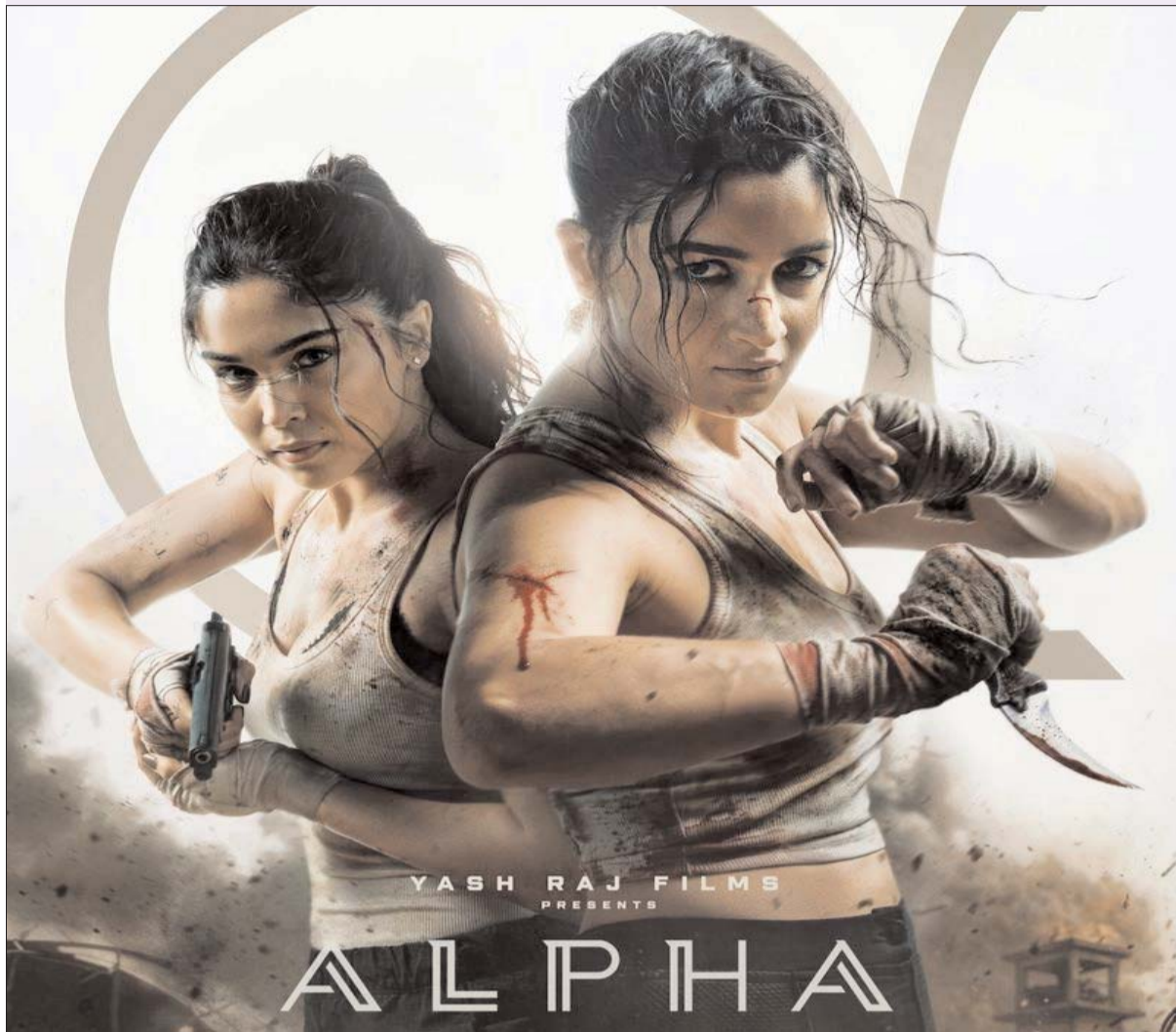


Alia Bhatt-starrer 'Alpha' opens to Rs 17.42 crore at global box office



"Alpha", featuring Alia Bhatt and Sharvari, has earned Rs 17.42 crore at the global box office.

