

SIFFCY 2018 To Open With 'Pahuna...'



NEW DELHI: The fourth edition of Smile International Film Festival for Children and Youth (SIFFCY) will commence with actress Priyanka Chopra-produced Sikkimese movie "Pahuna - The Little Visitors".

Backed by Priyanka and her mother Madhu Chopra's banner Purple Pebble Pictures, "Pahuna..." will be screened at the festival on December 10. The film was also shown at TIFF.

The film narrates the story of three Nepalese children separated from their parents and their journey back home.

Directed by Paakhi A. Tyrewala, "Pahuna..." has won two awards at the SCHLINGEL International Film Festival for Children and Young Audience

in Germany. "Pahuna - The Little Visitors" was unveiled at the Cannes Film Festival in May last year.

Santanu Mishra, Executive Trustee of Smile Foundation and Chairman, SIFFCY, said in a statement: "The cast has done amazing work in the movie 'Pahuna'. With such impactful and unique films at the film festival, we look forward to enlighten the youth about issues that are influencing our general audience."

SIFFCY 2018 will focus on German cinema to bring global exposure to the audience and will also organise film making workshops, panel discussions with an objective to engage, educate and empower our children and youth.

The festival will take place

from December 10-16 at the Siri Fort Auditorium here.

Madhu Chopra said in a statement: "This film is very special because it addresses the far reaching consequences for children when adults make harsh decisions. Also this story is relevant globally in its appeal."

Explaining the film's ethos, Tyrewala said: "We live in a tough world. Sometimes it's easier to just give up. Hope is what we all need. Like one of the characters in the film says, 'It's never all dark, there is always light'."

"Pahuna" is full of hopes. That is the reason it resonated with audiences young and old across the globe and now it's releasing in the country it was made and meant for."

'Jabariya Jodi' To Release In May 2019

NEW DELHI: Sidharth Malhotra and Parineeti Chopra-starrer "Jabariya Jodi" will hit screens worldwide on May 17, 2019.

The makers and star cast of the movie, which will present a take on Bihar's 'pakadwa vivaah' (groom kidnapping), chose a unique way to announce the release date.

They took to social media to share a playful stop motion poster, showing Sidharth and Parineeti having a blast in a Maha Shivratri set up.

"Hum aa rahe hai agle saal karne zabardast dhamaal! Gear up for 'Jabariya Jodi' on May 17," Parineeti tweeted.

Produced by Ekta Kapoor under the banner of Balaji Telefilms and Shailesh R. Singh's Karma Media and Entertainment, the film is directed by Prashant Singh.



Content Is Crucial In Today's Indian Cinema: Meghna Gulzar

NEW DELHI: Gone are the days when films used to be hit solely on star value. Now the Indian cinema audience wants star as well as story, says "Raazi" filmmaker Meghna Gulzar.

According to her, good content plays a major role for the success of films in today's time.

In the session 'Changing Trends Of Hindi Cinema' at Times LitFest Delhi 2018 on Sunday, Meghna said: "In Indian cinema, earlier a lot of emphasis was given to heroes and heroines, but now things are not the same. Now, people are giving due importance not only to actors but also to the content... Content is becoming crucial element in Indian cinema."

Lyricist Prasoon Joshi, who was also a part of the panel, agreed. He said there has been an evolution. "Now people are hungry for content...things have changed. People who earlier used to go to theatres just to watch their favourite stars on the big screen did not care much about the story, and they are the same people who now want to know what the story is about. They read reviews of the film and then will go to theatre to watch a particular movie."



Joshi, the censor board chairman, said there is a rise of "informed cinema" in India.

"Instead of knowing what are the songs in the films, now a person is keen to know what is the story of a film. People have become informed. They think twice before spending their precious 2-3 hours on any movie now," added the multi-faceted Joshi, who has written lyrics for songs from hit movies like "Rang De Basanti" and "Taare Zameen Par".

The session also saw "Udaan" director Vikramaditya Motwane in conversation.

Rajpal Yadav Jailed In Loan Case

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court sent Bollywood actor-comedian Rajpal Yadav to jail for three months for failing to repay a loan of Rs 5 crore taken by his company to make a movie.

Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw ordered that Yadav should be taken into custody and kept in the Tihar Jail. Delhi-based company Murli Projects had filed a civil case against Yadav's company Shree Naurang Godavari Entertainment for failing to repay Rs 5 crore



which the actor took in 2010 to make his Hindi debut directional film "Ata Pata Laapata". The film was a commercial failure

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