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rt lovers blocked their diaries on Wednesday evening and made sure to be present at Sukriti Gallery, Jawahar Kala

# Happy to show

stun the world with. "I am so impressed with the work. Aren't these paintings great," she questioned back.

Viswanadhan Velu, another Paris-based painter, called this exhibition a mixed bag. "Every



**Ladies & gentlemen,  
the real Raza!**  
Curator Reena Lath  
proudly leads SH Raza  
into the show at JKK



# GenY lets 'EM DOWN

## Buyers at LFW are unhappy with the next generation of designers

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## SISTER ACT

Where there  
**IS A BILL,**  
there's a way

The entertainment industry gives a thumbs up to the Women's Bill passed in Parliament on Tuesday; says it's a 'great victory' and gives women a 'lot more opportunity'

Prithwish Ganguly and Soumyadipta Banerjee

**Priyanka Chopra**, actor

I support the Bill completely. Now, women will get a lot more opportunity to excel. I still think the entertainment industry is predominantly male-oriented. But there have been changes of late, at least with the kind of films we are making. Today, female roles in our movies have become bigger. Overall I do see change the way women are perceived in cinema now.

**Shweta Salve**, TV actor

It sounds good but at the same time, let me tell you that women are always in touch with their stronger side and we don't need a Bill to show our assertive side. At the same time, it depends on how we take it (the Bill). Since the Bill has a lot to do with politics and political party, I would expect that it should not be misused and we take it in the right spirit.

**Shazahn Padamsee**, actor

It's a great victory for women and all praise must go to Mrs (Sonia) Gandhi who has pushed the change that she believed in. This is the breakthrough chapter for all women in India.

**Zoya Akhtar,**  
film-maker





tion was unveiled by Akar Prakar art gallery. His 15 artworks, painted in the last few months, witnessed a huge crowd, overwhelmed by the presence of Raza.

**Signing endless autographs,** Raza said he was pleased to have an exhibition in Jaipur. "I am happy to show my work in cities like Jaipur rather than London or New York," he smiled happily, surrounded by his fans.

"His real work has never been put on display in smaller cities of India," Reena Lath, director Akar Prakar, informed, adding that the exhibition would travel to Ahmedabad and Kolkata later.

"We wanted to introduce the real Raza to the people, instead of the

# IN JAIPUR

The city was in for a rare treat on Wednesday evening. For it got to see, up close and personal, some of the most recent original works of the legendary SH Raza

usual print work," she said.

While Raza made small sketches on autograph books, viewers at the exhibition were awe-struck at the brilliance unfolded on canvas. His quest for the *Bindu*, which has captivated his attention since the 1980s, came alive on the gallery walls. "His work is brilliant and while looking at them I feel as if I am in some kind of trance," said art gallery owner Timmie Kumar.

And this trance engulfed most viewers, who felt honoured to just see the work of such a renowned artist in their own city. "I had never

seen his work before and cannot explain the energy coming out of his paintings," said textile entrepreneur Mamta Mansinghka.

Though for famous painter Sakti Burman, also based in Paris like Raza, it was hardly the first time he was viewing his work. But an exhibition in Jaipur was still special. "I have seen many of his works, but unveiling his exhibition in our own country is a matter of pride," he smiled.

Like Burman, Neerja Lath was also amazed at the amount of work and creativity Raza can still



Sakti Burman

I have seen many of his works, but unveiling his exhibition in our own country is a matter of pride

Sakti Burman  
senior artist



## Royal start. Well done Tejendar!

Heard this? This 12-year-old city boy is now part of Rajasthan Royals! No, he is not batting, or even bowling... he is promoting the team. How? Read on

After Hrs Correspondent  
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**Jaipur** is all set to cheer for its favourite team at the just-round-the corner IPL. And adding to all that fun will be city boy Tejendar Pal Singh.

This 12-year-old has been selected as one of the eight junior *Extraa Innings* hosts for the eight teams that play the DLF IPL 2010. He left behind nearly 1200 children at the audition in Jaipur on February 6 by the TV entertainment channel, Set Max. The channel had conducted a talent hunt in nine

cities, including Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Jaipur for children between 7-14 years of age.

