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This Delhi Police officer masters art with everyday materials

Balancing the rigours of law enforcement with his passion for creativity, ASI Shripal Solanki crafts stunning masterpieces using threads, tea and even toothpaste



Shripal Solanki gifted a lion painting to Chhaya Sharma, IPS, Special Commissioner of Police (SPUW AC), who was deeply impressed by his talent

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In the high-stakes world of law enforcement, where the demands of duty often leave little room for personal pursuits, 55-year-old Shripal Solanki, an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) at the Police Training Academy (PTA) in Delhi's East Zone, is breaking the mould. Beyond his uniform, Solanki is gaining recognition for his extraordinary talent as a self-taught artist, crafting masterpieces using everyday materials like threads, sugar, tea, toothpaste and even fallen leaves.

"My inspiration comes from the materials around me," explains Solanki, who discovered his passion for art at the age of 15. He adds, "Recently, I created a lion painting using threads to give it a 3D effect. It was a labour of love, taking over two months to complete. Just the eyes alone took a week, as I used oil colours, which dry slowly."

Balancing his artistic pursuits with the demands of his job and family life is no small feat, but Solanki's dedication is unwavering. He carves out time for his craft in the early hours of the day or late at night. "I wake up at 4am or stay up all night to work on my art. These hours provide the focus and silence I need to create something extraordinary," shares Solanki, who was born and raised in Rohini, Delhi. He adds, "On my off days, I sometimes paint from morning to midnight without eating, as breaking the flow can disrupt the streak of creativity."





(Top) An artwork by ASI Solanki, created using crayons; (left) a portrait made using toothpaste