

Meenakshi Chaudhary Opens Up On Bhagam Bhag 2: 'It Felt Like Pure Laughter'



Bhagam Bhag was a cult favourite, and fans of the film have reason to celebrate as it is all set to return with a sequel. Bhagam Bhag 2 will be directed by Dream Girl filmmaker Raaj Shaandilyaa.

Alongside Akshay Kumar, Meenakshi Chaudhary will join the cast. Known for films like Lucky Bhaskar, Gun-tur Kaaram, and The Greatest Of All Time, Bhagam Bhag 2 marks her Hindi film debut. She recently spoke about her role in an interview with Variety India.

Meenakshi, Bhagam Bhag 2 Came At The Right Time For Her

Meenakshi said, "I feel like it came at a time when I was looking for something exactly like this." She shared that she had been searching for scripts that families would enjoy and having watched the first Bhagam Bhag when she was younger, she loved it. Being part of the sequel felt like perfect timing for her.

She added that many other projects she received didn't appeal to her. About Bhagam Bhag 2, Meenakshi said, "When this came along, it just felt like pure laughter." She believes that regardless of age or language, the

story and her character will resonate with audiences everywhere. "You are going to enjoy it regardless of the language you watch it in," stated the actress.

Akshay Kumar and Paresh Rawal will return for Bhagam Bhag 2, the sequel to Priyadarshan's 2006 hit comedy thriller. While they reprise their iconic roles, Govinda will not be part of the film. Manoj Bajpayee has been confirmed to replace him in the second instalment.

Alongside Meenakshi Chaudhary, Ayesha Khan, known for her performance in Dhurandhar's blockbuster track Shararat, will also feature in the film, bringing fresh energy to the cast.

Meenakshi Chaudhary will portray the role of Daksha in Vrushakarma, alongside Naga Chaitanya, Sparsh Shrivastava, Satya, and Jayaram, among others. The film is directed by Karthik Dandu and bankrolled by BVSN Prasad under the banners of Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra and Sukumar Writings. The film is touted to be a unique mix of mythology, horror and suspense. Meenakshi was last seen in blockbuster film Anaganaga Oka Raju, alongside Naveen Polishetty.

Ananya Panday, Kalyani Priyadarshan On Toxic Masculinity In Films: 'Everyone Wants To Make What's Working'

In recent years, Indian cinema has witnessed a noticeable rise in hypermasculine male protagonists. These characters are often portrayed as violent, emotionally volatile, possessive, and morally ambiguous men whose aggression is framed as power, passion, or heroism. While such portrayals have generated enormous box-office success, they have also sparked intense debates about misogyny, toxic masculinity, and the social impact of popular cinema.

In a recent chat with The Hollywood Reporter India, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Kalyani Priyadarshan and Ananya Panday were asked to weigh in on the matter and express what they think about this new wave. "I don't know if it's the masculinity aspect. I believe the audience directs where cinema is going, not producers sitting behind a desk," Kalyani said.

"Right now, this trend, and I call this a trend because I don't think it is going to last, it is what's practical, and every scene has to be sensational or shocking. You can show spectacle with violence, and people think that's what's selling cinema. It scares me a little, but I believe it's a trend," she said

Ananya Panday added, "It feels repetitive in that sense, everyone wants to make what's working." She mentioned that since they are in an industry where models are often replicated to ensure success, once a project becomes a hit, others follow the same formula.

Kareena added, "Now I think it's all thriller, crime, gore, blood. No fun, energy, colour, love, romance." All three actresses pointed out that the solution to this problem is not with the filmmakers or actors alone, but that a collective effort is needed.



Traditionally, Bollywood heroes were often romantic, idealistic, or morally upright figures. From the gentle lovers of the 1990s to the charming "chocolate boy" archetype of the 2000s, masculinity on screen was frequently tied to emotional vulnerability and romantic devotion. However, the last decade has seen a shift toward the "alpha male" hero—aggressive, domineering, and unapologetically violent.

