

Deepika buys ₹17 cr apartment

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Coldplay officially announces India shows

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## LEAK OR PUBLICITY STUNT?

Was the Nagarjuna sequence from *Coolie* a deliberate play for attention?

DC CORRESPONDENT

Filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj seems to be miffed, ever since a sequence from his latest, *Coolie*, was leaked online. An action sequence featuring actor Nagarjuna made its way online within weeks of it being shot. Taking to X, the filmmaker said “Two months of hard work by many people have gone in vain because of one recording. I humbly request everyone not to engage in such practices, as they spoil the overall experience. Thank you.”

But when one sees the clip of Nagarjuna in a dramatic moment, accompanied by the



“LOCATIONS AND SHOTS ARE MOBILE FREE ZONES. VERY OFTEN, HIGHLIGHTS ARE LEAKED BY TEAM MEMBERS THEMSELVES, TO CREATE A HYPE ABOUT THE PROJECT,” SAID A SOURCE. THERE IS A LOT RIDING ON COOLIE. THE MAKERS HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT SUPERSTAR RAJNIKANTH WOULD BE LEADING THE PROJECT ALONG WITH NAGARJUNA. THE LAST FEW FILMS OF BOTH SUPERSTARS HAVE BEEN ONLY AVERAGE HITS. “ALL PUBLICITY, ESPECIALLY BAD PUBLICITY AND CONTROVERSY, GOES A LONG WAY IN HELPING ANY PROJECT,” ADDS THE SOURCE.

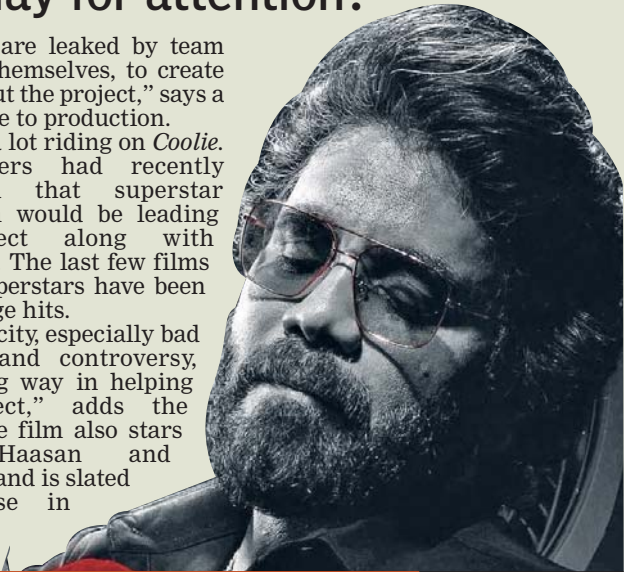
audio of a crew member narrating the dialogues, one cannot help but wonder if it is actually

a clever publicity strategy. “Locations and shoots are mobile free zones. Very often,

highlights are leaked by team members themselves, to create a hype about the project,” says a source close to production.

There is a lot riding on *Coolie*. The makers had recently announced that superstar Rajnikanth would be leading the project along with Nagarjuna. The last few films of both superstars have been only average hits.

“All publicity, especially bad publicity and controversy, goes a long way in helping any project,” adds the source. The film also stars Shruti Haasan and Sathyaraj, and is slated for release in 2025.



## DIL RAJU EYES FDC CHAIRMAN POST?

THE PRODUCER PLANS TO TAKE THE COVETED POSITION TO HELP TOLLYWOOD GET MORE BENEFITS FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENT, SAYS SOURCE

B.V.S. PRAKASH

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Leading producer Dil Raju, who served as president of the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce, is reportedly planning to become chairman of the Telangana State Film Development Corporation. “Dil Raju plans to take the coveted position and use his vast experience to help Tollywood get more benefits from the state government, and he is quite keen about it,” says a source.

Earlier, Telugu film industry bigwigs urged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to revive Telangana State Film Development Corporation Limited to help the industry in many ways. “FDC has almost become defunct in the last few years,” says the source adding, “The corporation chairman plays an important role in the relationship between the Telugu film industry and state government and amicably resolves issues.”

The corporation receives funds from the government ranging from ₹80 to 100 crore,

Dil Raju



“THE CORPORATION CHAIRMAN PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TELUGU FILM INDUSTRY AND STATE GOVERNMENT AND AMICABLY RESOLVES ISSUES.” – SOURCE

which it must utilise with rigor and method. “FDC used to give cash subsidies to content-driven films and conducted the International Children’s Film Festival

