

# Celebrating citizens' inspiring work

The Suryadatta National Awards Ceremony, held on the 27th anniversary of the Suryadatta Education Foundation, celebrated the contribution of various individuals. Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni was honoured with the Suryabhushan Global Peace Ambassador Award 2025. National Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Param Vir Chakra awardee), Dr GB Deglurkar (ancient Indian temple architecture & education), Sachin Pilgaonkar (cinema), Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari (science & technology), Dr Ashokumar Pagaria (social service), Dilbagh Singh Bir (entrepreneurship), Dr Sadanand Raut (medical & social services), Mayur Vora (food & agri business) and Mayur Shah (creative arts). National Awards were conferred



Lt Gen Ashok Ambre, Raza Murad, Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Dr GB Deglurkar, Sushama Chordiya, Jaya Prada and Lucy Kurian

**For the last 27 years, Suryadatta Education Foundation has been committed to providing holistic education, fostering personality development through various such initiatives**

— Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya

upon Padma Shri awardee Chaitram Pawar (rural development & environment protection), Jaya Prada and Smita Jaykar (cinema), Rajendra

Mutha (pharma & global healthcare diagnostics services), Sagar Chordia (global trade), Dr Shivajirao Dole (rural & cooperative development), Rahul Kapoor Jain (motivational speaker), Indranil Chitale (entrepreneurship), Kishor Khabiya (social work), Sunil Waghmode (food & agri business).

The National Award – Young Achiever was presented to Jainam and Jeevika Jain (entrepreneurship). Raza Murad appreciated the foundation's "efforts to preserve Indian values for future generations".

**TRIPPIN'**

Pics: @shehnaazgill

**SHEHNAAZ GILL** is "bridging dreams" in SYDNEY. The actress' latest photo dump from Down Under makes a case for wanderlust

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**TIMES SUDOKU**

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

**LOOP THE LOOP**

**TIMES HITORI**

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

**SCRAMBLE**

Words: Three, clang, brunch, smooth  
 Answer: Time is an illusion, lunchtime doubly so - Douglas Adams

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# Majority of single women would choose their dog over a man: Study



The study found that over 75% of participants believe their dogs offer unmatched emotional support, often missing in romantic relationships

A recent study by The Kennel Club has revealed that many single women would choose their dogs over men, highlighting the growing importance of pets in women's lives. The research, which surveyed thousands of single women, shows that the connection between women and their dogs is growing stronger than their relationships with men.

**For some single women, their dogs provide unbreakable support and companionship that can be hard to find in romantic relationships**

— Sarah Milton

Key findings revealed that over 75% of participants said their dogs provide unparalleled emotional support, something they feel is often lacking in romantic relationships. Many women cited dogs' unwavering loyalty and trust as major factors in their preference for pets over partners. Furthermore, participants mentioned that dogs help reduce anxiety, providing a more stable source of joy than a relationship's stress.

Speaking about the findings, Sarah Milton, a behavioural psychologist and consultant to The Kennel Club, stated in the news report, "The relationship between humans and their pets is based on trust & unconditional love. For some single women, their dogs provide unbreakable support that can be hard to find in romantic relationships." Agencies

# Oklahoma man sets Guinness World Record with his collection of 8,882 different bricks

An Oklahoma man's family surprised him with a Guinness World Record for his collection of 8,882 different kinds of bricks.

Clem Reinkemeyer, 87, was out of town when his daughter, Celia, and son-in-law, Dan Bisett, gathered a group of friends to count and document each item in his Tulsa brick barn. Reinkemeyer returned home and was surprised with an official certifi-

cate for the world's largest collection of bricks. "I got back in town and it was a big surprise, and I'm very happy to have this certificate," he told Guinness World Records.

Reinkemeyer's collection, which he has been amassing for 40 years, includes a Roman brick from 100 AD, but most date from the last few hundred years. He said some of his most valuable bricks are those with misspellings.

Agencies



Clem Reinkemeyer said some of his most valuable bricks are those with misspellings, such as one that reads "Tulsa" with a backward "s" (left)

**What appealed to me about bricks is, they have names and you can trace them back historically to places, and that always intrigued me. It's unusual, but I like it**

— Clem Reinkemeyer, who has been collecting unique bricks for 40 years



# Empowering change-makers and the leaders of tomorrow



Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Raza Murad, Dr Lokesh Muni, Jaya Prada, Dr GB Deglurkar and Sushama Chordiya