Filmmakers and industry insiders themselves have acknowledged this trend. Recent blockbusters have leaned heavily into what some call "front-footed alpha energy," which has proven commercially successful despite controversies surrounding misogyny and violence.



Janhvi Kapoor wowed the crowd with her glamorous appearance at the IIFA Awards 2024. The actress looked stunning in a glittering golden gown that was the perfect choice for the grand event. Smiling brightly for the cameras, Janhvi also gave a sweet wave to the paparazzi.

Imtiaz Ali Reveals Why Heer Dies In Ranbir Kapoor's Rockstar: 'I Wanted Her To Be Alive...'

Years after Rockstar became one of the most discussed love stories in Hindi cinema, director Imtiaz Ali has revealed a surprising detail about the film's ending that many fans never knew. At a recent fan meet-up in Mumbai hosted by Laksh Maheshwari, the filmmaker spoke candidly about the creative decisions behind the tragic ending of Rockstar. During the conversation, Imtiaz revealed that the death of Heer, played by Nargis Fakhri in the film, was not part of the original script when he first wrote the story.

According to Imtiaz, the earliest version of the film had a very different direction. However, a major setback changed everything when the script he had written earlier went missing. "I wanted her to be alive. I wanted so many different things in Rockstar. In fact, I had written a full draft, but unfortunately I lost it and then years later when I got the chance of making Rockstar, I tried looking for it and I had lost it. It wasn't in the computer."

When he sat down to write the film again, Imtiaz said the story naturally evolved in a different direction. The tragic arc of Heer's character emerged as he began drawing inspiration from the legendary Punjabi love story Heer Ranjha. He explained how that influence shaped the ending of the film and ultimately led to the emotional climax audiences saw on screen. "So I wrote it again. This time when I was writing. I don't know what happened. At the end of it, Heer was no more. I think it was also because I was following Heer Ranjha a lot. That is why the girl's name was Heer and that she dies before Ranjha, so the movie ends before



the death of Jordan."

In the film, Ranbir Kapoor plays Jordan, a musician whose intense love and heartbreak shape his rise as an artist. The story follows how personal loss and emotional turmoil push him into becoming a celebrated yet troubled rock star.

Celebrity Designer Recalls Filming Pooja Bedi's Memorable 'Flying Skirt' Moment

Released in 1992, Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar remains one of the most loved films of its time. The sports drama directed by Mansoor Khan gave audiences several memorable scenes and songs that are still talked about today.

Among those moments, one scene that stood out was Pooja Bedi recreating the famous "flying skirt" moment inspired by Marilyn Monroe. Years later, celebrity stylist Ashley Rebello shared how the team worked behind the scenes to create that shot.

How The Designer Entered Bollywood By Chance

Ashley Rebello recently spoke about the experience during a conversation with Beyond the Frame host Avinash Tripathi. He revealed that Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar was his first project in Bollywood.

Before entering films, Ashley used to sell hand-painted T-shirts. During one visit to deliver T-shirts to Mansoor Khan's office, something unexpected happened that changed his career path.

Sharing the story, he said, "One day, I went to Mansoor Khan's office to deliver some T-shirts and his secretary asked me to go inside and meet him. I thought I have never met him, Why does he want to meet me? I went inside. He thought that I am there for auditions for Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar. But I told him that I am there to deliver the T-shirts. He then asked if I myself made those T-shirts, and I said yes. He really liked my T-shirts and my sense of style. He asked me to make costumes for the film. This was a very accidental beginning in the industry for me."

Ashley also spoke about the effort that went into creating the well-known "flying skirt" scene featuring Pooja Bedi.

According to him, director Mansoor Khan wanted to recreate Mar-



ilyn Monroe's iconic moment. However, getting the skirt to move the right way turned out to be more difficult than expected.

Explaining the process, Ashley said, "Mansoor wanted to recreate the Marilyn Monroe skirt flying scene. We tried blowing the skirt with the blower, but the skirt was not flying. I remade the dress with a lighter cloth, but it still wasn't flying.