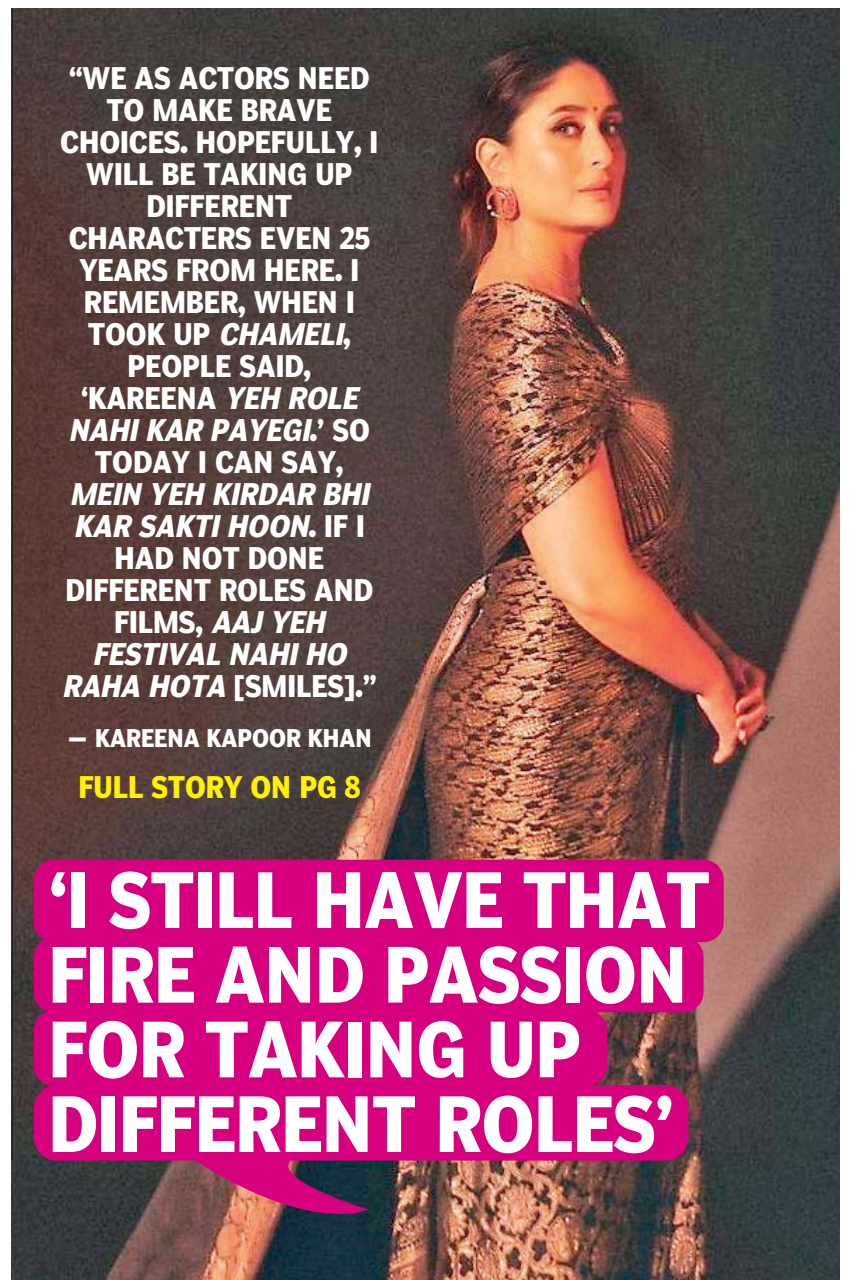
grandly which enhanced our industry worldwide. They are also responsible for organising Nandi state awards which are now renamed as Gadar awards every year. It would be celebrated like a festival by the film fraternity,” adds a source. Earlier, he wanted to contest the Nizamabad Parliamentary Constituency in the 2024 elections. He was reportedly in talks with members of the Bharatiya Janata Party, but it didn’t materialise.

“WE AS ACTORS NEED TO MAKE BRAVE CHOICES. HOPEFULLY, I WILL BE TAKING UP DIFFERENT CHARACTERS EVEN 25 YEARS FROM HERE. I REMEMBER, WHEN I TOOK UP CHAMELI, PEOPLE SAID, ‘KAREENA YEH ROLE NAHI KAR PAYEGI.’ SO TODAY I CAN SAY, MEIN YEH KIRDAR BHI KAR SAKTI HOON. IF I HAD NOT DONE DIFFERENT ROLES AND FILMS, AAJ YEH FESTIVAL NAHI HO RAHA HOTA [SMILES].”