This Warren Academy alumnus has been picked for his confidence, communication skills, on-screen presence and his passion for cricket.

"I am excited... to interact with the players, guests and the expert panel..." gushes Tejendar. "It was focus, body language and a sweet smile that helped me win," he adds. Famous for dancing in his school, Tejendar wants to become a VJ. Atta boy!



any scope for any reservation but that is not true, especially in India, where we definitely needed something like this for a long time. I am glad that women will now be represented (in the Parliament) the way it should have been long ago.

Zarina Mehta

head of a TV channel

Power is being in control. Women are naturally gifted to get their work done efficiently even if they are in the thick of things. However, even though I see an increase in the number of women in offices across urban India, it pains me that women in the villages still don't have access to their fundamental right of education. Men in villages have the natural advantage of being the preferred sex. Education will change that notion.

Gul Panag, actor

I have tweeted about it extensively. It's a small step in ensuring more participation of women in public life. Though reservation of any kind is undemocratic, but given (the) condition, I feel that it (the Women's Reservation Bill) might do good.

Shilpa Shetty, actor

I am glad. It is a much needed empowerment given at last — justice delayed but at least not denied.



## LISA RAY'S 'crisis' is over

**AFTER** almost two months of shying away from the public since her successful stem cell transplant surgery, Lisa Ray is finally 'back to business'. The actor, who has updated her blog, is currently in Landour, Mussoorie, and says her doctor has advised her to not think about cancer.

"I'm pulling myself from the wreckage of my body. Operation stem cell reboot is a morphine-memory...my father is relieved of his cot duty...The crisis is over but the healing has just begun," Lisa wrote on her blog.

She states further, "I'm posting from Landour. Seven thousand five hundred feet above sea level. Or according to the Lal Tibba Binocular Complex: Highest peak of Mussoorie from where you can see an exhilarating all around view of the Himalayan ranges through the most powerful binoculars."

—Prithwish Ganguly

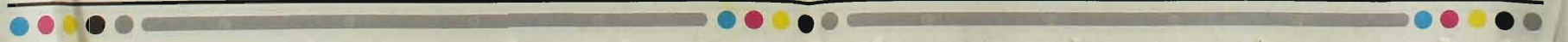
Amrit Kamble



## CURTAIN CALL!

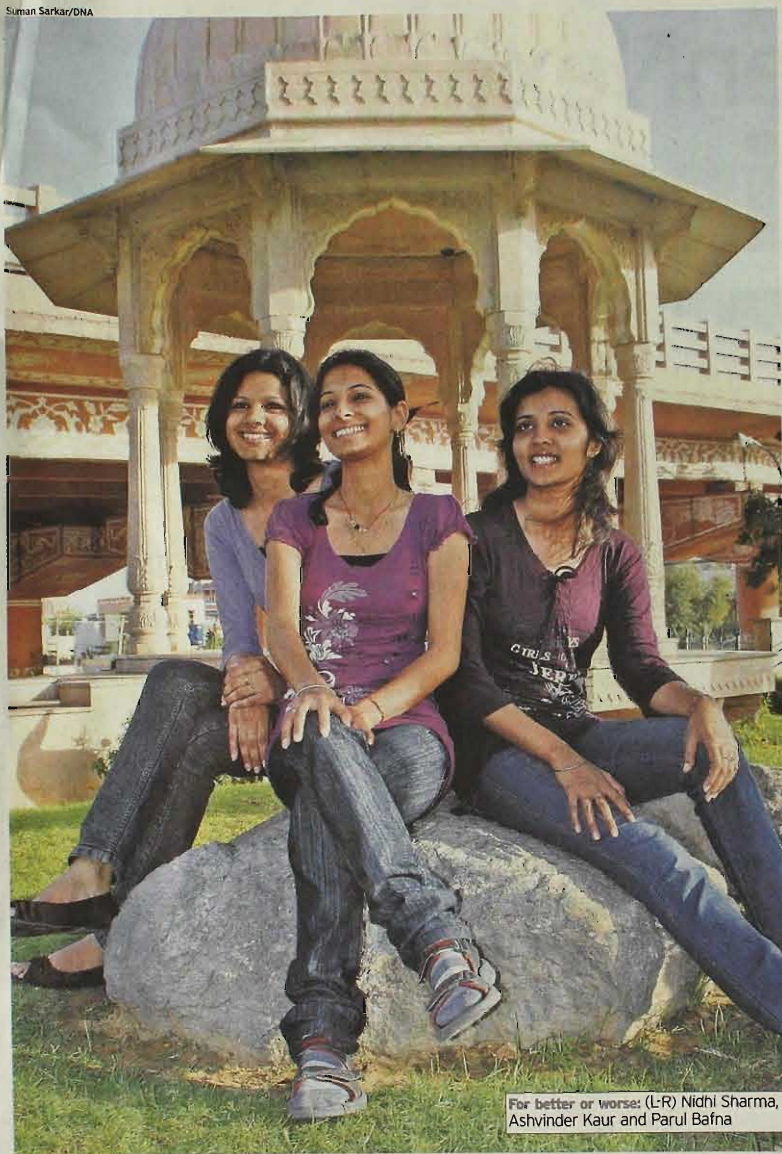
The five-day fashion extravaganza, Lakmé Fashion Week, had a glittering grand finale as designer Suneet Varma rolled out a vibrant line. Models danced on the catwalk on routines choreographed by model Amrit Maghera (second from left). On an elaborate set, Suneet presented a summer party wear line. The energy on the ramp rubbed off on the audience as they cheered for the designer, who made an entry on the runway dancing for the curtain call. Seen here with Suneet and Amrit are models Lisa Haydon (left) and Indrani Dasgupta (second from right).

