

## "It" set for massive Box Office opening

After a sluggish summer box office, Warner Bros. and New Line's adaptation of the Stephen King novel "It" is expected to scare audiences back into theatres with a record-breaking opening. A \$65 million opening is expected from 4,000 locations. Since early tracking pegged the movie at a \$50 million opening in mid-August, the expected sum has only floated higher — some current tracking indicates an opening as high as \$75 million. All signs point to a major win for the R-rated horror pic, which was made for about an estimated \$35 million.

An opening of that magnitude is mostly unprecedented. The record for largest September opening set by "Hotel Transylvania 2" in 2015 was \$48.5 million; the biggest opening weekend banked by a horror or supernatural film — "Paranormal Activity 3" earned \$52.6 million in 2011. Although "Deadpool" set the bar supremely high for an R-rated movie in 2016 with a massive \$132.4 million opening, but even with \$65 million, "It" would earn its place in the top 10. Fandango reported that fans are already



paying up — "It" is the top horror film pre-seller in history.

The movie comes courtesy of Argentine director Andy Muschietti, who is known for the 2013 horror film "Mama". Bill Skarsgard stars as Pennywise the Clown, which terrorises young children in Derry, Maine. The rest of the cast includes youngsters Jeremy Ray Taylor, Sophia Lillis, Finn Wolfhard, Wyatt Oleff, Chosen Jacobs, Jack Dylan Grazer, Nicholas Hamilton, and Jackson Robert Scott in supporting roles.

While Pennywise's presence looms large, this weekend also offers counterprogramming in the form of Open Road's "Home Again". The romantic comedy, which carries a price tag of about \$15 million, is expected to make about \$10 million. Reese Witherspoon stars as a single mother whose life grows more complicated when three young men — played by Nat Wolff, Jon Rudnitsky, and Pico Alexander — move in. Hallie Meyers-Shyer directed the feature from her own script, while her mother, Nancy Meyers, served as a producer.

Source: Variety



## First Bangladeshi "Feluda" episode to air today

"Sheyal Debota Rahasya" to kick-start series on Channel i

A CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladeshi television adaptation of Satyajit Ray's iconic character of Feluda has been generating anticipation among Bangladeshi TV audiences since it was announced in June. After all the anticipation, the first of the four-episode series is set to air tonight on Channel i, at 7:50pm.

The episode is based on the story "Sheyal Debota Rahasya", and stars popular Indian actor Parambrata Chatterjee in the titular role, with Riddhi Sen playing his nephew and sidekick Topshe. The trailer also indicates that the detective comes to Dhaka to solve the mystery he is after (a deviation from the original story), and Tariq Anam Khan in an important role.

Kandy Productions and Tom Creations have received the rights to work on "Feluda" from Satyajit Ray's son, Sandeep Ray. The first season of the series will feature four episodes; the rest of the episodes will be made later in phases. The four stories that the episodes will be based on are "Sheyal Debota Rahasya", "Ghughutiyaar Ghotona", "Golokdham Rahasya", and "Gangtokey Gondogol".

The episodes will also be available on online streaming platforms Bioscope for audiences in Bangladesh, and Addatimes for audiences abroad, after the telecast.

Feluda, whose real name is Prodosh Chandra Mitra, is

arguably one of the most iconic characters of Bangla literature and film. A brilliant detective with razor-sharp deduction and instincts, he often goes on adventures beyond the excellence of the mind and into situations of real danger. Satyajit created the character in 1965 on his magazine "Sandesh" with "Feluda'r Goyendagiri", and went on to write 18 short stories and 17 novels. Satyajit also directed two Feluda films, "Sonar Kella" (1974) and "Joy Baba Felunath" (1979), starring Soumitra Chatterjee in the titular role. His son Sandip Ray has directed five Feluda films and 10 TV films. After Soumitra, Sbyasachi took on the role of Feluda in the Bangla films, while Shashi Kapoor played the sleuth in the Hindi adaptation of "Joto Kando Kathmandu te" in 1985.

This is also not Parambrata's first work with the beloved literary series. He played Topshe in the 'New Feluda' franchise directed by Sandip Roy that had Sabyasachi in the lead, in films "Bombaiyer Bombete" (2003), "Kailashey Kelenkari" (2007) and "Tintoretto Jishu" (2008).