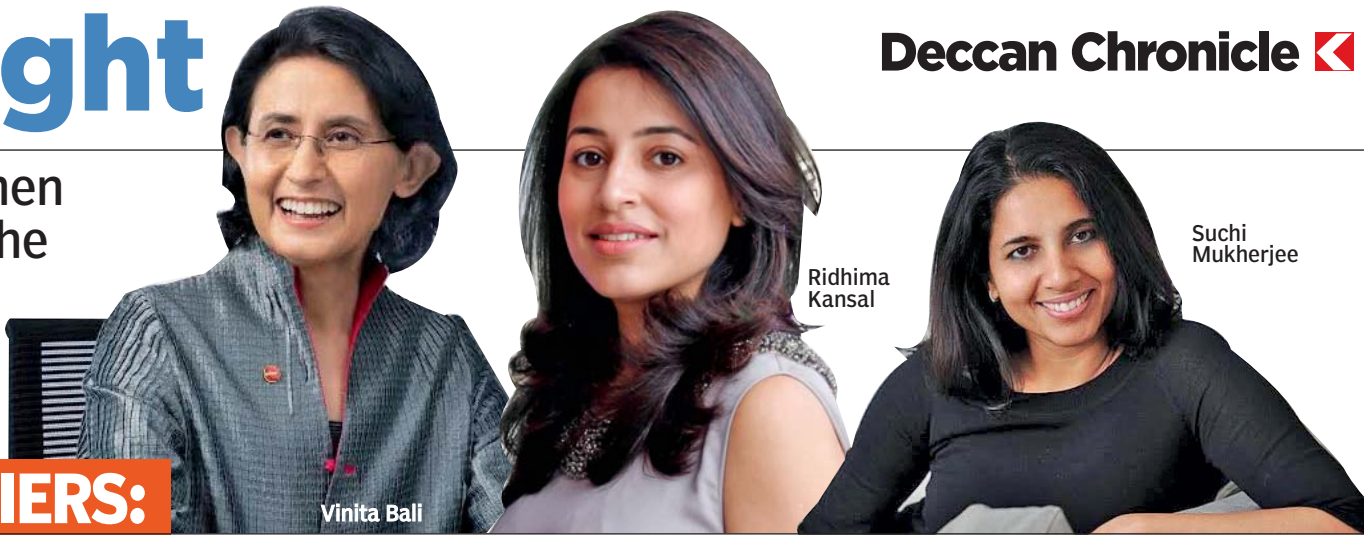
– KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN

FULL STORY ON PG 8

‘I STILL HAVE THAT FIRE AND PASSION FOR TAKING UP DIFFERENT ROLES’



Let's celebrate the women who are breaking into the male bastion of manufacturing and influencing its growth



Vinita Bali

Ridhima Kansal

Suchi Mukherjee

**BREAKING BARRIERS:**

# WOMEN TRANSFORM THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

ANJALI KOCHHAR

No doubt women have been doing wonders in all fields of work, but it is still surprising that they're making a mark in a long-term male-dominated area in India — the manufacturing industry. Women reportedly constitute 20% of employees in this sector. A Ques Corp survey highlights a remarkable uptick in the number of women in the manufacturing industry, with sectors like automobiles, phone manufacturing, etc. opening their floors to women.

Well, working in manufacturing is no piece of cake. It calls for long hours, late night shifts, being exposed to very hot temperatures, and undertaking physically demanding labour. Let's give a shout-out to the courage of women in the manufacturing industry.

Hailing from Punjab, Harpreet Kaur has completed her diploma in electronics and communication engineering and is working at an auto manufacturing unit in Gujarat. She is only one of the women who are leading by example in the manufacturing industry.

Women excel as machine operators and assembly-line workers, ensuring efficient production and quality control. In engineering and design, they contribute as process engineers and product designers, optimizing processes and developing innovations.

Gayatri, hailing from Godhra, has been working at MG Motors India, Gujarat, for over five years. She is India's first female manual painter in the auto industry. She shared that she came to MG with no experience. However, she is now trained to handle all the stations in her field. "As women, we face many challenges in this industry but we have realized that gender has no bearing, we are all equally equipped to work in manufacturing," she says.

Javelin Solanki broke traditional barriers to work in the



Revathi Roy

manufacturing industry. She is the first woman in her family to do so! "My in-laws were very supportive of me working in manufacturing and it gave me even more courage to rise and shine. I am no more afraid to work for long hours in a manufacturing unit," she shares.

Women also function as plant managers and team leads, in supply chain management and

as safety officers. Their involvement in Research and Development drives technological advancements, and in human resources, they lead workforce training and development, enhancing the industry's growth and diversity.

Be it Vinita Bali who has led Britannia Industries for a long time or Suchi Mukherjee, the founder of Limeroad, women have been showing immense leadership qualities in the manufacturing industry and have built strong foundations for their businesses.

Revathi Roy, founder and CEO of Hey Deedee, focuses on training women in logistics and e-commerce supply chain management, including in manufacturing roles. She is building a bank of skilled women in the manufacturing and logistics industries.

Ridhima Kansal, Director, Rosemoore, a brand dedicated to creating luxurious lifestyle fragrance products, shares, "Each of the fragrances we create carries the essence of our journey to reach this point. Manufacturing has been challenging, demanding, and enjoyable. It's a space where it's all about accuracy, imagination, and constant evolution. Being a

woman in the sector, I have managed to handle the adversity and overcome it in great ways. There is so much satisfaction in knowing that the products that we make have become a part of people's daily lives elevating their homes and surroundings and upgrading their lifestyle."

