

Manish Excited To Play A Negative Role

MUMBAI: Actor Manish Goplani, who had earlier played the protagonist in TV shows such as "Thapki Pyar Ki" and "Detective Didi", is excited to show his neg-



ative avatar on the small screen. He has joined the cast of the show "Aap Ke Aa Jane Se" as an antagonist. "As an actor I was also looking to play challenging roles. Earlier I had played a cop, a crazy lover and also a loyal son. Now I'm excited to explore a pure negative character. It will be fun and a new experience," Manish said. "I'm playing a character named Ghongharu. He pretends to be a mentally challenged person but he is seeking revenge"

'22 Yards' Shows Cricketers' Constant Drive

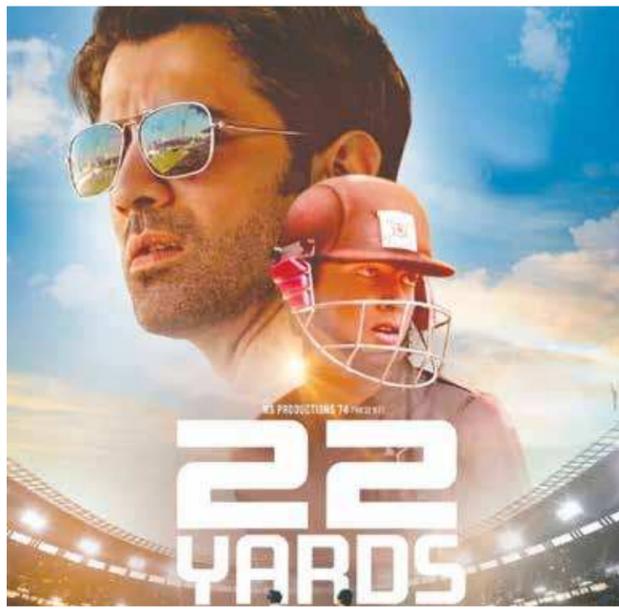
MUMBAI: Debutant filmmaker Mitali Ghoshal, who is set to release her film "22 Yards" based on the business of cricket, says that representing own country globally is the driving force for every budding cricketer.

Short formats in cricket such as the Indian Premier League (IPL) have offered young cricketers more opportunities than before.

Asked if becoming a cricketer and achieving celebrity status is easier than earlier, Ghoshal told IANS here: "I think every budding cricketer wants to play international cricket and wants to represent their country to the world. That is their constant drive."

"But only 11 players can do that out of a thousand budding cricketers. So the rest of the formats - T20, One Day matches give them the chance to play. But the ultimate goal is to play international test cricket."

She finds it similar to the options and mediums available to filmmakers. "Irrespective of the format they get... web series, telefilm, short film, our ultimate goal is to make a feature film that holds an archival value." But some young cricketers manage to achieve the celebrity status quite fast and they fail to handle the success. One of the recent examples being Hardik Pandya's ap-



pearance on a celebrity chat show for which he received flak.

Commenting on the matter, Ghoshal said: "I believe that learning how to handle success and not getting carried away by its light is a very important lesson because it is more than often that when youngsters failed to do, that is when they entered into darkness."

"I think basic education that teaches you decorum, moral values and helps to achieve qualities to become a good human being is

important. In the recent past, we all have seen what happens when a cricketer gets carried away." "I don't think that for education, formal degrees can offer you such quality, but good and humble upbringing does. You see, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly... are not an MBA but they are not only super successful cricketers but also incredible human beings. If they are globally worshipped by cricket fans, it is not only because of their talent but also for their personalities."

Ghoshal was a sports journalist before venturing into filmmaking. So, was the subject of cricket a natural choice for her?

"I would say that it is not a conscious choice. Though the film is set in the world of cricket, it is a human story. The story was written by Samrat when we were working together on the documentary of Ganguly. The story of '22 Yards' was so engaging that I quickly decided to turn it into a film."

The film features Barun Sobti, Rajit Kapur, Chaiti Ghoshal and Geetika Tyagi, among others. The story of the film revolves around the journey of a cricket agent, his rise and fall which is narrated by Barun.

Why didn't she make the film on women's cricket in India? "Well, that system of cricket agent, who invests on talents to get the endorsement for cricketers does not exist that much in women's cricket. So, the story does not fit there. Financial investment and the corporate support are much lesser in women's cricket than that of men's."

"Having said that, women's cricket is really growing and talents like Mithali Raj, Jhulan Goswami and others are receiving recognition," "22 Yards" releases this week.

'Is She Raju?' Is A Relatable Comic-Caper

Film: "Is She Raju?"; Cast: Ansh Gupta, Aditi Bhagat, Yashpal Saini, Abbas Khan, Amit Behl and Saurabh Sharma; Director: Rahul Kumar Shukla

Bollywood is packed with bi-opics, patriotic dramas and sci-fi extravaganza, but "Is She Raju?" is a fresh, unique, quirky and relatable comic-caper spun around small town boys and girls who come to metros.

Debutante filmmaker Shukla has gone all out with his ode to love, friendship and relationship in the film, which is bankrolled

by Anju Dhingra.

The story revolves around a group of friends and the most embarrassing and regretful moments of their lives which are mostly related to love, sex, relationship, money and of course the fast lane life of a metro. An urban romantic comedy with 'desi tadka' and humour, it is refreshing to watch.

Two lovers, three haters, one helpless husband, and a crazy twist - it is all about experiencing those embarrassing moments in life at a young age and looking back only to laugh at them.

The film is set in a big city but the characters come from a small town. The film is based on situations like aspiring individuals moving to a big city and the experiences they go through.

Since it is the filmmaker's debut movie, the film dips at certain points but on the whole, it is worth the time and money.

The filmmaker does manage to tickle your funny bone. With some double meaning dialogues which is very natural to the youth nowadays, the film manages to entertain as a whole

'Natasha Has Individuality'

MUMBAI: Actor Varun Dhawan says he is with Natasha Dalal because she has her own individuality, and he wants to be supportive of her dreams.

"Where me and Natasha are concerned, I think, eventually, after we get married, we are together all that stuff, she has to, she has her own individuality," Varun said.

"That's why I'm with her because she has her own individuality, she has her own voice which is super strong with things she wants to do and things she wants



to achieve in life. And, as her partner, that is something I want to support, you know."

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