The makers shared the box office numbers with a post on the official X handle on Saturday. It featured the film's poster with the box office numbers written over it.

"Alpha" wins hearts worldwide. Day 1 worldwide gross Rs 17.42 crore," read the caption of the post. The film earned Rs 11.20 crore gross at the domestic

box office and Rs 6.22 crore overseas.

The action thriller is directed by Shiv Rawail and produced by Yash Raj Films. "Alpha" is the first female-led film in the studio's interconnected Spy Universe.

The film follows two elite agents, played by Bhatt and Sharvari, who embark on a high-stakes mission to take on a dangerous adversary portrayed by Bobby Deol.

Manoj Bajpayee launches trailer of "Uttar Da Puttar"

Jammu, July 4: Acclaimed actor Manoj Bajpayee has launched the official trailer of upcoming comedy-drama Uttar Da Puttar, offering audiences a glimpse into a quirky and entertaining story revolving around faith, fate and family relationships.

The trailer presents a humorous yet emotional narrative centred around a man, played by veteran actor Annu Kapoor, whose life takes an unexpected turn after he becomes convinced that choosing the right direction can change his destiny. His journey through belief and faith leads to a series of amusing and thought-provoking situations.

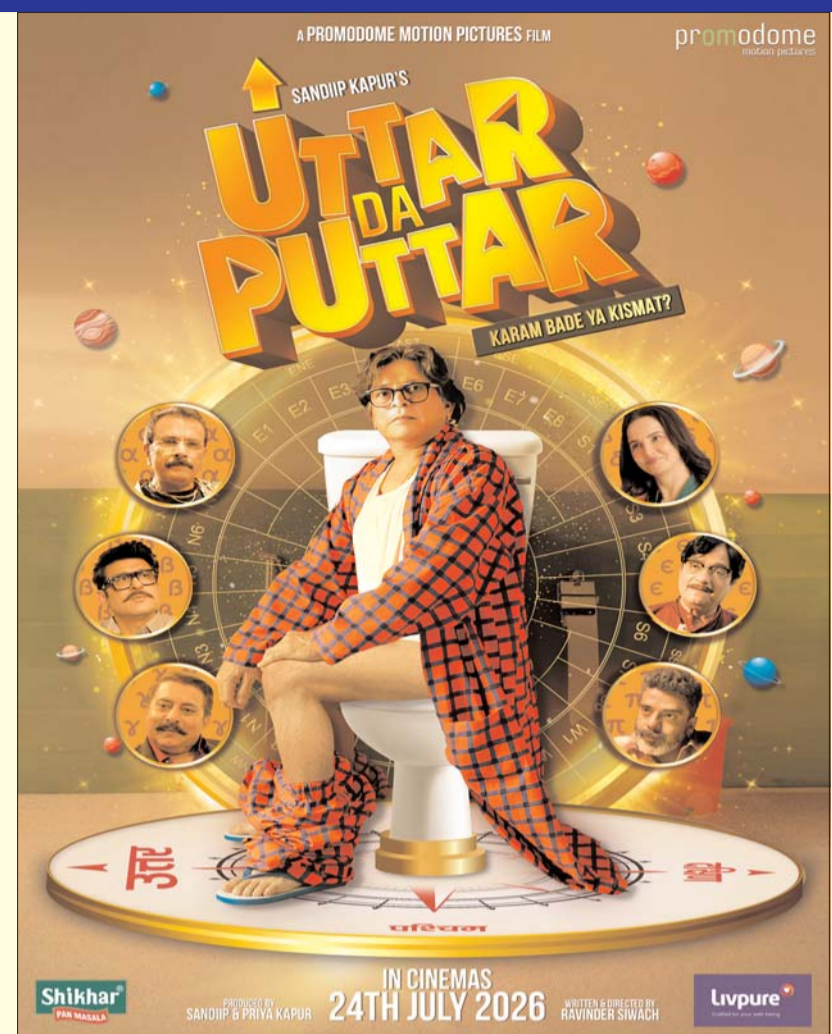
The film features an ensemble cast including Rukhsar Rehman, Brijendra Kala, Pavan Malhotra, Ishiyak Khan, Jeeveshu Ahluwalia, Rajendra Sethi, Sumit Gulati and Nitin Arora in key roles.