The Suryadatta National Awards Ceremony marked the 27th anniversary of the Suryadatta Education Foundation. Dr Lokesh Munji received the Suryabhushan Global Peace Ambassador Award 2025, while the Suryadatta National Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Param Vir Chakra Awardee), Dr GB Deglurkar (ancient Indian temple architecture and education), Sachin Pilgaonkar (Indian cinema), Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari (science and technology), CA Dr Ashokkumar Pagaria (social service), Dilbagh Singh Bir (global entrepreneurship), Dr Sadanand Raut (medical and social services), Mayur Vora (food and agri-business - new venture creation), and Mayur Shah (creative arts). The Suryadatta National Award recognized Padma Shri Chaitram Pawar (rural development and environmental protection), Jaya Prada and Smita Jaykar (Indian cine-

ma), Rajendra Mutha (pharma and global healthcare diagnostics), Sagar Chordia (global trade), Dr Shivajirao Dole (rural and cooperative development), Rahul Kapoor Jain (motivational speaking), Indranil Chitale (entrepreneurship), Kishor Khabiya (social work), and Sunil Waghmode (food and agri-business), while Jainam and Jeevika Jain received the Suryadatta National Award - Young Achiever for their contributions to startups and entrepreneurship. Social worker Sister Lucy Kurian, founder of the Maher Foundation, thanked Suryadatta for its support, while actor Raza Murad emphasized, "Suryadatta ensures these values are upheld for future generations." Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya stated, "For 27 years, Suryadatta has honoured individuals making significant contributions while remaining committed to holistic education and personality development."

# Cat & sheep win Couple of the Year award in Ukraine

The Odessa Zoo in Ukraine announced an unusual duo won its annual "Couple of the Year" contest: a cat and a sheep. Masazhik, a cat, and Bagel, a lamb, were selected for this year's prestigious title after beating several other animal pairs, including lemurs, tigers and porcupines. The zoo shared the exciting news on social media, recently. "The contest Couple of the Year 2025 is over. The winners of this year are a pair of lambs, Bagel, and cat, Masazhik," the



Masazhik, translating to "massage therapist," has become a familiar sight at the zoo, often spotted comfortably perched on Bagel's back

**The winners are a pair of lambs, Bagel, and cat, Masazhik. Such a combination of friendly relationships of completely different animals is possible only in the Odessa Zoo**

Official statement by zoo  
zoo informed on Facebook. This annual tradition at the Odessa Zoo continues to captivate animal lovers, with last year's winners being a pair of mated sheep.

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# Analogue cameras: A retro revival or fleeting trend?

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

Eshna Bhattacharya

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

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

- Ajay Das, photographer

## THE HUNT FOR VINTAGE CAMERAS

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



Pics: Anindya Saha



## Film photography: A luxury hobby?

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



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

## 'Shooting on film makes a statement'

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

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

Analogue cameras rarely need repairs, but when they do, it's difficult - parts are unavailable, and fixing them requires extra time, effort and sheer luck

- Mehrab Alam, a camera-repair specialist

## The repair struggle

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

₹800 is the current average price of film



# Adventurous cat 'hijacks' plane to Germany, refuses to leave flight



The cat (pictured) peers out at crewmembers



The cat makes its way across the runway after deplaning

A high-flying feline is going viral after stealing aboard a jet, forcing the flight to be delayed for two days. The flight had reportedly been scheduled to fly from Rome to Germany last week when crew members heard a strange meowing sound emanating from the aircraft just before takeoff.

Maintenance workers then discovered the cat hiding in the electrical bay. And that was just the beginning. The hairy hijacker subsequently decided to retreat back into the wiring, forcing the flight to be cancelled over safety reasons. The crew removed several panels to keep tabs on the tabby, but it kept moving

to different parts of the plane like a game of whack-a-meow. Eventually, the scratchy seat squatter evacuated the aircraft voluntarily, making its way through an open door and down the stairs, before walking across the runway, er, should we say catwalk. Due to its intrusion, the

plane had to be grounded for a whole two days before flying to its destination. This measure might seem overzealous, but sources said the unauthorised paw-senger could have caused major problems at 30,000 feet as well as cost the Irish budget carrier thousands of dollars.

Agencies



Raza Murad, Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Sachin Pilgaonkar, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muniji, Dr G B Deglurkar, Sushama Chordiya, Lucy Kurian and Jaya Prada

# Honouring inspiring citizens for their work in society

The Suryadatta National Awards Ceremony, held on the 27th anniversary of the Suryadatta Education Foundation, celebrated the contribution of eminent personalities from various fields to the welfare of society. Acharya Dr Lokesh Muniji was honoured with the Suryabhushan Global Peace Ambassador Award 2025. National Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Param Vir Chakra awardee), Dr G B Deglurkar (Ancient Indian Temple Architecture & Education), Sachin Pilgaonkar (Cinema), Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari (Science & Technology), Dr Ashokkumar Pagaria (Social Service), Dilbagh Singh Bir (Global Entrepreneurship), Dr Sadanand Raut (Medical & Social Services), Mayur Vora (Food & Agri Business) and Mayur Shah (Creative Arts).



Indraneel Chitale Rajendra Mutha Sagar Chordia

This award ceremony is a source of inspiration and energy for our students. For the last 27 years, Suryadatta Education Foundation has been committed to providing holistic education, fostering personality development through various such initiatives

- Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, founder president and chairman, Suryadatta Education Foundation

their contributions to startups and entrepreneurship. Social worker Sister Lucy Kurian, founder of the Maher Foundation, expressed her gratitude to the organisers for this initiative. Actor Raza Murad, who was also present at the ceremony, emphasised Indian values and appreciated the foundation's efforts to preserve these for the future generations.

