

## theatre

## Eccentric But Charming

Peepolykus Theatre Company promises 80 minutes of total entertainment



Three performers of the Peepolykus Theatre Company - From Left John Nicholson, Javier Marzan and David Sant.

By Saima Islam

A little laughter can make a moment precious and that's what the Peepolykus Theatre Company promises to provide. The theatre company has come on a two weeks visit to Bangladesh.

They staged their first show on November 5. They will perform in Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet. The

programme is sponsored by The British Council Dhaka and co-sponsored by British Airways and Duncan Brothers.

The travelling theatre company members are - performer/devisor - John Nicholson, David Sant, Javier Marzan and production manager Alexander Page.

The current team got together in 1996. They are currently making *Horses For Courses*, their third production following the hits *Let The Donkey Go* and *I*

Am A Coffee. They have taken their productions to Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Spain, India and a few other countries as well as toured extensively in the UK. It is their first visit to Bangladesh with their hit production *Let The Donkey Go*.

"We do physical theatre and mainly comedies," said David Sant, one of the performers, at a press conference at British Council on November 4. Their style features visual comedy and verbal absurdity. Mainly, they are influenced by the comedies of the 30's, like *Lorel and Hardy*.

"We prefer physical theatre because we feel comfortable in this way as this type of work is more devised and not text based," John Nicholson stated. This style also gives them the opportunity to improvise on the stage. They always do comedies as they like a good laugh. Physical theatre combined with comedy transcends the language barrier. They have done experimental perfor-

mance even before a deaf audience and got a good response as they have got in all their performances, be it in England or the countries they have toured.

"Superlative comic ability. The cleverest and zaniest examples of humour to grace the stage at the fringe festival. To have a multi-cultural audience laughing from beginning to the end took genuine comic skill," writes the Review Broadsheet-HK Festival while commenting on the Peepolykus group.

"We try to portray the characters in the play according to our personality," said Javier Marzan. They will also organize three workshops. They will perform in Dhaka today, in Rajshahi on the 10th and in Sylhet on the 13th.

"You haven't lived until you've experienced the delirious anarchy of Peepolykus' antics." This is how their work is being promoted in the advertisements which tell a lot about their work.

## exhibition

## Carving Their Way to Light

National Wood Carving Contest '99 brings out skilled artists to the forefront

By Muneera Parbeen

A fortnight long National Wood Carving Exhibition was inaugurated at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka at Dhanmondi yesterday with a call to preserve and promote the heritage and traditional artcraft of the country.

Sponsored by Design Centre of BSCIC and Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, the exhibition was inaugurated by Abdur Razzak, Minister for Water Resources.

The inauguration was followed by the prize-giving ceremony of the National Wood Carving Contest '99. Jean-Guy De Warring, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of France, and Md Khorshed Ansar Khan, Chairman of Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC), Patrick Blanchard, Master carpenter and Michael Question, Master Carver from Ecole Boulle, French School of Art Carpentry, was present during the ceremony.

Wood-carving is an traditional art in Bangladesh. The Sundarbans, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and scattered forests in different parts of the country has always provided the people with different types of wood to work on. Wood has been used in a variety of purposes by all types of people, from simple peasants to the Zamindars, Nabwabs and Kings. This traditional form of art is however almost on the brink of extinction due lack of patronisation in our present society.

In order to encourage the art form and give it a lift to turn it into a valuable export item, and above all, to help and improve the carpentry skills of local carpenters, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, the Design Centre of BSCIC and Ecole Boulle, French School of Art Carpentry have jointly organised the 'National Wood-carving contest '99', which is the first of its kind in the country, at a national level. The entire programme is sponsored by the French Embassy in Dhaka.

The primary work of this contest started on February 8 this year. The Design Centre, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka

and the Ecole Boulle visited different parts of the country in their search for talented carpenters and to see the level of work done in the different regions. They encountered the wood-carving artists, and encouraged them to participate in the contest. The event was also advertised through the different media.

A total of 65 wood craftsmen from 15 districts with 186 pieces of craft participated in the contest. They come from Narsingdi, Sirajganj, Kushtia, Narayanganj, Dhaka Chittagong, Sherpur, Gopalganj, Comilla, Noreail, Brahmanbaria, Magura, Rangpur, Satkhira, and Kishoreganj. The contest was divided into two main phases. In the first phase,

10 craftsmen were selected from among all the participants. These selected craftsmen were then each provided with two pieces of wood from Ecole Boulle in France, from which they produced sample crafts. In the second phase, one best wood craftsman and three skilled wood craftsmen were selected for prizes.

