

Rashmika Mandanna announces Project Annapurna for 400 families



With Ranabaali set to reach theatres on October 16, Rashmika Mandanna has put out news of a different kind: a charity drive called Project Annapurna. Through an Instagram video, the actor said 400 families are now under her care. Her plan is to

cover their groceries for three months, then move on to another 400, and keep this going for the next twelve months. The families are in South India. A list of the grocery items was shared with the post.

Rashmika explained that the thinking is simple. When a household is spared grocery costs for a while, it can put that money away for future needs.

Rashmika added, “I would always keep doing things like this for all the love that you give me. But always kept it under the wraps because I thought if I knew and just my team knew and just a bunch of us knew, it was enough. But now I am opening up about this because I am thinking, if this could influence you lovelies out there to do anything like this, I would be happy.

She also compared herself to Jayamma, the role she plays in Ranabaali, saying the two share this nature.

Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, the period film is set during the Great Madras Famine of 1876-78. Vijay Deverakonda stars as the lead, with Rashmika as his wife. They have earlier appeared together in Geetha Govindam and Dear Comrade.

The Meenamma effect: When a film character became a fashion moment

When Chennai Express released in 2013, its North-South love story became a talking point. While many viewers criticised the film's stereotypical portrayal of South India, one thing that won almost universal admiration was Meenamma's saree wardrobe.

Draped in vibrant Kanjeevarams, soft cottons and elegant South Indian weaves, Deepika Padukone's Meenamma turned every saree into a style statement, earning the character's ethnic looks a devoted following of their own.

Here's revisiting some of Meenamma's most iconic saree moments from Chennai Express.

Grace met simplicity in this powder blue chiffon saree. With delicate borders, understated jewellery and loose waves, this look highlighted Meenamma's softer, quieter moments while remaining effortlessly elegant.

The classic red & gold Kanjeevaram Nothing captures traditional South Indian elegance quite like a rich red Kanjeevaram saree. Paired with classic temple jewellery and a neatly tied gajra, this remains one of the film's most festive and visually striking looks.

The orange and blue border saree Bright yet balanced, this orange saree with contrasting blue borders became another standout in Meenamma's wardrobe. Styled with a bindi, gold earrings and a simple hairstyle, it beautifully reflected the character's rooted charm.

Sunshine in yellow One of the happiest moments in the film was matched with one of Meenamma's brightest looks. The vibrant yellow saree with orange accents perfectly captured her cheerful personality, making it one of



the most heartwarming frames from the film.

The timeless white & gold Kasavu saree Elegant, graceful and unmistakably South Indian, the white-and-gold Kasavu saree remains a timeless classic. Paired with jasmine flowers, minimal gold jewellery and a soft smile, this look continues to be among Deepika's most loved ethnic appearances.

The deep maroon saree Rich maroon tones paired with an intricate blue border gave this saree a regal presence. Worn during one of the film's emotional moments, the look beautifully balanced simplicity with sophistication.



Vedhika, a beloved fashionista, captures eyes once more in her fabulous black bikini, gracefully synthesizing elegance with elements of fun. The actress is confident and regal at the same time; the black bikini works wonders to accentuate her toned and fit figure while maintaining an effortless glam appeal. Although known for her versatility in front of the camera, she inherits that versatility and confidence in her fashion choices, going from simple, elegant fashion to loud, fashion-forward looks. This black bikini moment exemplifies not just her love of fashion, but confidence in making an impact through an effortlessly sophisticated look that mixes charm and sexiness.

Throwback to 70s: Pero opens Lakme Fashion Week 2026 with Barbie-inspired looks

The '70s seemed to be back on the runway as Pero opened Lakme Fashion Week in partnership with FDCI in New Delhi on October 14, with a show that was full of retro styling, playful colours and a fun take on dressing up.

The designer label unveiled its Spring Summer 2027 collection, Dream Dress-Up, alongside its global collaboration with Barbie.

Held at Taj Palace, the showcase brought together Pero's handcrafted designs and Barbie's colourful world. From bows, lace and crochet to playful prints and plenty of pink, the collection carried a distinct vintage mood, giving the show a fun, throwback feel.

The collection centred on the idea that getting dressed should be about personal choice rather than following rules. The looks moved between different moods and styles, mixing feminine details with more masculine elements and pairing textures in the most unexpected ways. Relaxed silhouettes and layered designs also gave the outfits an easy, free-flowing feel.

Handcrafted details remained a key part of Petro's Spring Summer 2027 collection. Crochet, lace, bows and playful prints featured across the looks, while the use of pink brought Barbie's signature colour into the designer's world. Rather than limiting the colour to a particular style or identity, the collection treated it as something anyone could wear.

For designer Aneeth Arora, the collaboration was a way to bring together Pero's love for craft and colour with Barbie's spirit of imagination.

Speaking about the collection, Arora said Barbie stood for the freedom to “dream beyond what is expected” and experiment with different identities. She added, “I have always believed that clothes should leave space for curiosity, joy and individuality, rather than tell us who we should be.” — ANI



Gippy Grewal and Angad Bedi turn heads at Tiger TV launch event

A line-up of familiar faces turned out for an event celebrating upcoming Punjabi projects, with actors Gippy Grewal and Angad Bedi among those in attendance, as comedian Balraj Syal hosted the afternoon. Rohit Jain launched Tiger TV, a new Punjabi and Hindi entertainment platform, built within Lionsgate Play, the Hollywood-focused platform that already reaches a wide base of viewers across India. The platform will be available from October 15.

The standout moment came from Bedi, who presented the first look at Daanav, a Hindi crime thriller starring Angad Bedi and Pooja Gor. Speaking about the project, he said, "In this series I'm playing a cop. It's a crime thriller." He also used the moment to spotlight his upcoming Punjabi film saying, "I then have another project, a Punjabi film called Ranjheya. I'm super excited for both the projects. I hope you give both of them love."

Also unveiled at the event was Eklavya, described as the first in a slate of AI-driven projects, introducing Yug R.Ai, billed as the industry's first AI actor.

Beyond these two reveals, the afternoon touched on a wider slate of upcoming titles, including the six-episode series Tu Te Punjab, along with Laal Salaam, Rubb Rakha, Hanji Kaun? and Janaur.

The Hindi lineup features Mantu Bhaiya Ki Dili Deziye, The Taj Story, and Aakhri Sawal.

Imran Khan's filmy life: How actor recreates 'Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na' moment in police van after 18 years'

With both a crime drama and an AI-led film now in the mix, the platform's opening slate suggests Punjabi entertainment is angling for a far wider, more experimental audience than before.