# Tourist town in China apologises for 'fake snow'

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

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

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

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



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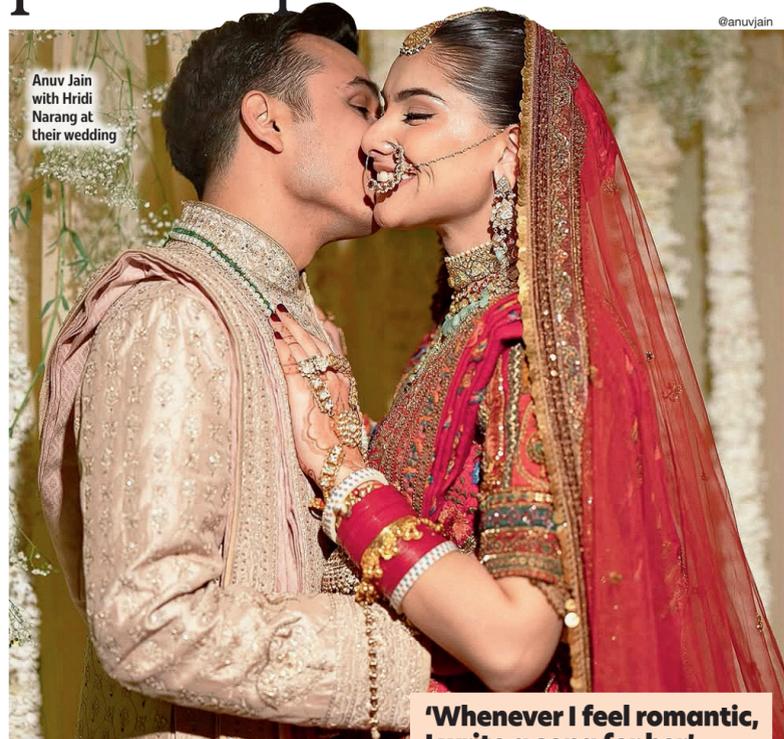


A file picture of Sichuan province; (inset) screenshot from a viral video shows cotton used to simulate snow at the Chengdu village

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# Hridi is an extremely private person: Anuv



Anuv Jain with Hridi Narang at their wedding

@anuvjain

**'Whenever I feel romantic, I write a song for her'**

Both of us are very romantic but in different ways. She excels at small gestures, not just for me, but for her family as well. She writes letters and cute notes, while I am more of a grand gesture kind of a guy. I'll literally write a song for her.

That is exactly the kind of wedding we wanted. My bond with my family and friends was always very strong but it has become stronger now."

The singer shares, "Hridi has inspired my music over the years. I had sent her a raw cut of *Jo Tum Mere Ho* on a voice note when we first started dating. It was just a few lines, she asked me to make a full-fledged song out of it. She has been a guiding force."

While he is a private person, what made him share the wedding news now? He says, "I switch between being a private and a public person. I try to share as much of my life as possible in terms of my career. I felt I should share my wedding news as I have always shared the biggest highlights of my life and this is by far the most important one of my life. I wanted everybody to be a part of it."

CONTINUED FROM K 1

Anuv and Hridi remained online friends and met in person four years ago in Delhi. He shares, "Our friendship kept growing over the years. On February 12, 2021, I had my first show in Delhi and that was the first time we met."

### 'HRIDI HAS INSPIRED MY MUSIC'

Anuv, best known for songs like *Baarishein* and *Mishri*, says they chose February 15 as it holds a special place in their lives. The wedding festivities began on February 13 and 14. He shares, "On February 14 three years ago (2022), we went on our first date. Our first date ended late in the night (it was February 15), so these dates are very important. It was a beautiful celebration." He adds, "Everybody who was a part of our wedding has meant something for us."



I would like to be a part of my own music videos first, gain enough confidence and then we'll see if she can be a part of a few videos as well. Hridi is a very private person

# Celebrating inspiring work of the citizens

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Lt Gen Ashok Ambre, Raza Murad, Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Dr GB Deglurkar, Sushama Chordiya, Jaya Prada and Lucy Kurian

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Chordia (global trade), Dr Shivajirao Dole (rural & cooperative development), Rahul Kapoor Jain (motivational speaker), Indrani Chitale (entrepreneurship), Kishor Khabiya (social work), Sunil Waghmode (food & agri business). The National Award – Young Achiever was presented to Jainam and Jeevika Jain (entrepreneurship). Raza Murad appreciated the foundation's "efforts to preserve Indian values for future generations".

