

Kon Honar Crorepati gets a grand premiere: Madhuri Dixit and Sonali Bendre share screen space for the first time



Two loved and iconic Bollywood stars. A first-time on-screen pairing, and an evening packed with candid conversations, nostalgic memories and unexpected revelations. Sony Marathi's Kon Honar Crorepati (KHC) ushers in a new chapter this Monday, October 12 with Madhuri Dixit at the helm as host, and Sonali Bendre in the hot seat for the show's grand premiere.

With the promise of "Aata Khel Badalnaar" (Now, the game will change), the special episode sets the stage for a refreshing new era in the Marathi entertainment ecosystem.

Despite their illustrious film careers, Madhuri

and Sonali have never shared the screen in a film. Their first-ever on-screen appearance together on Sony Marathi promises a compelling mix of Bollywood nostalgia, lively banter and the high-stakes excitement of the game, offering viewers a rare glimpse into the personalities and stories behind two much-loved stars.

Bringing her love for animals to the hot seat, Sonali is playing in support of Happy Pet Foundation and shares insights into her work for animal welfare and her very own "Happy Podcast."

Madhuri Dixit shared, "Sonali and I have never done a film together. But it's never too late! Today, we're finally together on the sets of Kon Honar Crorepati. It's a celebration, and I'm glad that I am starting this new chapter with you. Sharing the screen with you feels like such a special occasion. It is a celebration for me."

Welcoming Madhuri Dixit as host, Sonali Bendre shared, "Kon Honar Crorepati now has a female

host, and who could be better than Madhuri? I have always been a Madhuri Dixit fan, but I've also gotten to know her better. Her younger son and my son go to school together, so we meet often, but sharing screen space has never happened."

Nana Patekar, who worked with Madhuri in the 1998 film Wajood, was scheduled to shoot for the premiere episode over the weekend. Sonali and Nana were set to be among the show's first celebrity guests, with more prominent Maharashtrian celebrities expected to appear in the coming months.

'Deep void' in Indian cinema: President Murmu, PM Modi, Rahul, others mourn Nana Patekar's death

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and several other leaders across political parties mourned the passing of veteran actor Nana Patekar on Thursday, remembering him not only as a towering figure in cinema but also as a compassionate voice for social causes.

The 76-year-old actor, known for his versatility and powerful screen presence, passed away at his Goa residence in the early hours of Thursday.

President Murmu said the passing of veteran actor Nana Patekar was a great loss to Indian cinema and offered her heartfelt condolences to his family and admirers.

Condoling Patekar's death, PM Modi said the actor left a deep void.

"Few actors possessed the intensity, individuality and unmistakable presence that Shri Nana Patekar Ji had. He brought remarkable versatility and creativity to every role and gave us characters that will be remembered for generations. He was also admired for his frank and forthright views, never hesitating to express what he believed in," the PM said in a post on X.

"Shri Nana Patekar's contribution to Hindi and Marathi cinema was immense. His passing leaves a deep void. My condolences to his family, friends and countless admirers. Om Shanti," he added.

In a post on X, Defence Minister



Rajnath Singh said, "The passing of veteran actor Nana Patekar is an irreparable loss to Indian cinema".

"He could make audiences laugh with impeccable comic timing, yet in films like Ankush, Prahaar, and Krantiveer he brought a rawness and gravitas that made every character unforgettable. His voice, presence and ability to inhabit completely different worlds made him truly unique," he said.

Patekar was "not merely an actor" but "an institution in himself", Singh said, adding that his contribution to Indian cinema would continue to inspire generations.

Shah said the passing of actor Nana Patekar was an irreparable loss to the world of art, adding that he left an indelible mark on the hearts of audiences.

NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar said Patekar's contribution to helping drought-affected people through the Naam Foundation would be greatly missed.

The former Union Minister described Patekar as a talented artist who always stood by people during difficult times.

The veteran actor had not only excelled in his profession but also remained deeply concerned about society and used his own efforts and resources to help people in distress, he noted.

"Today, Nana is not with us. Maharashtra has lost a talented artist and a great person who would rush to help those in distress. I and my colleagues, my party and everyone else share the grief of his family," Pawar said.

SRK wears an era, a memory, a nation's affection: Designer Anjali Phougat on the superstar's timeless style

Shah Rukh Khan has spent decades being celebrated not just for his films but also for the effortless charm and presence he brings to everything he wears. For fashion designer Anjali Phougat, however, his style goes far beyond clothes. "Style is not what you wear. Style is what the room feels when you enter it," she says.

That, she believes, is exactly what makes Shah Rukh different. His appeal cannot simply be recreated by putting him in an expensive suit or recreating one of his popular looks. "Shah Rukh Khan does not wear clothes. He wears an era, a memory, a nation's affection," she says. For her, the clothes are only one part of the picture. The personality behind them is what makes the look work. "The garment is only the frame; his energy is the portrait," she says.

That is also why she does not believe another actor could simply replicate Shah Rukh's style by copying his wardrobe. "You can copy the suit, but you cannot copy the soul inside it," she says.

