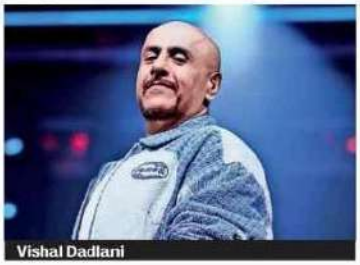
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PAGE THAT loves how Indian women athletes make excellence look routine, with the Asian Games the latest reminder

Play it forward



Vishal Dadlani

VISHAL Dadlani is an excellent person to know before everyone wants to know you. For example, you may not know this, but Dadlani scored All India Bakchod's very first soundtrack, purely because he liked their work – and they used it for years. Now, we hear Tanmay Bhat, Raftaar, Zakir Khan, Jonita and Shalmali Kholgade are among guests we're all going to see on The Playlist, Dadlani's pet artist-discovery project. It's a fun format – part indie talent hunt, part game show, where contestants get cash, winners a record deal, and luck, interestingly, gets a say. An unusually candid arrangement for an industry that seldom admits how much depends on who happens to hear you. The show has yet to debut, but your diarist suspects its appeal will extend beyond the worthy cause. Some know what a timely vote of confidence can do. For hopefuls, Dadlani's interest may be the first sign their luck has turned.

Brew can do it!

Kareena Kapoor has all she needs to take on whatever the day serves

GURUJEET SINGH DEVGUN



Best in-tents

BOSE Krishnamachari, art, design and cultural curator, City of Kochi, helped put Kochi on the international art map, and your diarist hears the Kochi-Muziris Biennale co-founder now has another Kerala coordinate in his sights. He is advisor to 11° North: Space Between the Noice, a Calicut retreat conceived by architects Tony Joseph, Brijesh Shaijal and Vivek P P. From December 16 to 20, some 500 artists, architects, designers, filmmakers, musicians, chefs, craftspeople, technologists and students will live on site, amid tents, pavilions, installations, food, music and the landscape. "At its heart, 11 Degree North is an experiment in designing a new way of living with curiosity, generosity, surprise and imagination," Krishnamachari tells your diarist. Put that many curious minds together for five days and something interesting ought to escape the tent.



Dia Mehta Bhupal, Bose Krishnamachari, Tony Joseph and Vivek PP

Golden moves

CHOREOGRAPHER Vijay Ganguly bagged the Best Choreography award at the 72nd National Film Awards for his work on Aaj Ki Raat from Stree 2. The win feels deeply personal for the artist, whose late father, acclaimed filmmaker Anil Ganguly, collected two national trophies of his own years ago. Reflecting on the monumental news, Vijay candidly confessed, " The feeling is unreal, I did not expect to win the award, I even double checked the win so I was pleasantly surprised," before admitting that his mother's emotional reaction topped every accolade. It's a well-earned victory that brings a fitting reward to a very talented family dynasty.



Vijay Ganguly

@urvish2020
Just a reminder: It was not EVM hacking. It was CEC hacking.

LIFE AT LARGE

Phani Tetali



"These days I can't tell the difference between real, unreal, surreal, virtual and artificial!

Current affairs

SONALI Ashar, the creative director of her eponymous design studio, is no stranger to substantial corporate commissions, but her latest comes on quite a scale. Your diarist hears Ashar was tapped by Vineet and Sindoor Mittal, whose residence she previously designed, to turn her eye to key spaces at their vast new clean-energy manufacturing campus in Nagpur, billed as India's first "Superfactory". The Mittals recently welcomed a select crowd of industrialists and dignitaries there, with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis joining Vineet for a fireside chat. Ashar, meanwhile, has brought her eye to over 100,000 sqft of world class interiors in key buildings, with furniture, light, materials and finishes, all, part of the brief. With clean energy, big industry, politics and design all under one very large roof, Nagpur had quite the guest list.



Vineet Mittal, Devendra Fadnavis and Sonali Ashar

Tailpiece

THE comeback has been in the coming for so long, we fear it may have missed its flight. Our heroine has been absent from the big screen for two decades, despite a family tree that usually comes with its own vanity van. Famous relatives, however, can only do so much. Undeterred, she appears to have embarked on a return-to-stardom programme. First came the new jawline. Then yoga, temples and prayers, which seems sensible when agents and auditions have failed to produce a miracle. Might reality television be next? Or will it be the time-honoured "I walked away from fame" interview, should pride allow it, and luck provide that nobody recalls who walked away from whom. We admire the persistence anyway. After all, three strikes may mean you're out, in baseball. Bollywood has Instagram, YouTube and, courtesy of the AI age, a wonderfully flattering new word for unemployment: reinvention.