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- Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya



SHEHNAAZ GILL is "bridging dreams" in SYDNEY. The actress' latest photo dump from Down Under makes a case for wanderlust

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Prashant Jadhav

Kevin Pietersen

# 'I don't watch movies, I'm more into wildlife-related stuff'

CONTINUED FROM P 1

Pietersen's family holiday in India was a memorable one, with stopovers at Mumbai and Rajasthan, where they went on a tiger safari. The 44-year-old recalled, "We were in Mumbai for a few days, and then we went to Rajasthan. We also went to Ranthambore to look for tigers. We spent quite a bit of time in India, and my family is desperate to come back."

### 'I HAD PANI PURI IN DELHI'

Pietersen says he hasn't been able to indulge in the local street food during his recent visit. "I've been very structured in the way that I've gone about my last couple of days. When I travel, I stick to a real guideline as to what I eat, when I eat and when I train. I like to be as healthy as possible. So, I only eat at certain times of the day and certain foods. I'm not a guy that goes and chases food on the streets," he said.

However, Pietersen adds that he has tried some popular street food here in the past. "Of course, I've had *vada pav* in Mumbai and *pani puri* in Delhi," he said.

### 'I WATCH SPORTS & WILDLIFE STUFF'

A self-proclaimed wildlife enthusiast, the cricketer's love for the outdoors is evident. He confessed, "I don't watch movies - neither Hollywood or Bollywood. I watch sports and wildlife-related stuff. I'm a wildlife guy. I like to be out in the open."

I've been very structured in the way that I've gone about my last couple of days (in India). When I travel, I stick to a real guideline as to what I eat

# I don't worry about being typecast, says Sayli Salunkhe

Sayli Salunkhe, who has been part of daily soaps like *Bohot Pyaar Karte Hai*, *Baatein Kuch Ankahee Si* and *Pukaar - Dil Se Dil Tak*, is stepping into the mythological genre for the first time with Siddharth Kumar Tewary's *Veer Hanuman - Bolo Bajrang Bali Ki Jai*.

Taking on a mythological role often raises concerns about being typecast, but Sayli has no such fears. The actress, who will portray Mata Anjani in the show, shares, "It's a completely different experience and a good opportunity to grow as an actor. I don't worry about be-

ing typecast because every role is a new opportunity to showcase something different."

Adapting to the demands of a mythological show required a shift in her performance style. She explains, "Performing in a mythological show is very different; it's more theatrical and larger than life. I've had to work on my posture, hand gestures and dialogue delivery to bring a certain gravitas to the role. The elaborate costumes naturally make you feel more grand and graceful."

— Neha Maheshwri



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Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Raza Murad, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni, Jaya Prada, Dr GB Deglurkar and Sushama Chordiya

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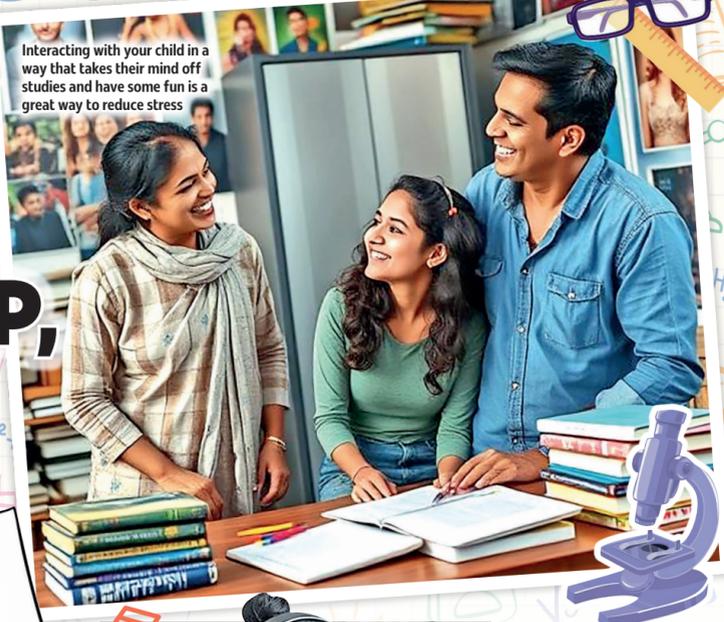


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Chill pill

# BOARD EXAM BLUES? EAT, SLEEP, PLAY... REPEAT!

Interacting with your child in a way that takes their mind off studies and have some fun is a great way to reduce stress



**Torna Chakraborty**

It's board exams time, and stress, anxiety and sleepless nights come with the territory. And as the kids struggle with revision and re-revision to ensure good scores, parents and family members have a big responsibility - to take care of their mental well-being and avoid adding peer pressure to the mix. Here's what experts suggest:

**Balance studies and breaks**

Studying non-stop for long hours can lead to mental fatigue, which can do more harm than good. And parents and experts we spoke to agree it's healthy to take breaks. "Overlearning can be harmful," says counselling psychologist Pragya Priya Mandal, adding, "It helps if parents surprise the child with a movie outing, take them out for grocery shopping or to the mall or take TV breaks together." Madhuparna Roy, whose son is appearing for his 10th board exams, adds, "My son loves painting, and I always make sure he takes a break from studying every hour."