Turn to p20 for more on LFW





Suman Sarkar/DNA



For better or worse: (L-R) Nidhi Sharma, Ashvinder Kaur and Parul Bafna

# Paying guest & THE CITY

In a follow-up on the PG situation in Jaipur, After Hrs hears it like it is from young women who live to tell the tale...

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**S**ince it's an affordable housing option with caring roommates, security, a favourable environment and many more benefits, many young women in the city prefer staying as a PG (paying guest). What else can one, living as a paying guest, desire for? But, there is another side of the coin too. Restrictions on timings, food habits, rules for visitors, and other terms and conditions make living as a paying guest more difficult.

Apart from the rent and the services offered, like food, electricity and telephone, there are certain dos and don'ts, which everyone has to follow. Jaipur has thousands of students and professionals living in different areas of the city who live

as paying guests.

"PG is a good idea for those who are living away from home for the first time and it is less costly than renting a flat or a house," says Nidhi Sharma, a paying guest living in Malviya Nagar.

Whether one lives as a paying guest or in a hostel, there are always some restrictions imposed. These include visitors' timings (or no visitors at all), hours of entry and re-entry, use of alcohol on the premises, etc. "We have to be back by 9.30pm," says Ashvinder Kaur, who found the deadline a bit difficult to adjust to. "And if I'm late then I have to beg aunty to take me in and also call my parents to convince her," says Kaur, who is living as a PG in Malviya Nagar.

And the living conditions can become a bit unbearable when the landlord starts to ask silly questions on seeing boys loitering around.

"One can live independently without any interruptions in a rented apartment but you have to take care for many things like security, food, bills, etc. So it's better to compromise," says Parul Bafna, a student of Gyan Vihar College.

Girls have a lot of problems in comparison to boys. At times they are questioned for wearing western outfits. If boys are seen around on their bikes, it can also put them in trouble. Akansha Singh, who puts up as a PG in Raja Park, says, "At times we feel as if somebody is trying to choke our throats. This is too much. Even our parents don't put such restrictions on us."

Name has been changed on request

## Boys will be boys

It's just a bit easier for guys. "In comparison to girls, we have fewer problems or should I say that we know how to tackle them," says Deepak Sharma, who lives in Raja Park. He further confesses that alcohol is a major issue while staying as a paying guest. But boys being boys, at times, they do drink and then hide it from the landlord, who tries to keep a close watch on them.