## TAHSAN announces fan contest and tour

"Obhiman Amar" launched at GP House

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular musician and actor Tahsan formally launched his latest album "Obhiman Amar", and announced two fan contests and his upcoming tour plans on Thursday. The event was held at GP House.



Tahsan (2-R) and Souliman Alam, Head of Marketing at Grameenphone flanked by models of the "Obhiman Amar" music video at the press conference.

The first contest is a cover contest, in which fans were urged to cover the title track of his latest album, and the singer of the best cover will get the opportunity to sing the song with Tahsan on stage. The other is called "A Wish Come True with Tahsan", where his listeners will be able to make a wish of theirs come true with Tahsan.

The album, which released on the eve of Eid, contains seven songs of which Tahsan himself wrote six. Three of the songs were composed by Tahsan, while Sajid Sarkar and Nahid Noman Arup composed two songs each. Tahsan dedicated the song "Koshto" to the recently-deceased Chester Bennington, lead vocalist of rock band Linkin Park.

Tahsan also announced an upcoming tour to the US and a concert in October, where he will perform songs of "Obhiman Amar".

Obhiman Amar is released exclusively on GP Music, and the music videos have also been released on Grameenphone's Bioscope platform.

## NEWS bytes



### SAM SMITH returns with new single

It's been a while since fans had heard from Sam Smith. Following the release of his 2014 debut album "In the Lonely Hour" which helped him take home four Grammy Awards with its massive single "Stay With Me", Smith put his music career on the back burner.

After spending his whole life crafting and perfecting "In the Lonely Hour", the singer had to go back to the drawing board to create his sophomore album. It all starts by going out, living your life, and drawing from new experiences. Over the last year or so, Smith has done just that, and he's ready to return to the spotlight with "Too Good at Goodbyes".

On Monday, Smith posted a photo of himself holding the vinyl copy of his new single, and revealed the release date.

With the release of "Too Good at Goodbyes", Smith may finally be ready to drop that sophomore album. The song is available now on Apple Music, iTunes and for stream on Spotify.

Source: Yahoo Music

## "I'm in the most exciting phase of my career"

... Parineeti Chopra

Parineeti Chopra had a good start in Bollywood but has had her share of hits and setbacks. With projects like "Golmaal Again" and Dibakar Banerjee's upcoming directorial "Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar" in her pipeline, the actor says she is in "the most exciting phase" of her career, reports IANS.

Parineeti has also been appointed as the first Indian woman Ambassador of the Friend of Australia (FOA) advocacy panel by Tourism Australia. "I am in the most exciting phase of my career. I have just been appointed as the Friend of Australia and I feel humbled to be given this honour," said Parineeti.

"On the movies front, I am in prep work for 'Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar', which is a physically and mentally challenging project. I am very excited about it as it is an intense movie. After this, I will begin shooting for 'Namaste Canada', which is a light film. I will be working with Arjun Kapoor in both these movies."