**Home-cooked meals can work wonders for a child appearing for exams. Keep things light with small, easy-to-digest frequent meals. Avoid excess sugar and processed food**

- Dr Payel Kumar Roy, dietician and critical care nutritionist

**What's a break?**

After every hour of study, allow your child to take a short and fun timeout to give their eyes and brain a break. Here are a few things they can do:

- Have a fun call/chat with a friend

- Stretch or do light yoga
- Take a short walk or go cycling
- Dance to their favourite song
- Take a power nap
- Play with a pet, if you have one



Listening to music can help take a child's mind off studies and process what they have learnt

**Advantages of good sleep**

Sleep research in the last 20 years by some of the top institutes across the world, right from University of Berkeley to MIT, indicates that sleep does more than simply give students the energy they need to study and perform well in exams. These studies agree that good sleep helps students learn, memorise, retain, recall, and use their new knowledge to come up with solutions to even the most complex questions. So, make sure your kid gets at least eight hours of sleep every night, and not just the night before the exam date.

**The right food**

Most kids tend to ignore their body clock during exams. Even their usual food cycle gets disturbed, leading to health issues. According to Dr Payel Kumar Roy, it's all about fuelling them up with a diet packed with whole grains, lean protein, healthy fats, fruits and veggies during exam time.



Having a pet around is a great way to unwind

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Sunil Waghmode

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Khabiya (Social work), Sunil Waghmode (Food & Agri Business).

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## Majority of single women would choose their dog over a man: Study

A recent study by The Kennel Club has revealed that many single women would choose their dogs over men, highlighting the growing importance of pets in women's lives. The research, which surveyed thousands of single women, shows that the connection between women and their dogs is growing stronger than their relationships with men.



Most participants in the study said their dogs provide unparalleled emotional support, something they feel is often lacking in romantic relationships

Key findings reveal that over 75% of participants said their dogs provide unparalleled emotional support, something they feel is often lacking in romantic relationships. Many women cited dogs' unwavering loyalty and trust as major

factors in their preference for pets over partners. Furthermore, participants mentioned that dogs help reduce anxiety, providing a more stable source of joy than a relationship's stress.

Speaking about the findings, Sarah Milton, a behavioural psychologist and consultant to The Kennel Club, stated in the news report: "The relationship between humans and their pets is founded on trust and unconditional love. For some single women, their dogs provide unbreakable support and companionship that can be hard to find in romantic relationships."

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Kishor Madanlal Khabiya



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When the summer sun blazes, nothing feels more refreshing than a chilled, fruity drink. And when it's made from real, luscious fruits, the experience becomes even more delightful. Amul TRU offers a range of fruit-based beverages that bring the goodness of real tropical fruits in every sip. Whether you crave the sweetness of mango, the tang of orange, the crispness of apple, or the delicate taste of litchi, this drink has got you covered.

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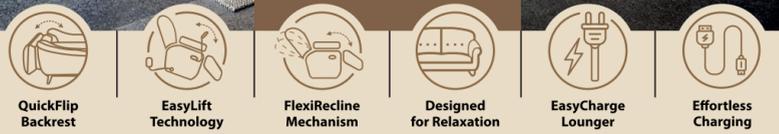
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Ashok Pagariya



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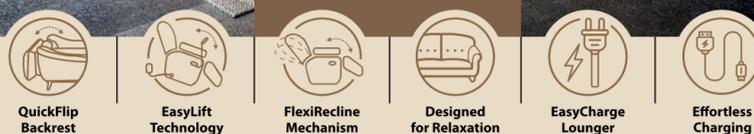
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# 'Once you become an actor, you can no longer wander into public spaces'

**'I miss the feeling of quiet this area had earlier'**

Speaking about how he has seen the area he has lived in all his life change, the actor says, "It's a double-edged sword. On the one hand, the place is cleaned up, and there are promenades and street lighting, which make it look great. Now it looks like a park-complex, however, that feeling of mystery and romance doesn't exist. There was a charm to the old relic. But during my teenage years, Carter Road was a backroad that no one used. You could sit there any time of the day as it was always deserted. I miss that feeling of quiet, today Bandra is the central hub of the city."