Hiral Mehta, Director of SPARTAN Engineering Industries Pvt. Ltd., says, "While there has been notable progress in the representation of women in engineering, significant challenges persist. Nevertheless, their distinct viewpoints and innovations influence a wide array of products, from everyday house-



Hiral Mehta

hold items to advanced technological solutions."

She adds, "Celebration of Engineers' Day plays a vital role in evaluating existing norms and promoting a more inclusive environment for women in engineering organizations. It serves as a compelling reminder of achievements and areas that require further attention. It helps us motivate the upcoming generation of female engineers, fostering a more diverse workforce and paving the way for innovative solutions to global issues."

Women in manufacturing face several challenges, including gender stereotyping, limiting their participation and growth. Workplace culture can often be isolating, with fewer mentorship opportunities and strong bias

against women in leadership roles. The sector's demanding work schedules create challenges for work-life balance, especially for women with care-giving responsibilities. Wage disparity persists, with women often earning less than men for similar roles. Additionally, limited access to training and career development programmes hinders advancement, while workplace safety measures may not always take gender-specific needs into account, further complicating their experience in the field.

Women who enter the field of manufacturing despite these challenges need to be applauded. Kudos!

## Deepika buys ₹17.73 crore apartment near MIL house

The 1845-sq-ft apartment located in Sagar Resham Co-operative Housing Society, has been bought by the actress' firm KA Enterprises

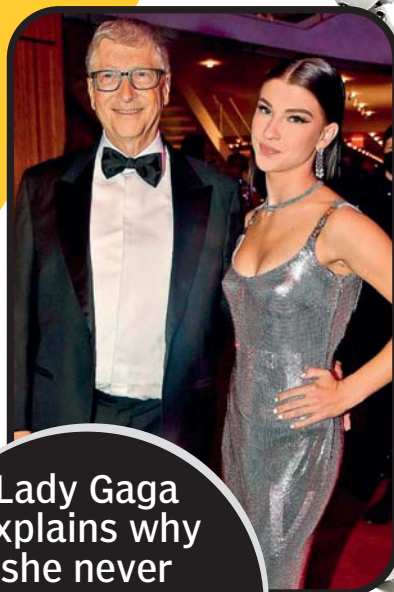
After becoming a mother, Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone has bought a new apartment in Mumbai's Bandra West area. The apartment is worth ₹17.73 crore and is right next to her mother-in-law Anju Bhavnani's house.

The 1845-sq-ft apartment, bought by Deepika's firm KA Enterprises, is located in Sagar Resham Co-operative Housing Society and comprises 4 BHK and 5 BHK spaces as per documents accessed by Zapkey.com. The documents also suggested that the actress paid a stamp duty of nearly ₹1.07 crore and registration charges of ₹30,000.

While the flat is located on the 15th floor, the sale deal was registered on September 12. The housing estate has been developed by Enorm Nagpal Realty.



THE FLAT IS LOCATED ON THE 15TH FLOOR AND THE SALE DEAL WAS REGISTERED ON SEPTEMBER 12. THE ESTATE IS DEVELOPED BY ENORM NAGPAL REALTY.



Lady Gaga explains why she never addressed rumours that 'she was a man'

Pop star Lady Gaga recently shared why she chose not to address the longstanding speculation that she was a man during the early years of her career. In an interview with Bill Gates for his new Netflix series *What's Next? The Future With Bill Gates*, Gaga shared, "The reason I didn't answer the question was because I didn't feel like a victim with that lie," adding that addressing the same wasn't in the best interest of others, particularly for young people who might be struggling with similar accusations.

The tittle-tattle, which began as early as in the 2010s, surfaced after a doctored image of the pop star circulated online. Despite being repeatedly asked about it, Gaga decided not to dispel the claim, stating that she wanted to be 'thought-provoking and disruptive in another way.' The *Bad Romance* singer previously commented on the same in a 2011 inter-

view with Anderson Cooper, jokingly questioning why she should 'waste time' addressing such idle talks.



L to R: Jean Smart, Nate Bargatze, Ariana Grande and Michael Keaton.

## Jean, Ariana, Michael among hosts for 'SNL' season 50

NBC on Thursday announced the lineup of hosts for the season, which premieres Sept 28

Fresh off her Emmys win, Jean Smart is taking her comedy to a new audience — she'll kick off *Saturday Night Live's* landmark 50th season.

Joining Smart on the first show will be Jelly Roll as the musical act. He was also at the Emmys, singing during the ceremony's in memoriam segment.

It will be Smart's first time hosting *SNL* and Jelly Roll's first time performing on the show. Smart shared

the news on Instagram, writing that hosting was a "bucket list" item for her.

Ariana Grande — who stars in the upcoming *Wicked* film adaption — will host for the second time Oct. 12. She has previously been the musical guest twice, but Fleetwood Mac icon Stevie Nicks will perform for Grande's episode. Nicks was a musical guest once prior, in 1983.

