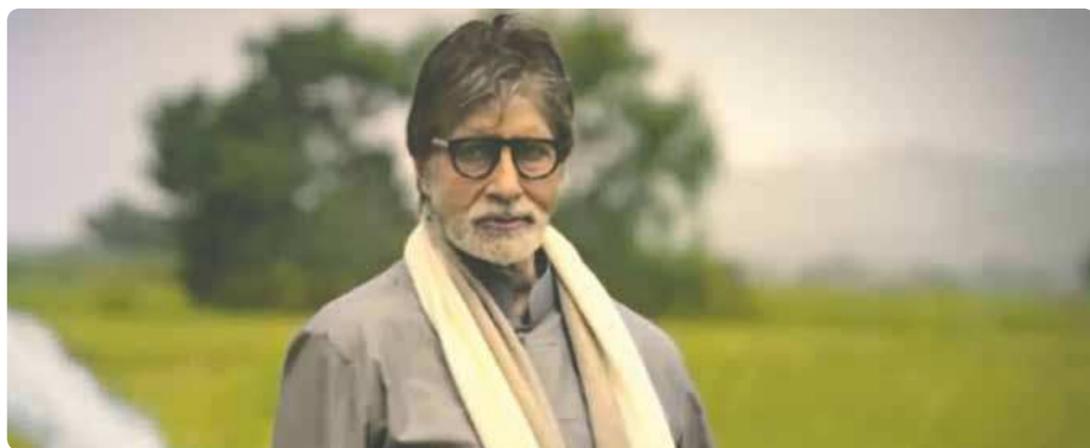


Big B Pays Off Over 1,300 Farmers' Loans



MUMBAI : Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has cleared the loans of over one thousand farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

"Cleared the loans of farmers from Uttar Pradesh... select few were booked by me on train from Varanasi, and given OTS ('OTS: One Time Settlement with Bank Of India')," Amitabh tweeted late on Monday.

He also personally met some of them to give them their bank letters.

"And then the meeting with the farmers from UP and the giving of the OTS certificates to a select few from the 1398.

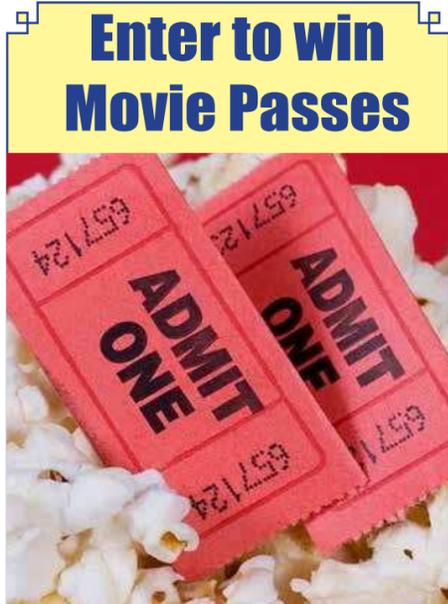
"Let the Laxmi of the house, the daughter give them that. Laxmi the Goddess of wealth. Shweta, the daughter, the Laxmi of the house," he wrote.

He shared his photographs with Shweta on the blogpost.

Amitabh did the OTS and invited 70 farmers to Mumbai by blocking an entire train compartment for them to personally give away the bank letters.

Earlier in 2017, the "Piku" star helped over 350 farmers by paying off their debts and helping the families of 44 Maharashtra soldiers who died in combat.

He had handed over the amount to the farmers and the soldier's families.



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Bappi Lahiri Is 65, To Direct Feature Film

NEW DELHI: Reinvention has been at the heart of everything that Bappi Lahiri -- who turned 65 on Tuesday -- has done in his 50-year journey in showbiz. The celebrated singer-composer, who introduced synthesised disco music in India and has taken Indian sounds to the world, is now set to don the director's hat for a feature film.

Bappi had earlier helmed a documentary "Slumstars", but his new project will be in the fiction space. It is titled "Ek Adhura Sangeet".

"I always think I should keep doing something every year. This time, I will begin a big journey as a director of a feature film. It's a huge journey," Bappi told IANS.

On "Ek Adhura Sangeet", he said: "Like the song 'Zindagi mera gaana, main isi ka deewana... I am a disco dancer'... Without music, people's lives are incomplete... Music can bring happiness in life. So, this is a journey that I am beginning."



"After doing 600 films across Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Tamil, Oriya and Gujarati languages, I have gained a lot of experience. So, I thought I should give it a try. Maybe it does well. My wife Chitrani had produced 'Lal Darja' which won a National Award in 1997t," said Bappi.

Bappi also hinted at doing "something" in Hollywood. "My son Bappa

and I are working with a Latin group," he said, adding that one never knows he may just be directed by a Hollywood filmmaker. Adding another feather to his hat, Bappi has also written a book titled "World, Peace, Love and Harmony: We Are One".

Tracing his glorious journey that has spanned generations, Bappi, who has even collaborated with international artists, said: "From Dev Anand to Dilip Kumar to Varun Dhawan and Ranveer Singh, the journey in Bollywood has been great. In Bengali cinema, the journey has spanned from Uttam Kumar, Prosenjit Chatterjee and Tapas Paul to Dev. "My songs don't get old. Everyone likes to dance to these songs, and there are also sad and romantic songs."

The 50 years, he says, have been all about getting a lot of love and happiness. He then breaks into his song "De de pyaar de... Humein pyaar de de", and said: "I have really got a lot of love, blessings, and I thank everyone."

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