The winners of the contest are Sylvester Prashanta Bario (Dhaka) -- the best wood craftsman of Bangladesh and Ranjan Baroi (Dhaka, 2nd), Mohammed Awal Mollah (Narayanganj, 3rd), and Nagen-dra (Dhaka, 4th) -- skilled wood craftsmen. The winners were given a certificate, crest and Tk 20000 in cash for the best craftsman and Tk 10000 for

each skilled wood craftsman.

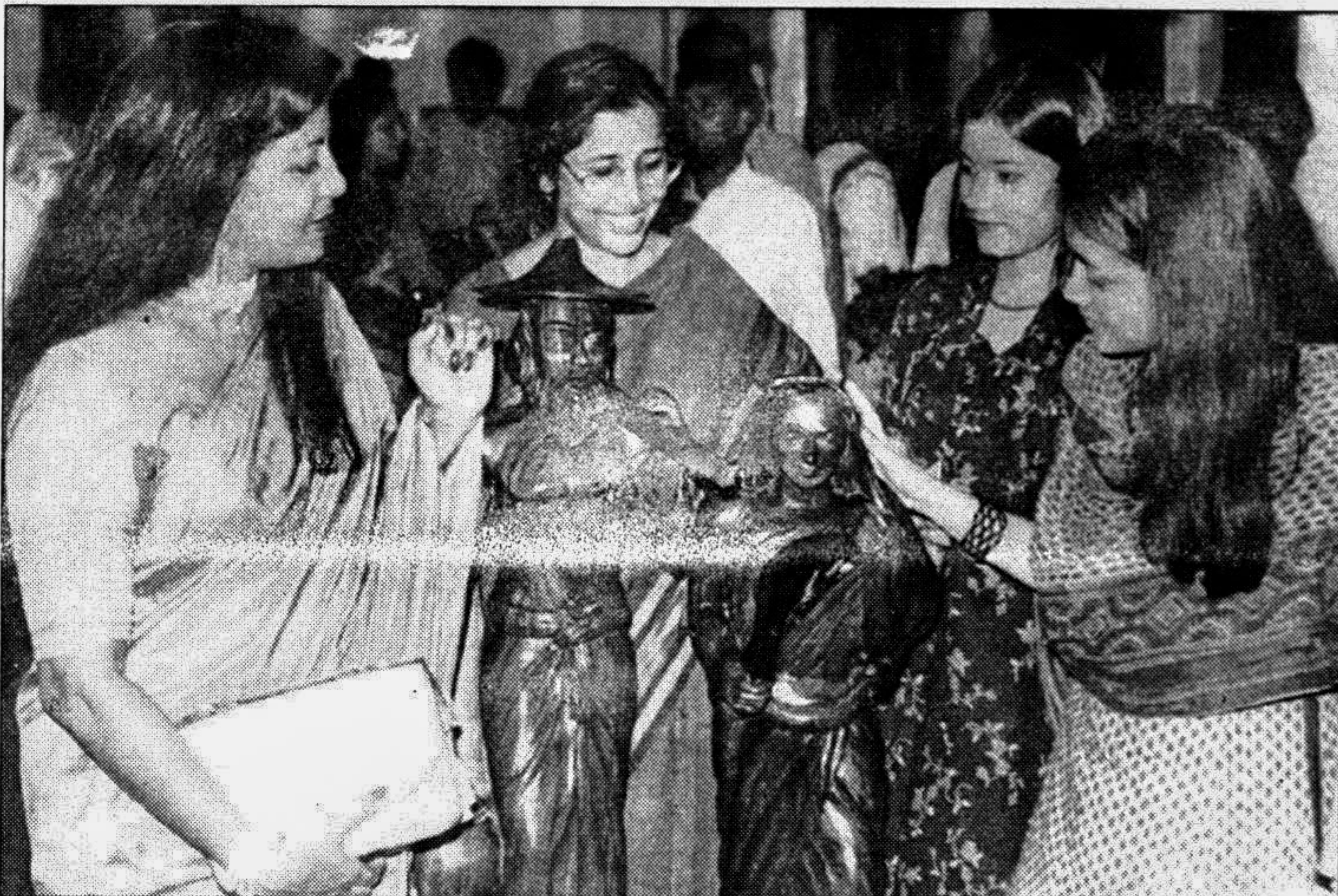
The jury which judged their work were Imdad Hossain, national award winner artist and previous Chief Designer of BSCIC, Mustafa Monwar, renowned artist, France Lasnier, Director of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Zinnat Mahrukh Banu, Acting Keeper of National Museum, Enamul Kabir Director, (Design & Sales), BSCIC, Alauddin Ahmed, Chief Designer of Design Centre, BSCIC and Christophe Steyer, Deputy Director of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka.