When it comes to the silhouette she would choose for him, Anjali has a clear favourite. For her, nothing works quite as well on Shah Rukh as a bandhgala. "I look at the line of the shoulder and the honesty of the fabric. And on him, nothing beats the bandhgala," she says.

Among Shah Rukh's many on-screen looks, one film stands out immediately for her: Devdas.

"Devdas," she says, adding, "In one film he wore grief in unstitched white and celebration in hand-embroidered gold."



Emraan Hashmi's Awarapan 2 out on OTT

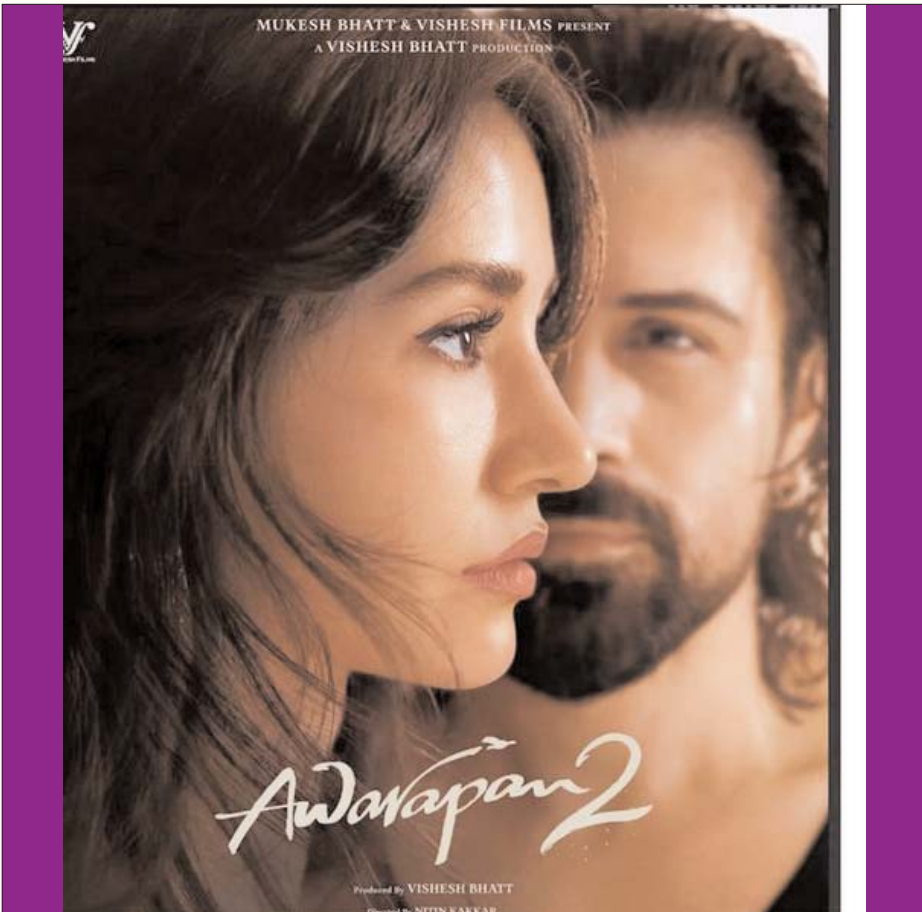
If you missed watching Emraan Hashmi-starrer Awarapan 2 in theatres and have been waiting to enjoy it from the comfort of your home, there's good news! The film has officially begun its streaming journey on Prime Video.

Directed by Nitin Kakkar, Awarapan 2 also stars Disha Patani, Shabana Azmi, Puran Gabbu, Vijayant Kohli, and Suvinder Vicky in pivotal roles.

The film was released in August 2026 and went on to become one of Emraan Hashmi's highest-grossing films. Emraan called Awarapan 2 a "rare phenomenon" as it was billed as a sequel to its predecessor, which was released nearly 20 years ago but failed to find its audience in the theatres.

There are films you work on, and then there are films you are genuinely proud to be a part of. Awarapan 2 belongs to the latter. It has become a rarest-of-rare phenomenon - an unprecedented feat. A film that didn't find its audience two decades ago returning with a sequel, determined to rewrite history at the box office," wrote Emraan Hashmi on Instagram.

The actor also credited the movie's producer, Vishesh Bhatt, for his "vision" and commitment towards the film. He urges the cinemagoers to watch the movie in theatres. "At the heart of it all is Vishesh, the creator of the world of Awarapan. His vision and unwavering conviction shaped everything and everyone. I'm so glad we took the leap together and made this journey. To be part of a film with such an incredible cast, musical genius, and creative brilliance has been super special. This is My Best Film Yet. So before it's too late, go experience Awarapan 2 in theatres now,"



Against the backdrop of soft sand, blue skies, and ocean views, the outfit naturally blends into its surroundings. The vibrant color palette enhances the tropical mood while reinforcing the season's most desirable beach fashion trends.