Produced by Sandiip Kapur and Priya Kapur under the banner of Promodome Motion Pictures??, the film is written and directed by Ravinder Siwach and is based on a story by Sandiip Kapur.

Speaking on the occasion, producer Sandiip Kapur said the film is a family entertainer with humour at its core while also carrying a meaningful message about the choices people make in their pursuit of happiness and success.

Director Ravinder Siwach said the trailer introduces the colourful world of Uttar Da Puttar and its unique characters, while hinting at the larger emotional and entertaining journey awaiting audiences.

Built around the central theme, "Karam Bade Ya Kismet?", the film explores whether



life is shaped more by actions or destiny, while maintaining a light-hearted and engaging narrative.

Known for backing content-driven cinema such as Jugaad, Anaarkali of Aarah and the National Award-winning Bhonsle, Promodome Motion Pictures continues its focus on distinctive storytelling with this latest venture.

Uttar Da Puttar is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on July 24, 2026.

London Indian Film Festival 2026 to celebrate 25 years of Aamir Khan's 'Lagaan'

A special IMAX screening of "Lagaan" and an interaction with lead actor-producer Aamir Khan will mark the critically-acclaimed film's 25th anniversary at the annual London Indian Film Festival (LIFF).

Now in its 17th year, the festival opens next week with the European premiere of "52 Blue", starring Adil Hussain and Neha Dhupia and directed by acclaimed Egyptian filmmaker Ali El Arabi.

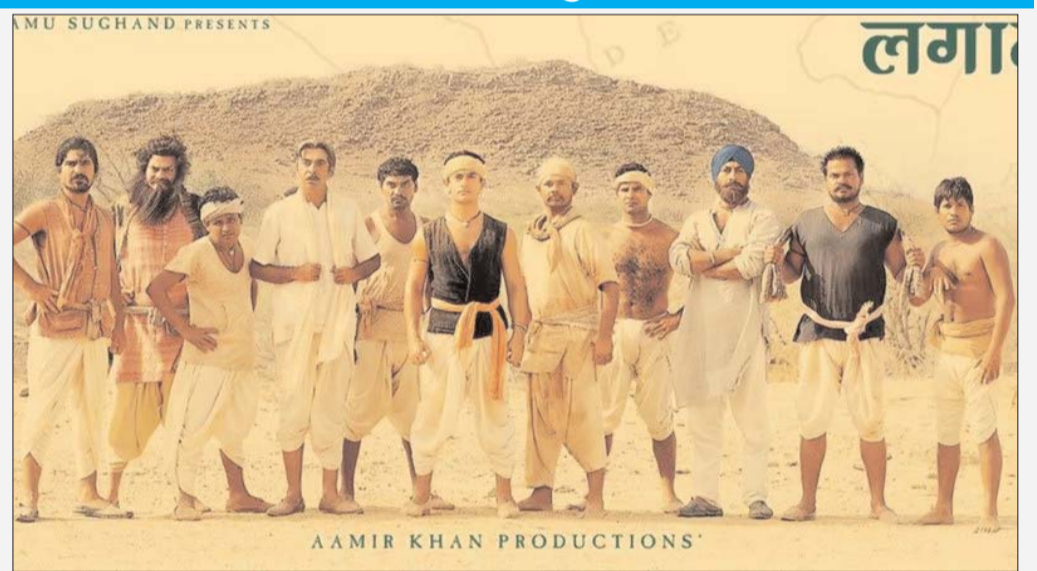
Expanding its scope to six different UK cities and spanning 10 languages, LIFF 2026 will also mark a first-ever showcase of a new generation of Indian films that adopt AI as part of their creative process.

"We made 'Lagaan' with a lot of belief, passion and honesty, never imagining the kind of love it would receive and continue to receive all these years later," Aamir Khan said in a pre-festival statement.

"I'm truly delighted that this milestone is being celebrated with a screening at the BFI (British Film Institute). To see 'Lagaan' still connect with audiences across generations and across geographies is very special," he said.