**If Imara wants to go to a public park, we have to plan it in a certain way because sometimes people don't have a sense of consideration around a little child, their excitement of seeing a famous person overrides everything**

CONTINUED FROM 1

## 'IT FELT SO ORGANIC FOR OUR CHARACTERS IN JAANE TU... TO HANG AROUND HERE'

Imran recalled, "My memories go way back before *Jaane Tu*. When I was 15-16, I used to hang around here with my friends, and at that time, this area was desolate. There was just a juice centre here where we would have sandwiches and *vada pav*, but there were barely any crowds. There would be some questionable folks hiding in the bushes, and we were told not to visit this area. So, there was a sense of adventure each time we came here. When Abbas (Tyrewala) wanted to shoot the film here, it hit home for many of us, as even Genelia (Deshmukh) is a Bandra girl. It was our backyard, which is why it felt so organic for our characters to hang around here." Imran also recalled that the Bandra Fort was converted into a mela for a song sequence in Milan Luthria's *Once Upon a Time In Mumbai Dobaara!*

**'ONCE YOU BECOME AN ACTOR, A PART OF THE CONTRACT IS THAT YOU CAN NO LONGER WANDER INTO PUBLIC PLACES'** Imran says his one regret is that he can't take his daughter Imara to the places he enjoyed as a child. He says at one point he had to have a talk with Imara and explain the situation to her. "She would wonder why people are following



Imran Khan with Karan Makhija and Nirav Mehta in a still from *Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na* at the same spot at Bandra Fort



our car, so I gradually explained to her that I acted in some movies, so people recognise me. When you have these conversations with a child, you realise how bizarre the situation is. Once you become an actor, part of the contract is that you can no

longer wander into public spaces like anyone else. That is an experience I regret not being able to give to my child. If she wants to go to a public park, we have to plan it in a certain way because sometimes people don't have a sense of consideration around a little child, their excitement of seeing a famous person overrides everything."

# Honouring inspiring citizens for their work in society

The Suryadatta National Awards Ceremony, held on the 27th anniversary of the Suryadatta Education Foundation, celebrated the contribution of eminent personalities from various fields to the welfare of society. Acharya Dr Lokesh Muniji was honoured with the Suryabhushan Global Peace Ambassador Award 2025. National Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Param Vir Chakra awardee), Dr G B Deglurkar (Ancient Indian Temple Architecture & Education), Sachin Pilgaonkar (Cinema), Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari (Science & Technology), Dr Ashokkumar Pagaria (Social Service), Dilbagh Singh Bir (Global Entrepreneurship), Dr Sadanand Raut (Medical & Social Services), Mayur Vora (Food & Agri Business) and Mayur Shah (Creative Arts). National Awards



Raza Murad, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Smita Jaykar, Archarya Lokesh Muniji and Sushama S Chordiya

**This award ceremony is a source of inspiration and energy for our students. For the last 27 years, Suryadatta Education Foundation has been committed to providing holistic education, fostering personality development through various such initiatives**

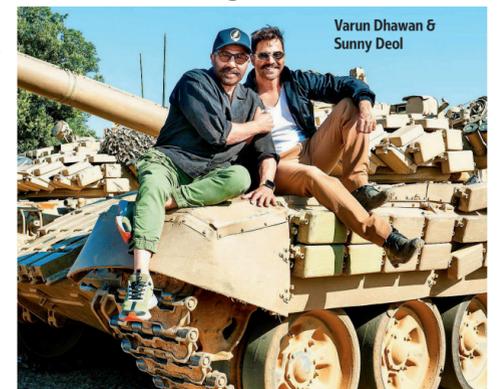
- Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, founder president and chairman, Suryadatta Education Foundation

were conferred upon Padma Shri awardee Chaitram Pawar (Rural Development & Environment Protection), Jaya Prada and Smita Jaykar (Cinema), Rajendra Mutha (Pharma & Global Healthcare Diagnostics Services), Sagar Chordia (Global Trade), Dr Shivajirao Dole (Rural & Cooperative Development), Rahul Kapoor Jain (Motivational Speaker), Indranil Chitale (Entrepreneurship), Kishor Khabiya (Social work), Sunil Waghmode (Food & Agri Business).

The National Award - Young Achiever was presented to Jainam and Jeevika Jain for their contributions to startups and entrepreneurship. Social worker Sister Lucy Kurian, founder of the Maher Foundation, expressed her gratitude to the organisers for this initiative. Actor Raza Murad, who was also present at the ceremony, emphasised Indian values and appreciated the foundation's efforts to preserve these for the future generations.

# Varun Dhawan drops BTS photo with Sunny Deol

Varun Dhawan shared a behind-the-scenes photo with actor Sunny Deol from the set of *Border 2* on social media. The shooting for the much-anticipated sequel of the 1997 epic is currently taking place in the rugged cantonment of Jhansi. In the photo shared by the Badlapur actor, the duo were seen sitting on a military tanker. Varun sported a white vest along with a blue shirt and brown pants, while Sunny wore a blue shirt and green cargo. "Sunny days. *Hameraa saab ji*. #border2 #IndianArmy Jan 2026," Varun wrote with the picture.



Varun Dhawan & Sunny Deol

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# Celebrating inspiring work of the citizens



Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Rahul Kapoor Jain, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni, Sushama Chordiya, and Lucy Kurian



Indraneel Chitale

The Suryadatta National Awards Ceremony, held on the 27th anniversary of the Suryadatta Education Foundation, celebrated the contribution of various individuals. Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni was honoured with the Suryabhushan Global Peace Ambassador Award 2025. National Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Param Vir Chakra awardee), Dr GB Deglurkar (ancient Indian temple architecture & education), Sachin Pilgaonkar (cinema), Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari (science & technology), Dr Ashokkumar Pagaria (social service),

**For the last 27 years, Suryadatta Education Foundation has been committed to providing holistic education, fostering personality development through various such initiatives**

— Prof Dr Sanjay B Chordiya

Dilbagh Singh Bir (entrepreneurship), Dr Sadanand Raut (medical & social services), Mayur Vora (food & agri business) and Mayur Shah (creative arts).