*Beetlejuice* star Michael Keaton will host on Oct. 19, the last show before Halloween, in his fourth time on the show, and Billie Eilish will be that night's musical guest, also marking her fourth time on *SNL*. —AP

### OFF THE WEB

## Tamannaah shines in Roberto Cavalli at MFW debut

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia, who made a graceful debut at Milan Fashion Week, donned a bold, high-fashion look, wearing a mafia wife aesthetic. In a gorgeous Roberto Cavalli jumpsuit, the actress exuded unapologetic glamour and confidence. The outfit featured Cavalli's signature fearless patterns, merging earthy tones of brown and white in subtlety. The plunging V-neckline added a delicate, feminine touch to the ensemble, with the highlight of her look being a voluminous faux-fur coat.



## 'I didn't feel like a victim'

### MEANWHILE

Bill Gates' daughter, Phoebe Gates opens up on losing friends over COVID-19 vaccine conspiracies about her dad. Through her social-media, Phoebe has been sharing her life including her stances on national issues to videos of bubble-tea dates with her father.

The Stanford graduate discussed conspiracy theories about Bill in his documentary series, of which, the most pervasive had linked him to COVID-19. One unsubstantiated claim was that the COVID-19 pandemic was a cover to allow the Microsoft cofounder to put microchips in vaccines to track people. He asked the 22-year-old if she has ever come across the conspiracy theories about him. "All the time. I've even had friends cut me off."

ROSEINA COUTINHO

**C**uddle them, pamper them and then fall prey to their adorable tantrums! Feline furballs (aka cats), serve as the perfect companion across the age spectrum. A growing number of elderly folks are enjoying the company of cats. Not only do they stand as a strong support system for older people, pets also help fight depression, loneliness, stress, anxiety, and a lot more. These furballs provide a calm environment and are happy to lay on their owner's lap, resting and cuddling all day through, making them an ideal choice for seniors!

**PAW-FECT FRIENDS**

"I have been with cats for over three decades now. I have always thought of them as my own kids," says Sabina Baretto (73) from Mumbai. As a homemaker, mother of two and grandmother of four, Sabina, spends most of her time today with her cats. The day starts with her having a nice, hearty breakfast. Feeding her little ones, who accompany her to the kitchen on and off, and treat themselves to constant pampering, warmth, and cat food aka nibbles!

"There are moments when I feel dull, but my little ones are always there to cheer me up," she says. Sabina feels that spending time with her cats helps her overcome her daily worries. "From the start of my day till the time I go to bed, they are always around me. They even cuddle up and sleep by my side every night," she says.

Rony Dcosta, a media professional and pet parent says, "Pets play a crucial role in the lives of individuals who live alone. They provide them with a haven for emotional support, and companionship serving as a vital necessity for those who may experience feelings of loneliness or isolation."

**LOW MAINTENANCE**

While cats do come with their own set of tantrums and needs, they do not need constant grooming as cats tend to be obsessive with basic self-cleaning. They don't need daily walks as most of

**"MY CATS HAVE BEEN THERE BY MY SIDE THROUGH THICK AND THIN"**  
 — SABINA BARETTO, Pet parent & homemaker, Mumbai



# PURR-FECT COMPANY

A growing number of senior citizens are having cats as pets, vets and experts explain possible reasons and benefits for the same



them like relaxing in a cozy corner. All they demand is a 'DND' sign board during their long hours of naps!

"Cats are the perfect pet in terms of low maintenance, but enough to keep you occupied," says Dr. Sanjana Karve,

Veterinary Surgeon at the Progressive Pet Clinic, Mumbai. Dr. Sanjana shares how for most empty-nesters, it is important to have someone at home, seeking attention and making their presence felt. "It is indeed a much-needed stress buster" adds Dr Sanjana.

Cats are predominantly also known to be quite comfortable in quiet spaces. With their loudest meows and purrs too, not causing much of a disturbance to members at home or neighbors around. Dr. Sanjana shares how these little ones can also bring a sense of innate joy by their presence in one's home. She adds, "It brings a lot of joy to know that the moment you reach home, you will be greeted with excitement whether you have been out for 5 minutes, 5 hours or 5 days."



**"THE PLAYFULNESS THAT PETS BRING CAN HELP IN MENTAL STIMULATION, BETTER ENERGY LEVELS AND OVERALL HEALTH."**

— Dr. MADHUR RATHI, MBBS MD, Psychiatry

**STRESS PARTNERS**

"Pets in general provide a sense of companionship, emotional support, a sense of purpose and responsibility," explains Dr Madhur Rathi, MBBS MD, Psychiatry from Noida. With elderly people being at an age in life where their energy levels may not be at their very best, cats help as easy partners to get along with. By their very nature, they tend to be independent in many ways.

