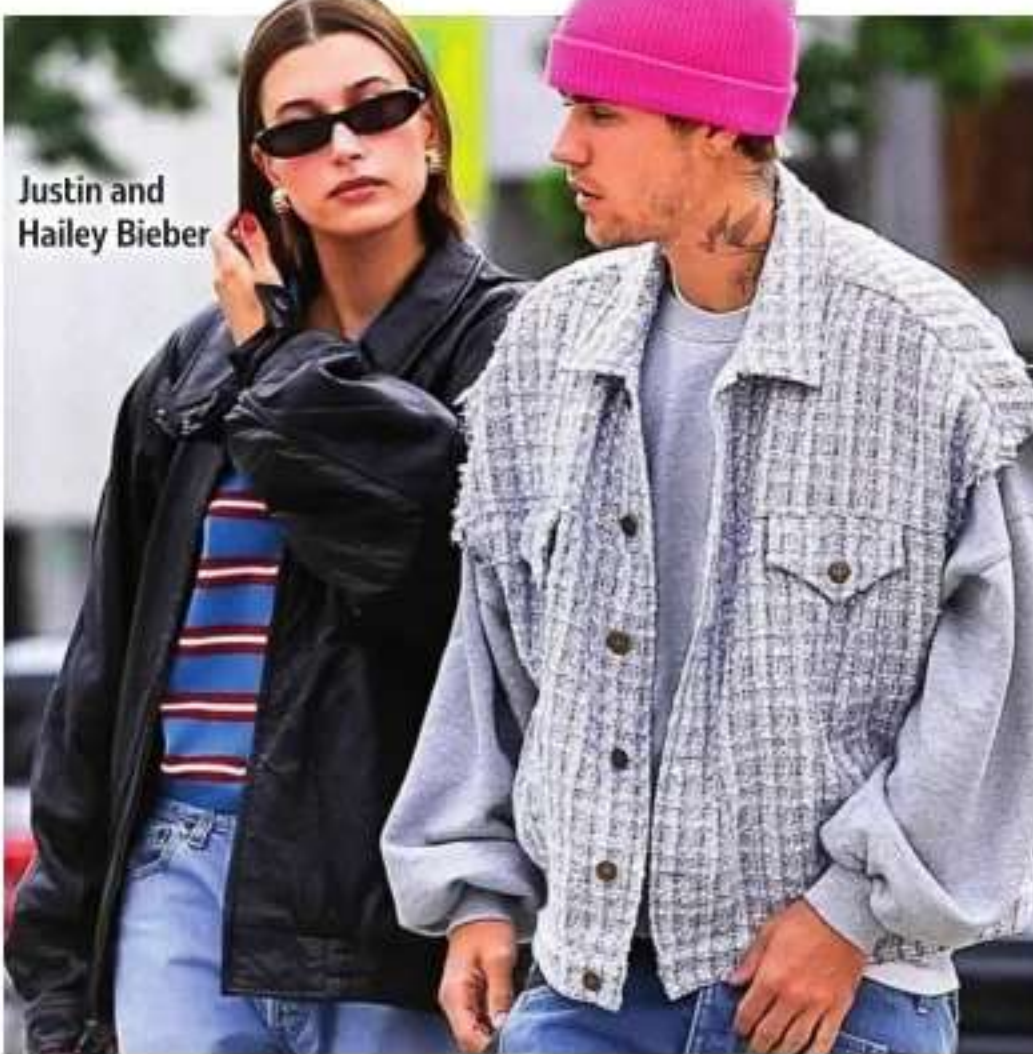
Sonakshi Sinha



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Milind Soman and Ankita Konwar

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



After 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.

Agencies

Nikki Glaser confirmed to return as Golden Globes host

Nikki 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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Pics: Praveen Tyagarajan

CITY TURNS RAINBOW-HUED

A SUNNY HOLI FOR CHENNAI

Fahad Hussain

The city came alive in a riot of colours on Friday as people celebrated the Holi festival. Actress Sunny Leone was the star attraction at a celebration organised at YMCA Nandanam. Greeting the crowd with "Vanakkam, Chennai! Eppadi irukeenga", the actress set the tone for a vibrant Holi celebration. She also took to the DJ console to play a medley of dance numbers, getting the crowd to groove along with her.