BEST BUY

Suman Sarkar/DNA



Mirror mirror: Vasundhara Rajee at the exhibition

## Want a new wardrobe? CHECK THIS OUT!

A shopping extravaganza is back in the city with new designer wear, accessories, jewellery and more. Shopaholics, go splurge

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**IT** has to be good, if even Vasundhara Rajee could resist it! Back in the city after six months, the bi-annual exhibition, Janhvi, is as usual luring city women by the droves. Inaugurated by Rajee on Wednesday, the show at Rambagh SMS Convention centre has brought an array of products for shopaholics here.

Offering a variety of products including, designer wear, footwear, accessories, jewellery, the two-day show has it all—designer saris with intricate work, kurtis, jewellery in semi-precious stones, and much more in the latest designs. Even Rajee could not stop herself from trying on the jewellery! "It's a nice experience to visit and see various aspects of women's creativity I wish I could have some more time to spend here," she rued.

Around 40 well-known exhibitors from all over India, including New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Amritsar and Ahmedabad are showing their collections here along with those from Bangkok and Dhaka. For the first timers in Jaipur, it is also an ideal way to test waters. As Seema Mehra of Sole Affair—who has displayed a wide



# The male 'shortcut'!

Gents, sit up and pay heed! Ankle-length trousers are set to be the new trend *du jour*

**Farhad J Dadyburjor**  
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**WHEN** it comes to men's fashion, the bottom of late is where it all seems to be happening! Err... now before you start getting any perky thoughts, let's explain: After patent leather kicks were the preferred must-sport for hipsters across the world, now it's the turn of ankle-length trousers to be the trend *du jour* for men. Reminiscent of the style sported by men in 1910-20s, these 'flappers' are now being given a contemporary twist by the gurus of fashion. So, whether it's cuffed-up pants worn with sandals or the more leg flashing kind with the length rising upwards worn with keds, ankle-length trousers seem to be heralding summer style.

"Yes, it is a very classic trend; it's a look that one sees in the black and white films of yesteryears," says fashion entrepreneur, Kalyani Chawla. "There is a certain kind of man who would wear this—and really, it's about the whole look which includes a t-shirt with a long jacket, worn with sandals or even boots."

"It's a very interesting trend and I personally love it," says designer Kunal Rawal who has incorporated the look in his shows. "The only flipside is that you need to be lean to carry it off; if you're bottom heavy, it can be a problem."

"It's a very chilled out and relaxed look that's picked up big-time with the youngsters a lot. It looks very cool, with just a t-shirt and sandals," says designer, Rocky S. "Today, men are experimenting with their look and youngsters just want to lap up anything that's cool."

**T**he only flipside with this trend is that you need to be lean to carry it off

**Kunal Rawal**  
fashion designer

# On women, by women...

At an art exhibition in the city, women artists from all over the country showcase some fine examples of creativity

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**WOMEN** have always been known for their creative abilities. Be it any field, they have always proved themselves to be the best. And this is what you can see at the ongoing painting exhibition at Kalaneri Art Gallery. Forty-nine women artists from all over the country have come together to display some of their beautiful works here. Inaugurated specially on March 8, International Women's Day, the exhibition has more than 100 paintings on display.

So if you are really fond of art and want to see some exclusive works, then do visit the exhibition as it will take you to a different world. Abstract, figurative, contemporary and much more; you can see various forms and styles of art beautifully rendered in the paintings here. And what's more, you can see many aspects of life in them. Be it human expressions, the diversity of nature, still life of a city or beautiful landscapes, all the works are entirely different from one another.



Simply beautiful: Rita Sharma and Mithlesh Mittal

There are many themes on which these women artists have painted their varied thoughts. While some have shown happiness, some have depicted sorrow. "We have put up this exhibition to show that women can be the best in every field," says Govind Srivastava, director, Kalaneri Art Gallery.