He further speaks of the psychological benefits that come along. These primarily being a reduction in the cortisol levels in the brain making one feel more relaxed and comfortable. Not just that, but this can also help boost one's mood, providing a sense of warmth, love and purpose, explains Dr Madhur. Petting of a cat also releases endorphins into the brain, leading to an overall reduction in stress levels. Having a feline pet-friend also helps one with some amount of exercising, especially for the elderly. This could range from smaller tasks of breeding or grooming to feeding or clearing litter trays to routine visits to the vet.

Dr Madhur says that these activities help keep the elderly occupied yet provide them with optimum physical movements to lead happy and healthy lives. He adds, "The playfulness of pets can help in mental stimulation, better energy levels and overall health."

**SENSE OF PURPOSE**

Many older individuals go through a lot in terms of biological ageing or simply episodes of prolonged loneliness, stress, feelings of redundancy and a lot more. At such times, pets tend to extend 'paws of support.' Perhaps the reason why cats have become a common favourite among older individuals who long for nothing but some amount of companionship, warmth and love!

**"CATS ARE THE PERFECT PET IN TERMS OF LOW MAINTENANCE, BUT ENOUGH TO KEEP YOU OCCUPIED."**

— Dr. SANJANA KARVE, Veterinary Surgeon, Progressive Pet Clinic



Rony Dcosta Media professional & pet parent

# Maps and mind-twisters

Ankon Mitra's current exhibition illustrates the ubiquitous act of folding, seen in everything from the genome of an entity to the sculpting of topography and the gush of oceans

CHOKITA PAUL

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Paper folders are as critically all-embracing as their approaches to the art. For Ankon Mitra, architect, origami artist and designer, crimps, pleats and petal folds are just some of the ways to create different shapes.

He exemplifies his solo exhibit at Kalakriti Art Gallery, in what curator Prashant Lahoti calls, "An esoteric joining of the cartographic with the geometric."

Titled Maps Unfolded, precision is key, whether Ankon is folding a humble crane or a complex modular structure with interlocking parts. So is enthusiasm. The maps featured in this arrangement include traces of traditional Indian pilgrimage, printed *bazaar*, and city — each offering a window into the bygone era.

Ankon compares the Miura Map Folding Algorithm to how nature works. The Miura fold solves the problem of maps tearing at their folds, making them stronger. Similarly, nature uses mathematical principles, like folding, to make things more efficient, using less material and energy to create stronger structures.



Folding is Ankon's spiritual cord with the universe. One might wonder how the belief impacts his artistic process, particularly in the context of map-making and cartography. The answer is somewhere hidden in the bewilderment. "I count the pleats, just as a person chanting a prayer counts the beads of a rosary. Folding processes in the cosmos — both the micro and macro reveal

many axioms and realities. For instance, the more we fold, the stronger we get. Mysteries lie in the fold and they have to be unfolded. A map holds within itself many truths, which are only revealed when it is completely unfolded. Maps tell stories of other places — where we have not yet been. They fire the imagination to travel to the unknown and explore new frontiers and horizons. This is the artist's process as well — to constantly push boundaries and travel to strange places where new ideas and techniques can burst into bloom," says the internationally known artist, with his work showcased in numerous countries including Venice, London, and Shanghai.

**FOLDING IS ANKON'S SPIRITUAL CORD WITH THE UNIVERSE. ONE MIGHT WONDER HOW THE BELIEF IMPACTS HIS ARTISTIC PROCESS, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTEXT OF MAP-MAKING AND CARTOGRAPHY. THE ANSWER IS SOMEWHERE HIDDEN IN THE BEWILDERMENT. FOR THE ARTIST, IT PROCESSES IN THE COSMOS: BOTH THE MICRO AND MACROSCOPE REVEAL MANY AXIOMS AND REALITIES.**

neutralises the functional aspects of folding with his art's aesthetic and conceptual elements, he reveals, "The functional, aesthetic and conceptual elements of folding are inseparable and integrated at all times. They are not isolated and separate things. A map too is geography, science, visual art and poetry all rolled into one. There are no artificial barriers between these definitions. A map (and folding), are both

metaphors for life."

As a trained architect, Ankon fell in love with the craft, seeing it as a perfect fusion of science, mathematics, the liberal and visual arts. "Architecture is made from an understanding of material science, as well as an understanding of human needs (physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual). This learning from architectural training at the meeting of art and science has deeply influenced all the works that I have created over the last

17 years. In Maps Unfolded, the works are part game theory, part childhood memories, part metaphor and many parts functional, spatial and immersive," he says, signing off.

*The exhibition is on till October 5 at Kalakriti Art Gallery, Banjara Hills.*

The British rock band is coming back to India after eight years

## COLDPLAY ANNOUNCES MUMBAI SHOWS

Coldplay, popular with Indian listeners for hit songs *Yellow*, *Paradise*, and *Magic*, will perform in Mumbai next year as part of their 'Music Of The Spheres World Tour 2025.'

This will mark the group's first visit to India in eight years.