The different pieces of art exhibited at the show show the skills of the local craftsmen who can carve their way into the limelight if they are given

the proper support and chance to utilise their skills.

The exhibition of these craftsmen's work will remain open to the general public from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 pm to 8 pm everyday until November 18.

Meanwhile a workshop for the wood craftsmen of Bangladesh arranged by Ecole Boulle and Nasreen Zamir & Associates opened on October 31 and will continue upto November 9. A master class will also be held today for the best and skilled wood carvers of the country as identified by the 'national Wood-carving Contest 1999' by Michel Quentin, Master Carver of Ecole Boulle of France.



Visitors admiring the work of an artist at the Wood Carving Exhibition that opened at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka yesterday.

—Star photo

## to preview

## Shankhachur on BTV

The drama of the week to be aired on BTV tonight is titled *Shankhachur*. It has been written by Md Zafar Iqbal and is produced by Kamrunnessa Hasan. The drama stars Ali Hasan, Rubaiyat Sharmin Jhora, Abul Hayat Chitralekha Guha among others.

Soon reporters who have heard about the incident come into the house for more details. As the hotch potch situation gets out of hand, a young boy comes looking for his toy snake that he claims he has left behind!

### Music Horizon on Channel-i

Music Horizon is a programme based on local band music.

Participants in this week's episode include Miles, Arc, LRB and Souls. Miles will present *Polashir prantoray*, Souls *Hajar borsha ratay* and LRB will present *Ekhono onek raat*. The show also includes information about the different band



Shawon (L) and Shirajul Haq Manju (R) in a scene from Sangsar

groups of the country and their music.

The show has been created by Zereen Bappi and is directed and hosted by Ferdous Bappi. It will be aired at 8.00 pm.

### Sangsar on Channel-i

The third episode of *Sangsar* will be aired on channel-i tonight.

**Synopsis:** Zahid is depressed because he cannot earn enough to make both ends meet. His father on the other hand is also disillusioned by the present moral standards of people. He tells a rickshawpuller that if his son, after completing his BA finals, can only earn as much as a rickshawpuller does,

then what was the use of his having completed education at such a high cost?

The serial has been penned and directed by Farid Ali. It stars, among others, Shuvo, Shonali, Sirajul Haq Montu, Farid Ali, Anna etc.

*Sangsar* will be aired at 9.15 pm.

### Tatkhonek on Channel-i

*Tatkhonek* is a quiz programme based on general knowledge. It is designed as entertainment for the whole family. The competition is held between two families of four members each. Each group is asked separate questions and those who get the highest num-

ber wins the tag. The show is directed and hosted by actor Khairul Islam Pakhi.

It goes on air at 10.00 pm.

### Sangsharer Tukitaki on Channel-i

*Sangsharer Tukitaki* is a programme based on household problems and their solutions. It has different sections that deal with a wide range of problems ranging from how to remove stains from clothes to more serious and delicate problems as in relationships between family members.

The programme is anchored by TV actress Afroza Banu. Compiled by Muneera Parbeen.

## TV Guide

Saturday 6th November

(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

## BBC

6:00 BBC World News  
6:30 Hard Talk 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today 9:00 BBC World News 10:30 Hard Talk 11:00 World News 11:30 World Living: Talking Movies 12:00 World News 12:30 This Week 1:00 1:30 News Headlines 1:30 USA Direct 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Weekend: Stephen Hawking's Universe: 1/6-Seeing is Believing 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Top Gear 4:00 BBC News 4:10 World Weekend: How To Beat The Clock

## CHANNEL [V]

7:30 [V] Hit Machine 10:00 Virtual [V] (Back to Back) 10:30 [V] Hit Machine 11:00 [V] On Campus 11:30 [V] Patti Gali 12:00 [V] Hit Machine 12:30 [V] Style Police 1:00 [V] Gone India 1:30 [V] Hit Machine 2:30 [V] Mainstage 3:30 [V] Hit Machine 4:00 [V] Job Shop 4:30 Woodstock 6:30 [V] Hit Machine 7:00 [V] Top of the Pops 7:30 [V] Hit Machine 8:30 Billboard US Countdown 9:30 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 [V] Hit Machine 11:00 [V] Whazzat noise 11:30 [V] Saturday Special 12:30 Deares You 3:30 [V] Hit Machine

## STAR PLUS

6:30 Nanaad 7:30 Good Morning India (News Ent) 9:30 Travel Asia #122 10:00 Kids Times: Eak the Cat 11:30 Story Teller #59 11:30 Potli Baba Ki 11:30 The Great Escape #

