

Entertainment Bonanza...



When you are standing just a couple of steps away from doors of the grand festival of Diwali, every ploy will be given a try by the entertainment industry to capture your presence. **Prathamesh Jadhav** dishes out a few battling options...

It's a no escape situation; festival of lights is getting brighter not only with lanterns and lamps but also with gleaming showers of entertainment. Everyone will try to get you hooked with new releases, entertainment doses, reality shows and with cricket of course! The competition is absolutely cut throat in the entertainment arena only to woo you, stalk you and grab your attention. With these sizzling options on platter it's difficult to resist the temptation of catching them all!!!

First thing first- Diwali and intense competition between leather and wood go hand in hand. Cricket grabs most of the attention in this festive season. Going by the trend observed in the last few years at the time of Diwali, cricket offers one of the best entertainment packages to the viewer. This Diwali will be even hotter given the formidable clash between Team India blue and Ricky Ponting's boys facing each other

off.

Even ICL (Indian Cricket League) in its new avatar will serve a good option for the cricket buffs this Diwali. So next time you hear a loud cracker bang it could well be in the celebration of Sachin Tendulkar going aerial route against Brett Lee's speedsters!

Cinemascope- Many filmmakers wait for the auspicious season of Diwali to release their films. Few days of holidays in a row increase the possibility of more and more people get drawn to theatre. School and college goers come in swarm and even jostle for the first-day-first-show mania. No doubt moviemakers make good business during these days and pray to score big brownie points in entertaining the masses. This Diwali will see the release of two big films, 'Golmal Returns' the sequel of Golmal, which did good business at the box office couple of years back, getting tough competition from Madhur Bhandarkar's 'Fashion,' slated to release on the same day. What has added needle in this fight is the fact that old rivals Kareena Kapoor and Priyanka Chopra will try to out do each other. So, this Diwali the revived catfight is on... big time!!!!

Idiot box going crazy!!- You would only be deluding yourself if you think reality shows are down and out! Reality shows are not only ruling the roost but they are growing in numbers also. This Diwali will see the final rounds of 'Indian Idol season 4' as singers will be seen stretching their vocal chord to clinch the title. 'Nach baliye' will also be entering in its 4th season as new celeb-couple will shake their legs on the floor. And as the commotion in the 'Big Boss's' house culminates into more dramatic climax will also be an interesting watch. So dancing and singing is everywhere to keep you entertained and to get those elusive TRP's. Many movie channels like UTV Movies, star movies and HBO will premier some of the greatest Hollywood flicks exclusively to make you glued to the couch!

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Celebration day after

Diwali not only symbolizes celebration to few but causes many problems to the habitats apart from harming the ecosystem. Let us see what problems Mumbaikars face during the celebration

Diwali is the festival of dazzling lights, lip smacking sweets and ... Noisy unwanted crackers. It is the celebration of the victory of good over evil. But the addition of crackers to this celebration is causing unhappiness not only to the people but also the ecosystem- animals and trees

Dr. Advani says, "Some of the problems experienced by people, because of the noise pollution are headaches, migraine, temper tantrums, irritability, and nervousness. People also complain about respiratory disorders like throat irritation, cough, at times bronchitis etc. Lack of productivity & concentration, insomnia, mental & emotional stress are a few lesser known problems."

Sneha Singh, a yoga teacher says, "Just endless amounts of medication & visits to doctors, who prescribe more medication & this goes on perpetuating the pill popping, with no

stopping. Any surprise that people as young as 25 & 30 years old, are having nervous breakdowns & heart attacks. Of course stress levels at work & a bad lifestyle, sans fresh air & exercise are the major causes of this phenomenon but noise pollution compounds to the problems."

Noise pollution not only affects human beings but also frightens animals. Priti Avasthi who owns a pet dog says, "It's the same old story every Diwali. While thousands of people across the city celebrate the festival by bursting crackers, animals - both pet and stray - tremble with fear, as they cannot bear the loud noises. Though there can only be solace for strays when people stop bursting such loud crackers, there is still hope for pet animals and their owners." Dr. Agarwal says, "We give anti-anxiety drugs for their pet dogs to reduce their fear and other feelings when crackers are being

burst. The fumes and noise of crackers force the pets to hide under cots and furniture."

Sarika Saxena an HR executives who loves gardening shares, "I see a thin layer of black shoot on the leaves of plants in my garden which I wash every next day of Diwali. I am sure they must be causing some problems to these plants too but the difference is that they cannot complain."

Last year Nearly 600 people were booked and fined by Mumbai Police during Diwali for the use of loudspeakers and bursting of fire-crackers late night after 10 pm which is banned by the Supreme Court. "sSince the time the order has been passed there is some relief, yet some people still don't follow the rule. I hope this Diwali be a happy experience for all and not only for a few," says Priti Agarwal.

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