Coldplay, comprising Chris Martin, Guy Berryman, Phil Harvey, Will Champion and Jonny Buckland, are set to

take the stage for two shows on January 18 and 19, 2025, at the DY Patil Sports Stadium. Tickets for the India leg of the tour will go live on September 22.

Besides performing several hits from *Music Of The Spheres* and new singles *We Pray* and *feelslikeimfallinginlove* from their upcoming album *Moon Music*, Coldplay will also perform songs, including

*The Scientist* and *Clocks*.

The Grammy-winning band previously performed in Mumbai as part of the Global Citizen Festival back in 2016.

In a statement, Coldplay confirmed that a limited number of "Infinity Tickets" will be available for purchase starting November 22, 2024.

— PTI





# coffee-break

**CALVIN AND HOBBS** | Bill Watterson



**THE WIZARD OF ID** | Parker and Hartsd



**ARCHIE** | Bill Henry Scarpelli & craig boldman



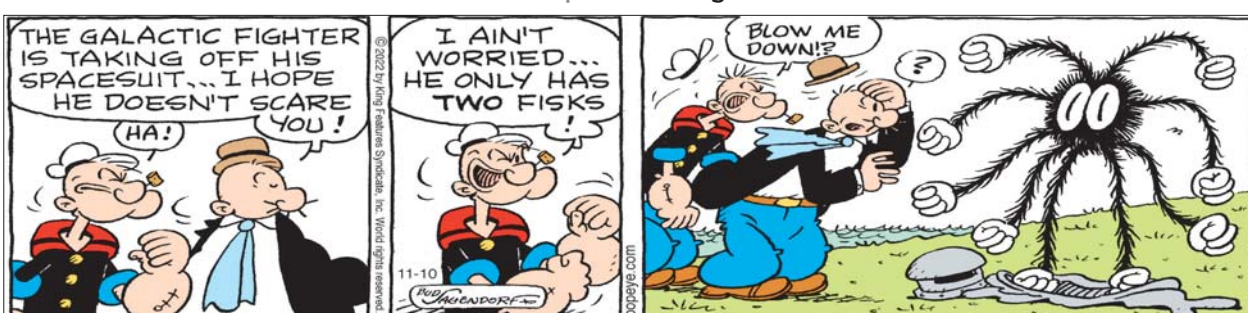
**BLONDIE** | Dean Young and John Marshall



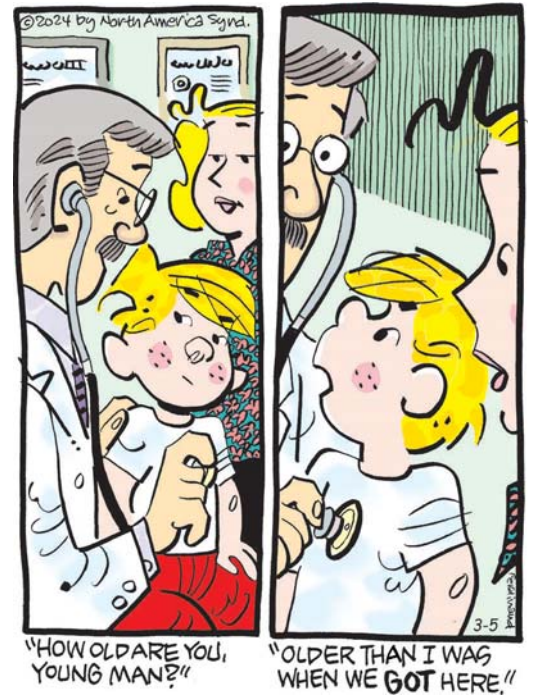
**ANDY CAPP** | Reg Smythe



**POPEYE** | Bud Sagendorf



**Dennis the Menace**



**hocus focus**



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is lower. 2. Railing is longer. 3. Light is smaller. 4. Boy's hair is different. 5. Roof is smaller. 6. Window is different.

**jumble**

LGYUL

SRHFE

GTNEEL

CLYPIO

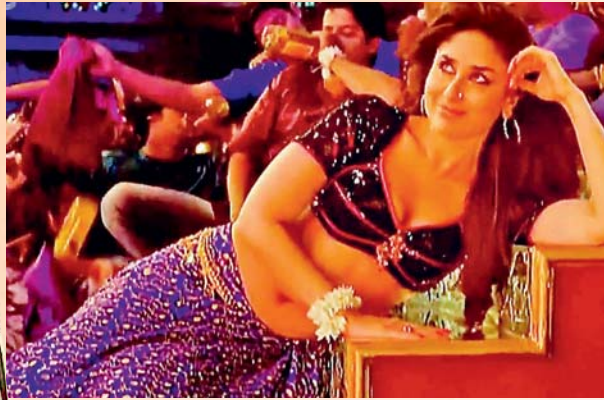


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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TWEAK MINUS UNWIND GLOOMY  
 Answer: For the winner of the 100-meter backstroke competition, everything - WENT SWIMMINGLY



