



Model wears a dress from fabric saved from a landfill

## How to use your clothes to save the planet

Even the UN thinks fashion is a major contributor to climate change. So what can we do?

RUNA RAY  
TEAM METROLIFE



Runa Ray

When I was invited to the United Nations for a political forum, a few important issues were discussed; the most pressing issue was Climate Change.

And fashion is a large contributor to Climate change.

In the run-up to the Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit in September 2019, the fashion industry has recognised that it has a crucial role in the realisation of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

In December 2018, 43 major brands and suppliers had signed the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action with the United Nations.

The goal: net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Other initiatives in the industry are moving in the same direction. This goes hand-in-hand with consumers' increased awareness of the choices.

The textile industry contributes around ten per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions—it uses more energy than the aviation and shipping industries combined, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The industry's impact is not limited to global carbon emissions. It also produces about 20 per cent of all waste water and 85 per cent of textiles end up in landfills or are incinerated when the materials cannot be reused.

The UN has initiated a UN campaign called 'ActNow', which helps educate and encourage individual behavioural

change, mainly by adjusting behavioural patterns.

The decisions we make in our daily lives affect our planet. By changing our habits and routines, and making choices that are less harmful to the environment, we have the power to confront the climate challenge.

Here are a few small ways that you can use to help save the planet.

**Reuse old sari borders**

You can cut the borders from the saris that can no longer be used and stitch them over a new outfit. Add them to new saris or suits or even long kurtis and dupattas.

**Convert old saris**

With 5 metres of cloth, you have a lot to spare. Convert saris into other outfits like anarkalis or kurtis or even long skirts.

**Convert old t-shirts into bags**

Cut out the sleeves and the neckline to make it wider. Sew up the bottom of the t-shirt and you have your new grocery bag ready. Extra material can even be turned into trendy head-bands.

**Convert jeans into skirts**

All you need to do is remove the inner and outer seams of the jeans, lay them flat and open, sew the sides together and the front and back. The length can be altered and you have a fashionable mini.

**Convert your old Sweaters**

Make cosy pillow cases out of your old sweaters, and you are all set for winter.

**T-shirt quilts**

Everyone has favorite print t-shirts they don't want to get rid of. Cut squares around the prints and sew up the pieces to make a patch-work quilt.

These DIY techniques will give your clothes a second life and will also be one small step towards saving the planet.

A model wears a jacket made of mirrorwork.

# 'New artistes making inroads into industry'



Actor Raj B Shetty thinks the new wave in Kannada cinema has done well to break the monotony

RAJ B SHETTY

I have always enjoyed telling stories. After a stint as a radio jockey, I turned an actor and director with 'Ondu Motteya Kathe'. I always made an effort to choose scripts that were not run-of-the-mill.

My conviction that the audience in the Kannada film industry is looking for innovative subjects was reaffirmed when the industry bagged 12 National Awards.

I have always noticed that whenever films do well, the director takes the credit but when they bomb at the box office, the audience gets blamed.

I don't think this is the right way to go about things.

Films like 'Sarkari Hiriya Prathamika Shale', 'Ulidavaru Kandanthe', 'Lucia' and 'U-Turn' ushered in a new wave in Kannada cinema.

They provoked the audience to think differently. This was the beginning of change but the audience wasn't sure if this is the change it was looking for. They still lapped up what these films had to offer.

While 'Sarkari...' crossed the 100-day mark, 'Ulidavaru Kandanthe' didn't remain in the theatres for too long. But people began watching it online. It did well to break the monotony. In fact,

all the films that won a National Award this year have something unique to offer.

The success of any film leans heavily on good technicians. There was, in fact, a dearth of good technicians here. But that has changed too.

We now see a new breed of actors, directors and technicians, making inroads in the Kannada film industry.

And the audience seems to have accepted this change. I also feel that this acceptance is what has inspired film-



I WANT TO PLAY A PROACTIVE ROLE IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF THE KANNADA FILM INDUSTRY

RAJ B SHETTY  
ACTOR AND DIRECTOR

makers to think in a different way. Today, the audience is certain about what it wants. Social media platforms have also given them a chance to air their views. If they like a film, they say they do and if they don't, they mince no words.

The final judgement and success of any film rests in the hands of the audience.

As an actor, I never set out with a definite vision for myself.

I want to play a proactive role in contributing to the success of the Kannada film industry and work on subjects that appeal to a larger audience.

My latest work, 'Gubbi Mele Brahmas-tra' (releasing on August 15) is a slapstick comedy—a genre that hasn't been explored much in our industry.

The events shown in the film cannot happen in reality. It traces the life of a software engineering and what innocence gets him into.

He is someone who lives in his own fantasy and has a lot going on in that space. For instance, put him in the middle of rowdies and he wouldn't know how to react or what to do; talk to him about kidnapping and murder and he would ask you what it is. He is also someone who knows no fear. This may seem like a very absurd situation but this film is meant to entertain and make people laugh.

I had also asked the director to not have any message and leave it to the interpretation of the people. We have veered away from the set formula and tried something new. (As told to Nina C George)



## 'If you sing only in local tongue, no cultural exchange happens'



The Peepal Tree has played more than 1,500 concerts globally.

MALINI RAGHU  
TEAM METROLIFE

Fresh from the release of their debut album, Bengaluru-based multi-genre band 'The Peepal Tree' performed last week at ibis, Outer Ring Road.

The multilingual band comprises Sujay Harthi, Tony Das, Praveen Biligiri Willy Demoz and Siddhart Kamath. Sung in Indian languages, their songs can be described as Indian melodies fused with funk grooves and overtones of electronica.

The group has played more than 1,500 concerts globally and has worked in the Hindi and Kannada movie industries.

In an interview with *Metrolife*, the band talks about their music and more.

**About your debut album 'Chetana'.** 'Chetana' is a labour of love. This being our first album, we had no preconceived ideas about what we wanted going in. We took it in whatever direction it went and the album ended up quite diverse and tied together by what we feel is 'our sound'.

**In the recent past, a few bands have been dissed for not performing**

**Kannada songs during their shows in Bengaluru. What are your thoughts?** Unintelligent people with idle minds don't have many ways to entertain themselves. Do they mean to say that music should only be performed in the local language in any city/country in the world? Are we going to partake in any kind of cultural exchange this way? Do these same people expect musicians from Karnataka to perform in the languages of the places they perform at? Unfortunately, the sentiments of a few idiots can easily be mistaken for those of the otherwise peaceful majority, and this ends up making the city look like we don't welcome everyone from everywhere.

**Why do you think only a few bands sing Kannada songs?** There are more than a few bands that sing in Kannada. However, we feel like the main reason people could be hesitant is that they don't see much of a market for music sung in Kannada outside the state. But we believe that if you make your music in whatever way you see fit, and in whatever language you're comfortable with, there will always be an audience for it.

**Were you aiming to be a multi-genre band?** Not really. However, we did say that we didn't want genre to be a limiting factor for our music. But we didn't actively pursue it; we wrote whatever sounded like it would be fun to turn into a song and let it take shape from there.

**What's the story behind your band's name?** We were stuck to find a name in the early days of the band and went through a whole lot of terrible and not-so-terrible ideas. Willy was the one who suggested the name. It came to him in a dream, and he messaged us at around 3 am asking for our thoughts. We thought it was great as it indicated a strong connection to our roots.

LEONARDO DICAPRIO BRAD PITT MARGOT ROBBIE  
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