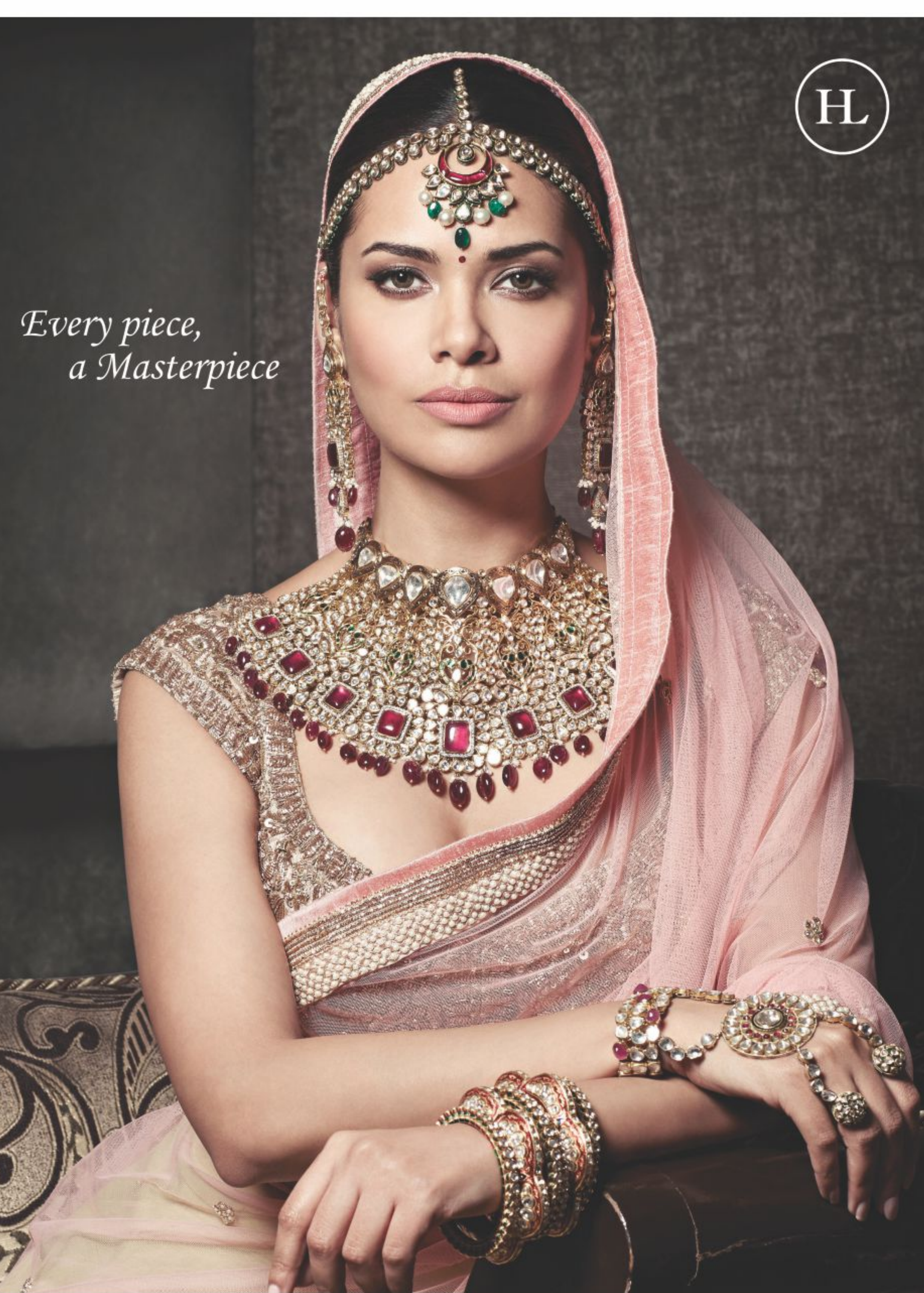
"Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar" is about a man and a woman who represent two completely different sides of India -- and they are united in their mistrust, suspicion and hate for each other.

Both the projects have found a spot in the list of anticipated projects, as they reunite Arjun and Parineeti after the 2012 hit film "Ishaqzaade", in which they shared a crackling chemistry.

The actor has faced failures with films like "Kill Dil", "Daawat-e-Ishq" and "Shuddh Desi Romance". She received mixed response for her drastic weight loss, with some praising her dedication and with some criticising her for sending out a negative message. Parineeti, whose "Meri Pyaari Bindu" failed to elicit expected response at the box office this year, says Arjun is a close friend, and she can't wait to begin working with him.

Parineeti, who has shown her singing talent, will also be seen in Rohit Shetty's upcoming comedy-actioner "Golmaal Again". It's the fourth installment from Shetty's popular Golmaal franchise. The film, also starring Tabu, Ajay Devgn, Shreyas Talpade and Neil Nitin Mukesh, is slated to release on Diwali.

Source: Hindustan Times



Greater Kailash I, M - Block Market, New Delhi-110048 | T: +91 11 45257700 / 41734567  
 ITC Maurya, Shopping Arcade, Diplomatic Enclave, New Delhi-110021 | T: +91 11 41359552  
 DLF Emporio, 305, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 | T: +91 11 41755585  
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