



SOULFUL CULTURAL EVENING!
Rajasthan Forum, in collaboration with ITC Rajputana, hosted an evening of music and poetry as part of its acclaimed "Desert Soul" series, featuring poet Amit Goswami. **P11**



Isha Ambani

BOLLYWOOD Lights Up Oscars

The 98th Academy Awards, held on March 15, 2026, witnessed a strong Indian presence, reflecting the country's growing influence in global cinema and entertainment. The star-studded evening brought together prominent personalities from across the world, including several well-known Indian figures from film, business, and culture. Among those spotted at Hollywood's biggest film night was

business leader Isha Ambani, who attended the ceremony in a vintage Valentino gown from the 2006 collection, paired with a diamond choker by Lorraine Schwartz. During her visit to Los Angeles, she also interacted with officials at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures regarding potential col-

laborations with the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre.

Actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas also attended the ceremony as a presenter and took the stage to announce the Best International Feature Film award. Filmmaker Geeta Gandbhir earned two documentary nominations for *The Perfect Neighbour* and *The Devil Is Busy*, while Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga was also present. Director Neeraj Ghaywan and the team of *Homebound*, starring Ishaan Khatter and Janhvi Kapoor, also attended, highlighting India's expanding global cinematic footprint.



Priyanka Chopra & Nick Jonas

DHURANDHAR PREVIEWS Smash Records



The upcoming Bollywood action-drama *Dhurandhar*: The Revenge, starring Ranveer Singh, is generating massive buzz at the box office ahead of its release. The film has already raked in around Rs. 47 crore nett in India through advance bookings, with South dubbed versions contributing an additional Rs. 2 crore nett, bringing the total just shy of Rs. 50 crore across all languages. Paid previews alone account for roughly Rs. 22 crore nett, while opening day collections have already crossed Rs. 10 crore nett. With the Eid

holiday on Saturday, collections are expected to surge further, adding over Rs. 6 crore nett. National cinema chains, including PVRINOX and Cinepolis, have driven over 75% of advance ticket sales, reflecting strong nationwide interest. Industry experts suggest the film is poised to challenge records, with *Jawan* (Hindi) currently holding the highest advance of Rs. 55 crore nett. If the momentum continues, *Dhurandhar*: The Revenge could potentially cross Rs. 100 crore nett in total advance bookings, setting a new benchmark for Bollywood pre-release collections.

JANHVI'S Emotional NOTE

The sudden demise of celebrity hairstylist Marce Pedrozo has left the film industry in deep shock, with several stars expressing grief and sharing heartfelt tributes on social media. Janhvi Kapoor penned an emotional note remembering the hairstylist who had been a close friend over the years. Sharing pictures with Marce, Janhvi recalled their hectic work schedules, playful moments and the strong bond they shared. She wrote that he was not just a part of her team but someone who made every creative journey special. Calling him a "bright light" in their lives, the actor expressed how deeply she would miss his warmth, humour, and artistic spirit.



Janhvi Kapoor



Janhvi's Post

Film Retitled Maatrubhumi

One of the most anticipated films of 2026 has just undergone a major shift. The much-talked-about war drama, originally titled *Battle of Galwan*, has been officially renamed *Maatrubhumi*: May War Rest in Peace by Salman Khan Films, signalling a broader and more reflective tone for the project. The updated title — unveiled alongside a new poster — aims to highlight a message of peace and patriotism, moving beyond a direct depiction of military conflict. The story draws inspiration from the historic Galwan Valley clashes, where Indian soldiers faced extreme conditions in a defining moment of recent history. Directed by Apoorva Lakhia and also starring Chitrangada Singh in a key role, the film has sparked significant buzz



Salman Khan

across social media and industry circles following the title change. While earlier promotional material hinted at a release date in April, the new poster does not list any premiere details, leaving fans and trade analysts speculating about the exact launch timeline. The production team has yet to confirm an official release date, keeping excitement high as audiences await further announcements.

SIDHARTH-KARAN REUNITE?



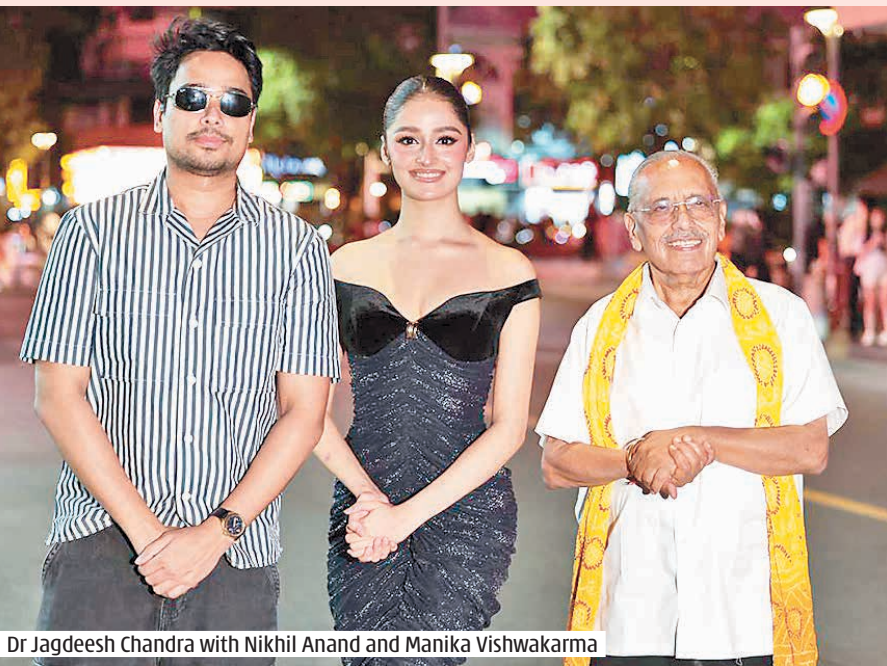
Sidharth Malhotra

Karan Johar

Actor Sidharth Malhotra is reportedly set to reunite with filmmaker Karan Johar for yet another romantic drama under the banner of Dharma Productions. The project, which is currently in advanced stages of discussion, is expected to be directed by Sharan Sharma. If the collaboration materialises, it will continue the professional association between Malhotra and Johar that began with the actor's debut in *Student of the Year* more than a decade ago. The upcoming film is believed to be an emotionally layered relationship drama exploring complex human connections and modern love. Reports suggest the idea was first pitched to Malhotra last year and the actor had responded positively. The film is likely to go on floors in Mumbai by the summer of 2026.

 NAIM KHAN

with spiritual fervour. The venue resonated with chants of “Jai Shri Krishna!”, transforming the auditorium into a veritable Vrindavan.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra along with Nikhil Anand (National Director, Miss Universe India) and Manika Vishwakarma (Miss Universe , India 2025) accompanied by models and titleholders of Miss International India, Miss Teen International India and Miss Teen Multinational India, during a tourism and professional photoshoot assignment for Bharat24 Fashion and the City First page of First India News in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on Saturday.

Players Auction Held for Professional Premier Tennis League Season 3 in Jaipur

(L-R) Mrs Pankaj, Dr Varsha Lodha, Pushpa, Suman & Dr Lonika

PPTL S-3 will be held from April 9 to 12, 2026 at Field Club Udaipur, bringing together talented players from across India.