National Awards were conferred upon Padma Shri awardee Chaitram Pawar (rural development & environment protection), Jaya Prada

and Smita Jaykar (cinema), Rajendra Mutha (pharma & global healthcare diagnostics services), Sagar Chordia (global trade), Dr Shivajirao Dole (rural & cooperative development), Rahul Kapoor Jain (motivational speaker), Indranil Chitale (entrepreneurship), Kishor Khabiya (social work), Sunil Waghmode (food & agri business).

The National Award – Young Achiever was presented to Jainam and Jeevika Jain (entrepreneurship). Raza Murad appreciated the foundation's "efforts to preserve Indian values for future generations".

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# Indian OTT space still has a long way to go: Swapna



Soumitra Das

Swapna Waghmare Joshi, who was in Vadodara recently to attend a school's annual concert, got nostalgic while remembering her association with the city. The actress-filmmaker, who has directed TV shows like *Kutumb* and *Teen Bahuramnyan* and Marathi films like *Savita Damodar Paranjpe*, tells us, "I was born here, I am a *pakka* Barodian. We have a house in Vadodara, and I keep coming here. I did my graduation and post-graduation from MSU (The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda). I really miss my MSU days. I made some friends for life during my college days."

She adds, "I have done a Gujarati documentary on the paintings of Raja Ravi Varma, which was my first independent venture. Currently, I am pursuing my PhD (on the intricacies and analysis of screenplays that are based on play scripts) from MSU and my guide is Dr Trilok Mehra. I find this subject fascinating. While directing *Savita Damodar Paranjpe*, it was a huge challenge because while the play had five scenes, the film had 97! I had to add scenes in the film while keeping the soul of the play intact. It's not easy; I think Vishal Bhardwaj did a brilliant job while making *Omkara* (adapted from *Othello*)."

**'MOST OTT MAKERS IMITATE THE WEST'**  
Joshi, who was one of the creative directors of *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii* and also acted in the show *Sanskaar - Dharohar Annon Ki*, tells us, "I watch *Kaun Banega Crorepati* because I love that show. But apart from that, I haven't watched any TV in the last couple of years. After the lockdown, I worked as a consultant with a Marathi OTT platform and so, I started following OTT content closely."

She adds, "I feel Indian OTT still has a long way to go because most makers are imitating the west. They have picked up things which aren't really required and there is a bit of force-feeding when it comes to nudity and foul language. These things are being incorporated even when they aren't really required. Instead of bold thoughts, many makers are going for bold scenes in Indian OTT shows. However, some wonderful shows like *Black Warrant* are being made too."

**Many Indian OTT makers have picked up things from the west which aren't really required here. Instead of bold thoughts, many makers are going for bold scenes in our OTT shows**



Kamlesh Surve

Swapna Waghmare Joshi believes, "Regional films were always strong. I feel Gujarati films have improved amazingly in the last five years"; (inset) a still from OTT show *Black Warrant*, which she found "wonderful"

# Celebrating citizens' inspiring work



Lt Gen Ashok Ambre, Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar, Prof Dr Narendra Bhandari, Raza Murad, Acharya Dr Lokesh Muni, Dr Sanjay B Chordiya, Sushama Chordiya, Lucy Kurian and Jaya Prada; (right) Dr GB Deglurkar

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# Hard to be a new mum and work: Radhika multitasks at BAFTAs

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

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

Radhika got married to British violinist and composer Benedict Taylor in 2012.

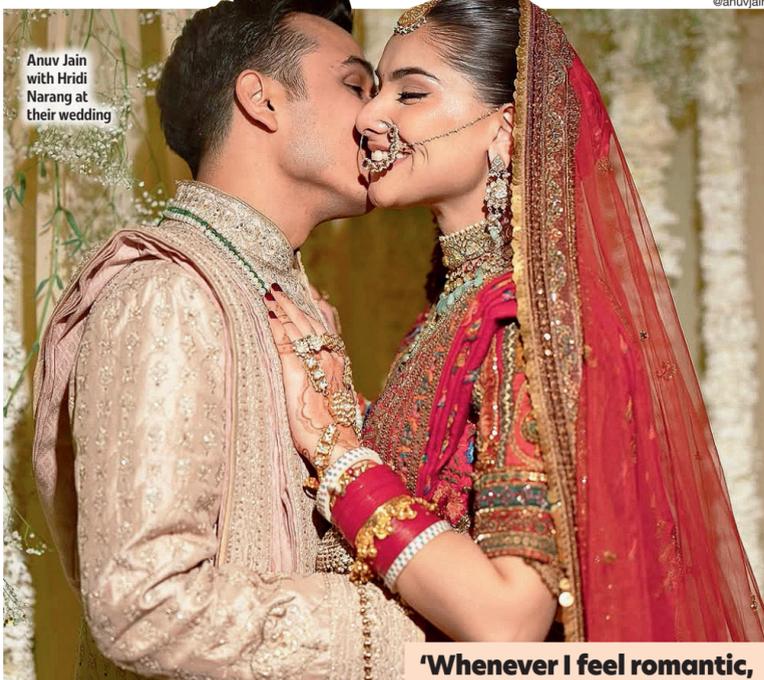
**It's hard as is to be a new mum and work, this level of care and sensitivity is rare in our film industry and much appreciated**