The colourful displays include two works by Jaipur's Meenu Srivastav, who has used mix media on glass. Painting abstract on three separate glasses which then have been framed together to give a layered look, the impression conveyed is simply astounding. A creation by senior artist Veer-

bala Bhavsar stands out too. She has made a painting by pasting sand on the canvas. Rita Sharma, an artist from Delhi, has displayed women figures at the exhibition. She says, "Every painting showcased here is beautiful in its own way and I feel privileged for the opportunity to display my work here." Another artist who had something similar to say was Mithlesh Mittal. "Seeing these beautiful paintings one thing is for sure, that god has made women beautiful in all aspects," she says.

The exhibition is on till March 14. So, don't miss out on seeing some beautiful works of art.

collection of tunics and kurtis—says, "I hope Jaipur women like my creativity." But the buyers are hardly complaining with all that choice! Says Neeta Saraf, a visitor at the show, "It's great for us to get different things from different cities under one roof." And the show's organiser, Rekha Khaitan, is one happy woman. Quite elated with the success of day one, she says "Janhvi has become popular among Jaipurites because of its distinctiveness of having renowned exhibitors with their high quality merchandise."

# Expressions of a different kind...



Artistic effort: Nikhat Naseem

**SEEING** different aspects of art through a woman's eye is definitely a new and different experience. An ongoing art exhibition organised by Jawahar Kala Kendra at Surekh Art Gallery, inaugurated on the occasion of International Women's Day, aims to bring women artists of Rajasthan on a common platform. Due to so many varied perceptions of art and the different mediums used, the display conveys a sense of colourful multiplicity.

There are 36 women, both professional and amateurs, who have displayed their creativity. Nikhat Naseem, one of the young artists at the show, says, "I am glad to be a part of the show which is featuring our work alongside senior artists." The exhibition has paintings and sculptures too and is on till March 12. —AH Correspondent

# RUFFLE THOSE FRILLS A LITTLE!

Fashion always takes a full circle, so frills and ruffles making a come back is no surprise, After Hrs finds out...

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**JUST** in case you hadn't noticed yet, ruffle and frills are back this season, and how! But don't wince in pain yet—we aren't talking of the tacky style of the '80s but something that is way more refined and chic. In fact, they are even being incorporated in formal wear, though most designers advise to keep it to summer wear.

**Namrata G**, designer  
Frills are very much in and I personally like them as long as they are not overdone. Frills add on to one's femininity and they look elegant and also lend a sensual feeling. They are the soft part of a garment, that makes the blouses and dresses look chic. Frills

come out well in a flowing material like chiffon, georgette and make the outfits conspicuous.

**Deepika Govind**, designer  
Ruffles and frills have always been there, but earlier they lacked innovation. The new spring-summer collection has exaggerated the ruffles form, which is new and no longer immature. Earlier, Victorians inculcated ruffles and frills in their design, but now anyone can wear ruffled dresses and yet look stylish. Nowadays, a lot of it is made in sheer material like chiffon and light weight soft cotton that makes them look pleasant.

**Babita Malkani**, designer  
Ruffles are for summers as they might look tacky during autumn-winter. But soft fabrics and right colours give a very nice feminine classy look. Few ruffles combined with it give a nice look and paints a pretty picture for brunch. When layered correctly ruffles look very ele-



Ruffled up: A hint of frill on the neckline makes Cameron Diaz's top extra feminine

used as an accent. These are classic and never really go out of fashion and can be found on bridal and kids wear all the time. I see them in women's wear as a funky added detail and used more as a statement than a staid detail. Different play of widths, fabrics and placements are the key factors which are being used effectively.

**Seema Malhotra**, designer  
The look for this year is soft feminine and romanticism. Frills and ruffles are being used a lot for dresses, blouses and skirts also. Frills were in during winter but they work better in summer. Though they are mostly used for western wear, a little of it has been incorporated in Indian attire as well. Satin is making a comeback including variety of other fabrics like net which is used for under layers can be worked well for ruffles. Georgette and chiffon are easily workable; a little brocade can also be used.

gant but too much of it might make one look awkward. Off-shoulder ruffled delicately in soft fabric and deep solid colours like cobalt blue are great to go with.

**Anjali Sharma**, apparel specialist  
Frills and ruffles are a design detail and look beautiful when

**Frills attached:**  
Soft fabrics make frills look elegant and subtle

