



Katrina Opts Out Of Dance Film

MUMBAI: Actress Katrina Kaif has opted out of Remo D'souza's upcoming dance film, which also features Varun Dhawan.

She had to let go of the project due to the hectic schedule for "Bharat". Katrina's spokesperson said. "Katrina has always been a thorough professional. She decided to step out of the film... She

wishes the team all the best."

The Salman Khan film, which recently concluded its recent schedule, saw the actress take to Instagram stories to post a picture of herself, practising on the harmonium.

Not only that, the picture also included a "singing" emoji, with the caption "Bharat prep".

Katrina joined the project after Priyanka Chopra's exit.

Being helmed by Ali Abbas Zafar, "Bharat" is an official adaptation of a 2014 South Korean film "Ode To My Father".

It is produced by Atul Agnihotri's Reel Life Production Pvt Ltd and Bhushan Kumar's T-Series. It is slated for an Eid release in 2019.

Prakash Raj To Fight Poll From Bengaluru



BENGALURU: Multi-lingual actor Prakash Raj will contest the ensuing Lok Sabha election in April-May from Bengaluru.

"#2019 Parliament Elections. Thank you for the warm and encouraging response to my new journey. I will be contesting from Bengaluru Central constituency in Karnataka as an Independent..," 53-year-old Raj said in a tweet.

Bengaluru-based Raj is a popular actor in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Hindi film industries. He has also worked as a director and producer of movies in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu.

Raj's entry into politics was welcomed by actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan. "Wishing my friend all the very best... Thanks for walking the talk," tweeted the actor and founder of 'Makkal Needhi Maiam' political party.

Delhi's ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) tweeted: "Aam Aadmi Party offered open support to him in a meeting organised by AAP Bengaluru."

Veteran Kader Khan Laid To Rest In Mississauga

MISSISSAUGA: Bollywood yesteryear legend, actor and writer Kader Khan, who died on anuary 1 after prolonged illness, was buried in Mississauga's Meadowvale Cemetery.

Photos from Kader Khan's last rites were shared on social media. His son Sarfaraz and entire family had gathered at the cemetery to bid adieu to the veteran actor. Khan was 81 years old.

Sarfaraz Khan said that Kader Khan died surrounded by his family members and he had a "smile on his face" as he died.

"There was a smile on my father's face when he passed away. My father's final years were very painful for him. He suffered from a degenerative disease that left him completely without the will

to do anything. He got the best possible medical care here," Sarfaraz was quoted as saying.

Khan had been complaining of breathlessness for quite some time. He was also suffering from pneumonia.

He had been diagnosed earlier with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, a disease that causes loss of balance, difficulty in walking and dementia.

Several Bollywood celebrities including Amitabh Bachchan, David Dhawan, Anupam Kher, Raveena Tandon paid tribute to the legend on social media.

Amitabh Bachchan, who worked with Vader Khan in blockbuster films like Do Aur Do Paanch, Muqaddar Ka Sikandar, Mr. Natwarlal, Suhaag, Coolie



and Shahenshah tweeted: "Kader Khan passes away. Sad depressing news. My prayers and con-

dolences. A brilliant stage artist a most compassionate and accomplished talent on film, a writer

of eminence; in most of my very successful films. A delightful company and a mathematician."

Born in Kabul, Kader Khan and his family migrated to Mumbai when he was just a year old..

Kader Khan, who made his Bollywood debut with Randhir Kapoor and Jaya Bachchan in Jawani Diwani, featured in over 300 films.

Kader Khan wrote dialogues for over 250 films, including some of the biggest blockbusters of the '70s and '80s such as Dharam Veer, Ganga Jamuna Saraswati, Coolie, Desh Premee, Suhaag, Parvarish, Amar Akbar Anthony, Sharaabi, Lawaaris and Muqaddar Ka Sikandar.

Pic by Viral Bhayani - Instagram

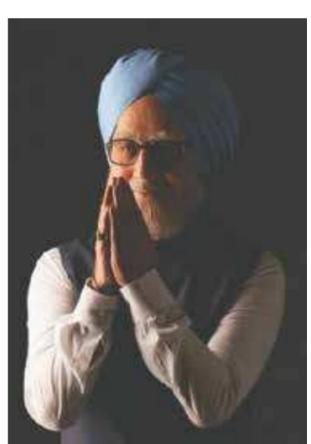
Congress Opposes Kher Movie 'Accidental Prime Minister'

MUMBAI, Dec 28 (IANS) As controversy erupted over upcoming film "The Accidental Prime Minister", a biopic on former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, lead actor of the movie Anupam Kher on Friday said that after certification of a film by the censor board, nobody has the right to ask for showing the film before its release.

Earlier in the day, Satyajee Tambe Patil - President of the Maharashtra State Youth Congress, sent a letter to the producer of the film demanding a special screening before it is released. He raised objections to "incorrect presentation of the facts" in the film, the trailer of which was released on Thursday.

Sharing his view on the issue, Kher, who is narrating the character of Singh, told the media: "It's nobody's right to ask us to show our film to them before releasing it. The film is based on the book (by the same title), and it is based on facts.

"We have bought the rights



and have followed all the legalities. Everything was in the public domain... Now, how can people have issues? Why should I screen it for anyone? We have shown it to the CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification), that's enough."

However, he added: "If Dr Manmohan Singh asks us, we will show him for sure."

Directed by Vijay Ratnakar Gutte, the film also features Akshaye Khanna, Aahana Kumra

and Arjun Mathur, among others.

While many Congress members found the film objectionable, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) promoted its trailer in social media. "I have done more than 500 films...there are not even that many political parties. So how can one say that I made this film to support any party?" he responded when mediapersons asked if he is doing the film to extend support to the BJP.

Asked if this is one of the strategies to make a political statement ahead of the 2019 elections, the National award winning actor said: "Why not? What is the problem in releasing a political film around elections? We do release patriotic films on national holidays..."

Producer Sunil Bohra says he knew there will be conjectures about it being a propaganda film, but he is also certain it will be a game changer for political cinema in India.

The film is scheduled to release on January 11.

Deepika Turns 33, Lanches Her Website



MUMBAI: After an eventful 2018 with the release of "Padmaavat" and her big fat wedding with Ranveer Singh, actress Deepika Padukone, who turned 33 on Saturday, has announced the launch of her website., Deepika captioned it: "Here's presenting my website - www.deepikapadukone.com. Love, Deepika"

The post includes a QR code directing users to the website, which gives a landscape about Deepika's career, the awards that Deepika has achieved, apart from information on Live Love Laugh, a foundation she has been supporting to spread mental health awareness. As far as her projects are concerned, Deepika will turn producer with "Chhapaak", which will feature her as an acid attack survivor.

On her birthday, she also received greetings on social media from almost all Bollywood celebrities.