Sunny took to the stage and spread joy by throwing colour powders, sprays, and balloons into the crowd

Yashika Aannand was spotted at the revelry

Vanakkam Chennai, eppadi irukigaa! and come Chennaites lets celebrate the Holi party

Hindi TV actor Dilip Joshi danced at the Holi party, cheered by the enthusiastic crowd



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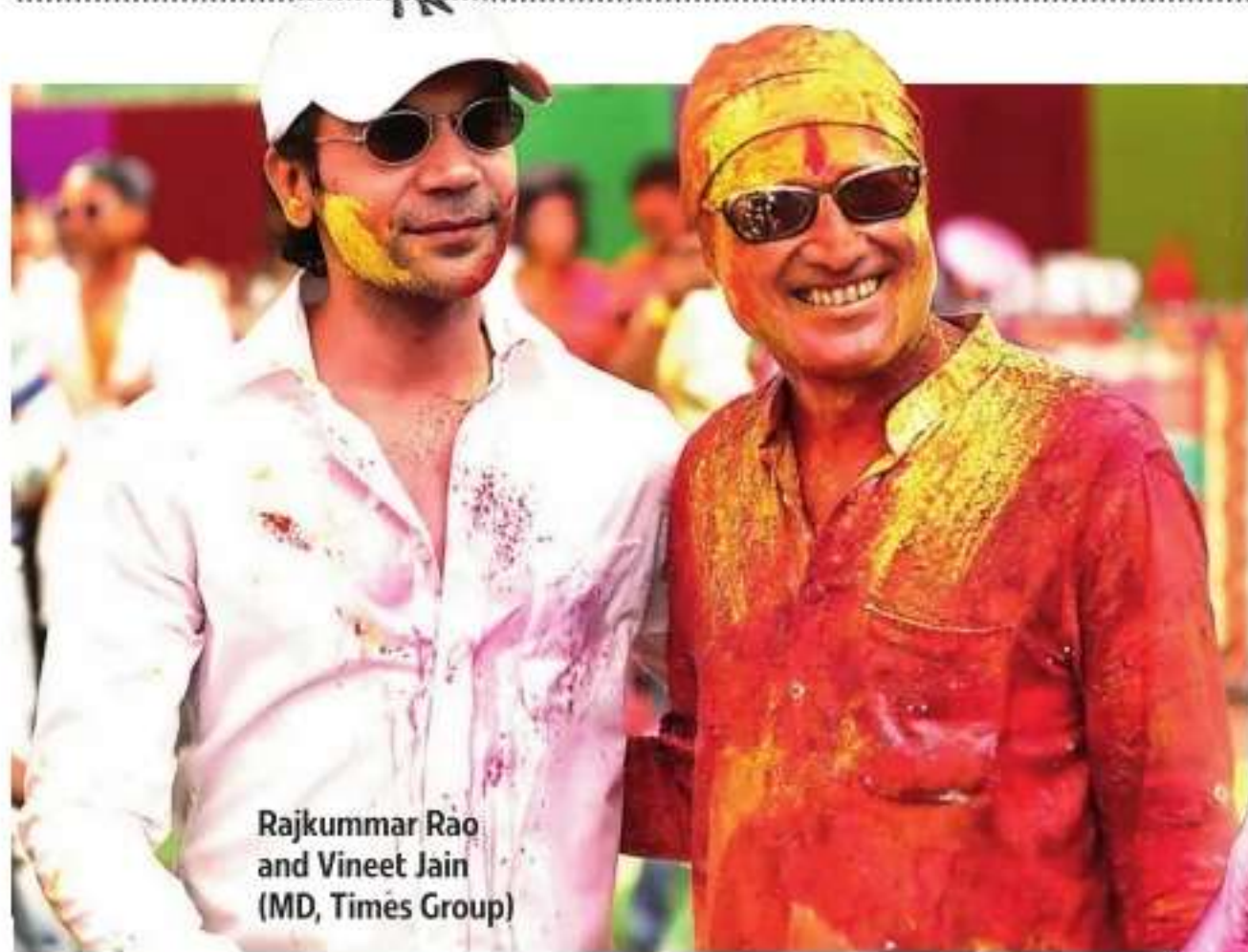
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Rajkumar Rao and Vineet Jain (MD, Times Group)

No hard feelings, its Holi!