Siddhartha Basu) 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Living: Talking Movies 12:00 World News 12:30 This Week 1:00 1:30 News Headlines 1:30 USA Direct 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Weekend: Stephen Hawking's Universe: 1/6-Seeing is Believing 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Top Gear 4:00 BBC News 4:10 World Weekend: How To Beat The Clock

## STAR WORLD

7:00 Crystel Maze #10/13 8:00 Fox Kids Show: Biker Mice From Mars 5/6-A Mouse And His Motorcycle 8:30 Fox Kids Show: Spiderman #5/13 9:00 Fox Kids Show: X Men #5/26 9:30 Fox Kids Show: Goosebumps #4 Ep- parton of The Auditorium 10:00 TV. Com 10:30 Travel Asia #116 R 11:00 Series: Ally McBeal #AM09-7/23 Ep-Boy To The World 12:00 Series: Murder One #12/23 Ep-1:00 Series: The Big easy #14/22- 2:00 Series: C15

The New Professionals #Ep- Phonex 3:00 Series: The Adventure of Sindbad #Ep-The Best of Basra 4:00 Series: Hercules # Ep-The Reign of Terror 5:00 WWF Metal 6:00 Series: Xena: Warrior Princess # Ep-Blind Faith 7:00 Series: Baywatch #Ep 8:00 Series: Water Rats #8/26- The Shaft 9:00 Sky Action Videos #Ep- Dangerous Pursuits 10:00 Series: Baywatch #Ep 11:00 Series: Xena: Warrior Princess # Ep-Blind Faith 12:00 Series: Hercules # Ep-The Reign of Terror 1:00 Series: Tropical Heat 2:00 Series: Baywatch Nights 3:00 Series: The Key of David #3:30 Morris Cerullo 4:00 Hour of Power 5:00 Lassie 5:30 Mysterious Island #4 6:00 Batman 6:30 Animal House

## STAR MOVIES

7:30 Action: Bound By Honour (15) 10:30 El Ths: The Selena Murder Trial 12:30 Drama: Quest For Justice 2:30 Star Kids Club: Getting Even With Dad (12) 4:30 El Cap: Keenan Ivory Wayans 5:15 Adventure: Lochness 7:15 Great Movies: The Dark Wind 9:30 Us Top Ten 10:00 Thrillennium: Live Wire 12:00 Action: Bound By Honour (15) 3:00 Romance: Two Of A Kind (15)

## ESPN

7:00 NBA Basketball San

## Pick of the Day



## Live Wire

on Star Movies at 10 pm

Starring Pierce Brosnan, Ron Silver and Ben Cross. Bond star Pierce Brosnan stars in this action-packed drama that finds the US government threatened by suicidal terrorists who have invaded Washington DC. They're armed with a deadly technology which turns ordinary drinking water into a lethal bomb that explodes the victim. Now, there's only one man who can stop them, federal investigator Danny Wilson, whose unorthodox methods are the government's only hope against this insidious undetectable threat.

Antonio Super vs Huston Rockets LIVE 9:30 NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves vs Sacramento Kings LIVE 12:00 ATP Tour/ Mercedes Super 9 1999 Paris Open 2:30 NBA Action 99/2000 2:30 NBA Basketball San Antonio Super vs Huston Rockets 5:00 NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves vs Sacramento Kings LIVE 7:30 The World Pool Master 8:30 Football Focus LIVE 9:00 English Premier Football League Live 11:00 ATP Tour Tennis (Int'l) 11:30 Italian Football Highlights 12:27 Italian Serie A Football 99/2000 LIVE 2:30 ATP Tour/ Mercedes Super 9 1999 Paris Open

## DISCOVERY CHANNEL

12:30 Ultimate Guide 1:30 Seatok 2:30 Without Warning 2:30 On the Inside 3:30 Discovery Profile Series 4:30 Ultra-science 5:00 Medical Detective 5:30 Beyond 2000 6:00 Splat! 6:30 Equinox 7:30 Travelers 8:30 Ushuaia 9:30 Wyewitness 10:00 Wyewitness: 10:30 Movie Magic 11:00 Sea Legends 11:30 Uncharted Africa 12:00 Lands of Legends 12:30 News Sanctuaries 1:00 Oceans of Mystery 1:30 Hunters 2:30 Ultimate Guide 3:30 Untamed Africa 4:00 Beyond 2000 5:00