Alongside the classic, the festival marks the international premiere of Priyanka Saha's debut feature film "Anmol" — "Lovingly Yours", in which young parents are put to the ultimate test when their newborn's gender identity forces them to confront their own beliefs and prejudices.

"For as long as I can remember, I have been fascinated by a childhood story that was spoken about in whispers and fragments," shares Mumbai-based Saha.



"I am committed to using my platform to explore pressing social issues, amplify marginalised voices, and push the boundaries of cinematic storytelling," she said.

A 'Central Gala' of the festival will feature an onstage reunion of some of the UK's most iconic South Asian heritage comedians behind the 1990s television hit "Goodness Gracious Me" — Sanjeev Bhaskar, Meera Syal, Nina Wadia and Kulvinder Ghir.

The 'Restorations' strand includes a screening of "In Which Annie Gives It Those Ones", written by and featuring Booker Prize laureate Arundhati Roy to capture laid-back student life at a Delhi architecture school in the mid-1970s.

"Bringing together a glittering box of in-

die gemstone films from some of the world's finest film festivals to UK premiere at our five-city festival offers a rare treat to our audiences and an opportunity to experience the rich creativity of the world's most populated region," said Cary Rajinder Sawhney, LIFF CEO and Programming Director.

With editions beyond London including the Birmingham Indian Film Festival and Manchester Indian Film Festival and events also taking in the cities of Sheffield and Bradford, LIFF is pitched as Europe's largest South Asian film festival.

Its Satyajit Ray Short Film Competition also returns this year as a strand dedicated to championing new generations of South Asian filmmakers.

Nolan's 'The Odyssey' trailer sparks debate over modern accents and dialogue

Christopher Nolan's adaptation of Homer's epic has arrived with the scale and ambition fans expected, but not without resistance. As clips and reactions spread online, a clear pattern emerged in the criticism, and it centers on how the film sounds rather than how it looks.

Viewers have taken issue with dialogue and accents they call too modern and distinctly American, arguing they fail to capture the atmosphere of ancient Greece that Homer's epic demand, and sentiments has carried through heavily into Youtube's comment section. Not everyone agreed with the criticism though, with some arguing that no film can authentically reproduce ancient Greek speech, the accents and dialogue should be seen as creative choices.

Casting has added to the friction. Matt Damon leads as Odysseus, King of Ithaca, with Anne Hathaway as his wife Penelope and Tom Holland as their grown son Telemachus. Scrutiny has landed hardest on Lupita Nyong'o's casting as Helen of Troy, with critics arguing the choice clashes with a more classical vi-

sion of the story.

The film follows Odysseus on a dangerous voyage back to Ithaca after the Trojan War, facing the Cyclops Polyphemus, the Sirens and Calypso along the way, with Zendaya playing the goddess Athena.

Scholars have entered the fray too. Professor Susan Deacy told the BBC, "I wonder whether we have become inclined to treat mythological material as though it were historical material." Film writer Tom Shone, also speaking to the BBC, described Nolan as a "Rorschach director," meaning different viewers inter-



pret his films in different ways.

Nolan, an Oscar winner for Oppenheimer and known for pursuing realism in his films, shot The Odyssey entirely on custom IMAX cameras, making it his first film to be shot exclusively using the technology. Emma Thompson produced, with Thomas Hayslip as

executive producer, alongside a cast rounded out by Charlize Theron, Elliot Page, Mia Goth, Jon Bernthal, Himesh Patel and Benny Safdie.

Whatever the online noise, The Odyssey remains on track to open as one of the biggest theatrical events of the summer.



Sunny Leone is one actress that has worked hard to make a place for herself in Bollywood and has truly succeeded despite going through many ups and downs. She first entered into the Indian entertainment industry when she appeared on the controversial reality show Bigg Boss 5, before she made her first film appearance. Sunny maintained her composure and elegance throughout her stay in the house and won over the interest of housemates and viewers alike with her grace and confidence. One of the most memorable moments during her stay on the show was during a task in which she shocked everyone by wearing a plunging black bikini that was stunning on her. She looked unbelievably hot, yet graceful and left a memorable impression.