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



(L-R) Lauren Gottlieb, Harmeet Singh, Diya Singh, Aamir Ali and Terence Lewis

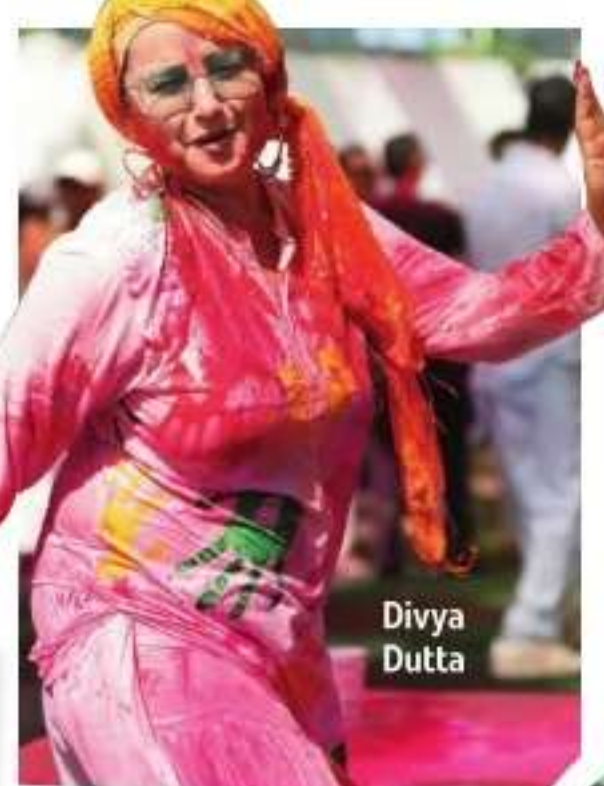


(L-R) Suman Rao (Miss World 2019 - 2nd Runner-up and Miss World Asia 2019), Gayatri Bhardwaj (Femina Miss India United Continents 2018), Shivani Jadhav (Femina Miss Grand India 2019) and Ritika Khatnani (Miss Supranational Asia 2022)



Soundarya Sharma

Preeti Jhangiani



Divya Dutta



Kubbra Sait and Rithvik Dhanjani



Taha Shah Badushsha



Gurmeet Choudhary and Debinna Bonnerjee



Jay Bhanushali



Mukesh Chhabra



Madhur Bhandarkar



Ken Ghosh



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



DJ Sumit Sethi

(L-R) Ayushree Malik (LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2024), Trisha Shetty (LIVA Miss Diva 2023 Runner-up), Shubham Sharma (Mr India Supranational 2025), Aayushi Dholakia (Femina Miss India 2024 - 2nd Runner-up) and Nikita Porwal (Femina Miss India World 2024)



(L-R) Rohit Khandelwal (Mr World 2016) and Altamash Faraz (Mister Supranational Asia 6 Oceania 2017)

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No Monday blues for wedding season

Anagha Sawant

Weekday 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 pre-wedding 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