Discovery News 5:30 Assignment: Discovery 6:30 So You Want To Be? 7:00 Splat! 7:30 Extreme Machines 8:30 Challenge 9:30 High Adventure 10:00 Outer Bounds 10:30 Wings 11:30 Ultrasence 12:00 Next Step

## CARTOON NETWORK

5:30 World Famous Toons 6:30 Jasons 7:00 Flintstones 7:30 The Popeye Show 8:00 Scooby & Scrappy D 8:30 Scooby All Star Laff-a-lympics 9:00 Yougill's Treasure Hunt 10:00 Young Robin Hood 10:30 The Detective Squad 11:30 Dynomutt 12:00 Tom & Jerry Show 12:30 Bugs & Daffy 1:30 Adams Family 2:00 Dumb & Dumber 2:30 The Real Adventure of Jhonny 3:00 Goober & The Ghost Chasers 3:30 Casper and the Angles 4:00 Goldie Gold and Action Jack 4:30 The Detective Squad 5:30 Dexter's Laboratory 6:00 Tom & Jerry Kids 6:30 Bugs & Daffy Show 7:30 Johnny Bravo 8:00 Two Stupid Dog 8:30 Scooby Doo Where Are You 9:00 The Popeye Show

## MTV INDIA

7:00 MTV Asia Hit List VJ Mike/Sarah 9:00 MTV Fresh VJ Sarah 9:30 MTV-U 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Housefull V Nafisa 1:30 MTV-U VJ

Cyrus 2:30 MTV In Control 3:30 Thums-Up Non-Stop Hits 4:00 MTV Unplugged 5:00 Essential 5:30 MTV Recycled 5:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 8:00 MTV & Smirnoff Mega Mix VJ Nafisa 8:30 Non-Stop Hits 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 House Full VJ Nafisa 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 11:30 The Grind 12:00 Club MTV 12:30 Non-Stop Hits Continue...

## STAR NEWS

7:30 Breakfast News (Eng.) 8:00 Breakfast News (Hindi) 9:00 Star News (Hindi) 9:30 Star News (Eng.) 10:30 Lime-light (Hindi) 12:30 News-makers 1:00 Limelight (Hindi) 2:00 Star News (Hindi) 2:30 Assignment (Eng.) 3:00 Party Political 3:30 Your Call (Hindi) 4:30 Star News (Eng.) 5:00 Party Online 6:00 Star News (Hindi) 6:30 Lime-light (R. Eng.) 7:00 Star News (Hindi) 7:30 Star News (Eng.) 8:00 Prasang (Hindi) 8:30 The Big Fight 9:00 Limelight (Hindi) 9:30 Assignment (Eng.) 10:00 Star News (Hindi) 10:30 Star News Hour 11:30 Star News (Eng.) 12:00 Star News (Hindi) 12:30 The Big Fight 1:00 Star News (Hindi) 6:30 Breakfast News (Eng.) (Hindi)

## SONY TV

7:30 Aatma 8:00 Ru-

shiprasad 8:30 Chart-busters 9:00 Indian Holiday 9:30 Music Mantra (Trailer Show) 10:00 Star Yaar Kalakar- Gust 11:00 Heena #35 11:30 Choti Si Aasha #35 12:00 Movers & Shakers 12:30 Chart-busters 1:00 Dekh Ekhi Dekh 1:30 Music Mantra (Trailer Show) 2:00 Hum Sab Ek Hai #66 Ep- Only Five Minutes 2:30 Dil Vil Pyar Vyar #20 3:00 Family No. 1 #54 3:30 Cine Matinee Hindi Film: Achanak (Vinod Khana, Om Shivpuri, Farida Jalal) 5:30 Khoya Khoya Chand 7:00 The Popadum Show 7:30 Best of Kehne Mein Kya Arz Hai 8:00 Bajaj Ki Lehren 8:30 Cine Prime Hindi Film: 12:30 CID 1:00 Missing 2:00 2:00 Bhanwar #Ep-1 2:30 The Popadum Show 3:00 Chartbusters 3:30 Cine Nite-Film: Karwa Chauth

## ZEE TV

6:00 Yeadon Ki Pal (B/W Songs) 6:30 Zee News & Business 7:00 Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 7:55 Fitness Plus 8:05 Gul-dasta 8:30 Ghar Jamal #71 9:00 Kala Sona #36 9:30 Disney Hour (Cartoon) 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Vijay Joti 11:30 Jaanam 12:00 Mrityudant 12:30 Nestle-Jhat-pat Kazana 1:00 Do Aur Do Pach 1:30 Ashirwad #Ep-67 (\*Sandhya Mredul, Nasir, Poonam Narula, Govind Nameed, Navin Nischal)