A still from the song *Fevicol Se*



Kareena as Geet in *Jab We Met*



Kareena as Poo in *K3G*

# Kareena makes history as first female Hindi actor with solo fest

## PVR announces a film festival to mark the actress' 25th year in Bollywood

LIPIKA VARMA

**✓** In a first for the Hindi film industry, a selection of Kareena Kapoor Khan films across her career in Bollywood will be showcased at a film festival. This is the first time a female actor's films are being exclusively screened at such an event, though both Dilip Kumar and Amitabh Bachchan have had festivals dedicated to their work earlier. Kareena Kapoor Khan spoke to the media about the significance of the upcoming show. Excerpts:

**Q** What it feels like to have a festival of solely her films

"On any film set every day, I feel like I have given my first shot. There exists that greed to be in front of the cam-

eras. I still have that fire and passion for taking up different roles. That passion as an actor keeps me going. I am grateful and honoured to have this festival of all my films. I can't believe it!"

**Q** Legacy of the Kapoor Khandhan, sustaining in a male-dominated industry

"One has to keep proving oneself every time. Rather than wanting to be in every film, it's important to reinvent yourself. Having to sustain in this male dominated scenario is scary. In order to do so, one has to take up different roles. After I played Poo and Geet, many such offers kept pouring in, but I decided to challenge myself and take up different roles. I'm an actor and I love my job. I have been here for 25 years because of the loyal support and connection with the masses and my fans. Every 5 years, I have been trying to do different stuff, in order to leave a mark on the audiences with the characters I portray on screen."



Kareena shooting for *Buckingham Murders*

have also proved my longevity as an actor. This was possible because of the 'X factor' combined with talent. I also believe that luck plays a 30% role in one's career. I just focused on giving my best to every character I decided to take up. I am lucky that my fans have loved all the characters that I have played."

**Q** Bold decision to take up *Buckingham Murders*

"We as actors need to make brave choices. Hopefully, I will be taking up different characters even 25 years from here. I remember, when I took up *Chameli*, people said 'Kareena yeh role nahi kar payegi.' So today I can say, 'Mein yeh kirdar bhi kar sakti hoon.' If I had not done different roles and films, *aaj yeh festival nahi ho raha hota* [smiles]. I focused on my performance and I want people to take me seriously. Constantly being at it is the reason for longevity. I'm still trying to prove myself as an actor.

Some films will gain box office success while some may be liked by audiences and critics. We cannot restrict our choices of films and characters. I personally choose characters which I feel for. If you choose something you don't like, you may not like being on that set. We have to be on a film set for 60 to 70 days and if we don't like it, how will we enjoy doing it?"

**Q** Managing to capture the lime-light even when working with superstars

"I have done films with superstars. I

**"ONE HAS TO KEEP PROVING ONESELF EVERY TIME. RATHER THAN WANTING TO BE IN EVERY FILM, IT'S IMPORTANT TO REINVENT YOURSELF. HAVING TO SUSTAIN IN THIS MALE DOMINATED SCENARIO IS SCARY. IN ORDER TO DO SO, ONE HAS TO TAKE UP DIFFERENT ROLES. AFTER I PLAYED POO AND GEET, MANY SUCH OFFERS KEPT POURING IN, BUT I DECIDED TO CHALLENGE MYSELF AND TAKE UP DIFFERENT ROLES."**

# Koratala Siva pockets ₹30 cr for 'Devara'?

## FILMMAKER KEEN TO MAKE A COMEBACK AFTER *ACHARYA* FLOP

B.V.S. PRAKASH

DECCAN CHRONICLE

**✓** According to reliable sources, leading Telugu filmmaker Koratala Siva has taken a hefty ₹30 crore as remuneration for his work in *Devara Part 1*.

"He has spent more than two years working on the script and making it too," says the source, adding, "He was looking to make a comeback

**“ HE HAS SPENT MORE THAN TWO YEARS WORKING ON THE SCRIPT AND MAKING IT TOO. HE WORKED HARD ON THE STORY SINCE HE DIDN'T WANT TO MISS A BIG CHANCE WITH SUPERSTAR JR NTR. THEIR EARLIER FILM JANATHA GARAGE WAS A HIT. HE'S KEEN TO BOUNCE BACK.”**

— SAYS A SOURCE

of sorts and worked hard on the story since he didn't want to miss a big chance with superstar Jr NTR. Their earlier film *Janatha Garage* was a hit and NTR was shown in a new role as a nature-lover, who transforms into a tough guy and makes mincemeat of the corrupt and hooligans."

"Koratala Siva has

made a proper commercial film with a mix of romance and action and loads of glamour too, since he is determined to deliver a money spinner after his last release *Acharya* fetched him more brickbats than box office collections," the source shares.

Siva was at one time in the A-listers league after delivering hits with stars like Prabhas and Mahesh Babu, but the dismal performance of *Acharya* dented his rating a bit. "He is keen to bounce back with a bang," the source stresses.