@radhikaofficial

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

# Hridi is an extremely private person: Anuv



@anuvjain

Anuv Jain with Hridi Narang at their wedding

CONTINUED FROM 1

Anuv and Hridi remained online friends and met in person four years ago in Delhi. He shares, "Our friendship kept growing over the years. On February 12, 2021, I had my first show in Delhi and that was the first time we met."

**'HRIDI HAS INSPIRED MY MUSIC'**

Anuv, best known for songs like *Baarishain* and *Mishri*, says they chose February 15 as it holds a special place in their lives. The wedding festivities began on February 13 and 14. He shares, "On February 14 three years ago (2022), we went on our first date. Our first date ended late in the night (it was February 15), so these dates are very important. It was a beautiful celebration." He adds, "Everybody who was a part of our wedding has meant something for us."

**I would like to be a part of my own music videos first, gain enough confidence and then we'll see if she can be a part of a few videos as well. Hridi is a very private person**

**'Whenever I feel romantic, I write a song for her'**

Both of us are very romantic but in different ways. She excels at small gestures, not just for me, but for her family as well. She writes letters and cute notes, while I am more of a grand gesture kind of a guy. I'll literally write a song for her.

That is exactly the kind of wedding we wanted. My bond with my family and friends was always very strong but it has become stronger now."

The singer shares, "Hridi has inspired my music over the years. I had sent her a raw cut of *Jo Tum Mere Ho* on a voice note when we first started dating. It was just a few lines, she asked me to make a full-fledged song out of it. She has been a guiding force."

While he is a private person, what made him share the wedding news now? He says, "I switch between being a private and a public person. I try to share as much of my life as possible in terms of my career. I felt I should share my wedding news as I have always shared the biggest highlights of my life and this is by far the most important one of my life. I wanted everybody to be a part of it."



# DATE LIKE IT'S THE '90s TO BRING BACK OLD SCHOOL ROMANCE

Eshna Bhattacharya

Nothing kills romance faster than a "U up?" text. Back in the '90s, love took effort - rewinding cassettes with a pencil, waiting for that handwritten letter to arrive, and planning dates that didn't involve doomscrolling. With '90s nostalgia trending right now, it's just the right time to try this style of dating. Check out this handy guide on how to recreate the ultimate '90s-style date.

**More than just double tap**

Forget cloud storage - real romance is tangible. Snap a polaroid during your date and hand it over right there and then; no filters, no retakes. If they slip it into their wallet, you've officially hit the '90s romcom bullseye. Or keep it classic with a movie ticket stub as a memento of your special moment. Then there's the friendship bracelet, which is the original 'promise ring'. Handmade, colourful, and full of meaning - it's the perfect throwback to schoolyard romance. You'll get bonus points if you make a matching set.

Gift mixtapes for that '90s feel



**Mixtapes, love letters and other heartfelt efforts**

A playlist is cute, but a mixtape is a love letter in stereo. Choose songs that scream 'us', write dramatic titles like 'For your ears only' on a cassette or burn a CD. You earn brownie points if you include a voice note saying something ridiculously cheesy. And while you're at it, go full analog with a handwritten love note - no emojis, no typing, just ink on paper, preferably with a spritz of perfume. To seal the deal, gift your crush a Walkman or Discman. Because nothing says "I love you" better than a playlist that requires actual effort to listen to.



**When in doubt, bank on chocolate and milkshakes**

If a chocolate bar doesn't scream "I fancy you," nothing will. Slip a love note inside the wrapper for that extra '90s touch. Or, go for the ultimate shared milkshake with two straws - ideally with Boyzone or Alisha Chinai playing in the background. Bonus points if you spill it a little while laughing at your own jokes.

**Dress for the roles, live the moment**

A '90s-style date isn't complete without dressing the part. Channel your inner Poo or Raj - think slip dresses, chokers, baggy jeans, and oversized flannel shirts. Show up in a windbreaker, tinted sunglasses, or platform sneakers, and watch your date appreciate your commitment. If you really want to go full Bollywood, go right ahead and dedicate a song to them on the radio.



Models Alkaria Hashmi & Shadman Khan (also above) ace retro vibes in style