Have you ever been to a coffee chain, ordered a chilled mocha frappé latte cino (or some other similar 10-word-named item) and been mildly indignant when they charge you Rs 300/- for it?

It seems slightly unreasonable, considering the only real difference between that and a regular coffee is a handful of ice (and perhaps a dollop of cream or ice cream if you’re feeling saucy).

The economics of cold coffee were in the spotlight this week after a woman sued Starbucks for putting too much ice in her iced coffee cups, thereby giving customers less product. She’s suing for $US5 million ($6.77 million).

It’s hard to get a straight answer on why cold coffee costs more than hot. At your hipster cafes where they make “craft coffee” the answer is obvious — they tend to cold-brew the coffee for iced coffees, and this process uses more coffee beans. Cold-brew is made by grinding beans coarsely, having them sit in room-temperature water overnight, and then filtering the grinds out to produce cold-brew concentrate. This extract is then cut with water to make what we know as iced coffee.

There’s also a good chance they’re putting some other bank-breaking ingredient in there, like organic almond milk ice cream. Hence the price hike.

But cold-brewing is less likely at your bigger chain coffee shops. So why do they charge more for the chilled versions?

One explanation is that sweeteners and flavour enhancers tend to be added to iced coffee more often than regular coffee. Iced coffee usually needs a flavour boost, as it’s watered down by the ice.

Another explanation is that the supplies for iced coffee cost more. For example, they require plastic cups as opposed to paper, along with straws; both of these cost more than stand-alone paper cups.

It has also been pointed out that shops may charge more for this ‘special beverage’ because, well, people will just pay more if you market it as a bit of a novelty.

Source: Staff writers, news.com.au
Sheltered housing residents have used hundreds of spent coffee pods to create a portrait of The Queen.

Residents at Wallace House in Hatherley, Gloucestershire, spent five weeks creating the mosaic using 1,634 recycled coffee machine capsules.

Carol Gatter, who runs the craft club, said she did not initially tell the group what they were working on. She said: "I'd been telling them that it was a nude of myself so I think they were relieved that it was the Queen."

Ms Gatter, who has only just started the group, said she had wanted to "start off with something really exciting".

She said: "I thought 'Let's go big' and the only way we can do a mosaic is to go very large.

"But I didn't realise that used Nespresso pods still have their coffee in them."

"So they've all been emptied out by myself and now my garden smells lovely."

With 2,500 donated single-serving coffee pods cleaned out "for the colours", it then fell to residents to create the monarch's likeness to celebrate her 90th birthday.

Working two hours a week for five weeks, resident Pat said she had "really enjoyed" creating the completely-recycled artwork.

"It's in nine separate parts so until you put it all together you couldn't tell what it was going to be," she said.

"So we didn't actually know until the last week - but it's just magic, basically."


Really? Shahid Kapoor got 'high' on coffee for 'Udta Punjab'

He is a bundle of talent. Bollywood has ever seen. Actor Shahid Kapoor has time and again proved his versatility as an actor by going to any lengths for understanding his character portrayal on-screen. Sasha, who is ready to surprise us yet again in Abhishek Chaubey's 'Udta Punjab' reportedly took coffee help to get that 'high' feeling. According to Indian Express.com, Shahid is a teetotaller, and in the film, he plays this rockstar named Tommy Singh, who indulges in substance abuse. So, to get that character look right, the best Sasha could do was get an addiction to caffeine—he took refuge in coffee. The report quotes him as saying, "In the absence of alcohol and any kind of substance, what helped me to get the kind of high I needed for my character was coffee. I would drink several cups of coffee before giving those shots".

Smart choice Shahid, coffee is better than any other harmful substance!

Source: Zee media bureau.