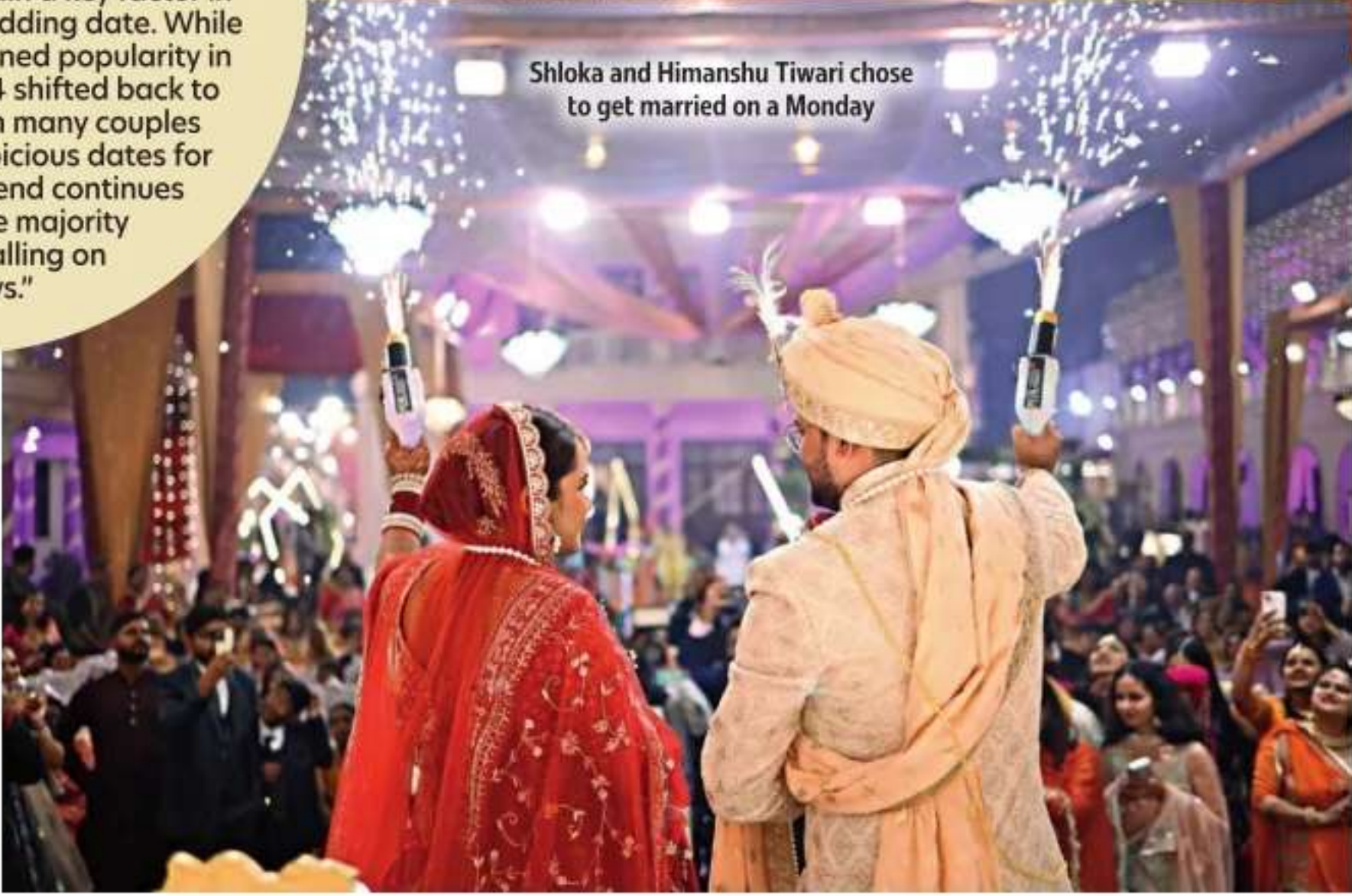
Weekday wedding venues offer at least 10-20% lower rates, as weekend dates are often booked in advance. "Weekday weddings are generally more budget-friendly, with venues offering reduced rates. Many banquet halls provide attractive weekday packages, including discounts on venue rentals, catering, and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

Auspicious wedding dates falling on weekdays

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."



Shloka and Himanshu Tiwari chose to get married on a Monday



Wedding Times

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 cost-effectiveness and flexibility

— Vinayak Shah, founder of a banquet hall in Mumbai

Venue availability plays an important role

Explaining why he got married on a Monday, Himanshu 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."

Pranali 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."

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

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