

'RAHUL IS THE FUTURE OF POLITICS'

Ranbir Kapoor is proud to share a spot with the Gandhi scion on multiple Most Eligible Bachelor lists



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They have always been touted as hot properties in their respective fields. So, it's not a surprise that Ranbir Kapoor and Rahul Gandhi are always counted amongst the most eligible bachelors in India, as per innumerable surveys and polls. Recently, for the first time, Ranbir opened up about the Gandhi scion. "It feels great to know that people think I'm eligible, but if you ask me, Mr Gandhi is the future of politics in India. So, it's an honour if people put me in the same bracket as him," says Ranbir. Interestingly, accord-

ing to the results of a survey conducted by a matrimonial site from Mumbai, Gandhi tops the list of bachelors most likely to get married in 2011. A few days ago, a mainstream publication also put Rahul and Ranbir on the list of most eligible bachelors. But Ranbir isn't going gaga over such news. "I don't know if such tags help or not. At the end of the day, it's only the movie that counts. And I am putting in a lot of hard work and concentrating on that," adds the Kapoor scion. Ranbir, who was in a relationship with Deepika Padukone a few years ago, has been linked with numerous actor-models including



Rahul Gandhi

Sonam Kapoor, Katrina Kaif, Nargis Fakhri and Angela Jonsson in the past. But he doesn't feel what happens in reel life has anything to do with the 'eligible bachelor tag'. "It's the work and the intrigue that drives an audience to theatres," says Ranbir, who is gearing up for the release of Imtiaz Ali's

upcoming film, Rockstar that hits theatres on November 11 this year. Ask Ranbir if such tags make him feel like a rockstar himself and he says, "I'm not a real-life rockstar. I play a character in the film, who, eventually, in his journey, discovers himself through love and becomes a rockstar. So, there's no direct connection between the tag and my real self," says the actor.

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- Actor Ranbir Kapoor

Kiss and no regrets

Unfazed by "bold actor" tag, Mahie Gill argues that she only sheds inhibitions for performance driven roles



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It's not just Shah Rukh Khan and Hrithik Roshan who will be working on their respective sequels — Don 2 and Krrish 2. Mahie Gill too is gearing up for a comeback as the diabolical 'biwi' in Sahib, Biwi Aur Gangster Part 2. "Tigmanshu (director Tigmanshu Dhulia) had decided to take the story forward while we were shooting the film. But till the script is locked, I'm clueless about where we are going with Part 2," says Mahie, who's been flooded with calls since the film opened. The uninhibited performance and steamy liplocks, following closely on the heels of Ram Gopal Varma's Not A Love Story (NALS), has given Mahie the tag of a "bold" actor. Yet, she is unfazed: "There are actors who have stripped despite being nothing more than glamorous props. At least I let loose for performance driven roles," she argues. "The directors were not looking to exploit me, which is why despite the awkwardness, I went along and not once checked on my scenes on the monitor."



Mahie Gill and Randeep Hooda

Point out to her that we got an eyeful of cleavage in NALS when Mahie was mopping up blood from the floor and she insists the camera angle was not deliberate. "When I bent down, the 'kurta' I was wearing dipped a little too low. Had Ramu sir wanted, he could have written some intimate love making scenes into the script," she reasons, admitting that she has received another offer from RGV. You wonder if she met Maria Susiaraaj whose murder case had inspired NALS and she retorts, "Why should I? The film was not Maria's story. My character was from the North while she's from the South and the differences don't end there. Yes, I had planned on meeting her, but eventually didn't even feel the need to check out her body language on TV." Meanwhile, Saheb Biwi Aur Gangster has got her appreciation from the critics and the film fraternity. Even her family is impressed. "I'm the only girl in my 'khandaan' (family), and I was worried about how my brother in the US and cousins in Canada would react to the hot scenes. But they seem to understand that while I'm a shy homebody in real life, on screen I have to be someone drastically different," she says. The offers are pouring in, but Mahie is planning a relaxing break in Malaysia. "Lots of massages; that's what I need, after all this hard work."

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- Actor Mahie Gill

'I can't be an inmate, I feel claustrophobic'



Sanjay Dutt and Salman Khan

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He came out of jail four years ago, but the memories still haunt Sanjay Dutt. Sitting in his vanity van in Mumbai, the actor, who is hosting Bigg Boss Season 5 says he would never participate in a show like this because of his fear of being closed in small spaces. "I've developed this fear because of my life's experiences and those three years I spent in jail. I feel claustrophobic. I can't even sit in my vanity van for too long. Pata nahi kya ho gaya hai (I don't know what's happened to me)," says the actor, who spent 16 months

I give a lot of my time to my kids. I try to get home as soon as possible to play with them.
- Actor Sanjay Dutt

in jail in 1993, and was arrested again in 2007 for illegal possession of arms in the 1993 Mumbai serial blast case. Dutt, 52, chose to make his TV debut on this show because of actor-friend Salman Khan is his co-host. "I got lots of offers. However, the best thing about this one was Salman. Woh mera chhota bhai hai (he's my younger brother). So it

would be all the more fun. I'm lucky to have him with me." Dutt also rubbishes reports of a fight with Khan. "Salman and I share a very old relationship. There can be no fight. Even if there was, why are others concerned? I don't want to be part of them." Dutt, whose film Rascals opened recently, says he's a family man and spends ample time with his twins, son Shahraan and daughter Iqra, who turn one later this month. "I give a lot of my time to my kids. I try to get home as soon as possible to play with them. Seeing them grow up is the best feeling."

picking order Get your list of what to READ, LISTEN, EAT and WATCH from the proven experts in the field

'Salem's Lot by Stephen King terrifies me'

READ Jabeen Akhtar, author, Welcome to Americastan

A Confederacy Of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole Here you have an elitist fat-slob protagonist who can't help but root for, and side characters, who deserve their own novels. There's so much packed into this book that I can read it every year and it still seems fresh.

Lake Wobegon Days by Garrison Keillor Keillor captures small-town America like no one else. His characters are so realistically drawn that I was shocked when I learned this was fiction.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams Dry British wit collides with a sparkly, imaginative outer space. I laughed so hard that it felt like someone had kicked me in the stomach.

'Salem's Lot by Stephen King This novel terrifies me. I had a visceral reaction to that scene where an undead Ralphie floats outside his brother's window, gently scratching at it and asking to be let inside.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle This is an adventure tale that's creative, layered and sometimes dark. I read this novel in one sitting when I was a little girl. I keep it on my nightstand to this day.

-Manali Shah

'Bad Motor Finger by Soundgarden blew my mind'

LISTEN Suraj Jagan, singer-songwriter

Sap by Alice In Chains It also came out as a double album with another band Jar Of Flies. The album has some nice songs in it. I've always loved the band's dark sound and harmonies. This album is a good example of that.

Seventh son of a seventh son by Iron Maiden I would perform many of this album's songs live back in the '90s. So it had a lot of memories for me. My band would start our shows with songs like 'Can I play with madness...'

Blackholes and revelations by Muse I especially like the song 'Supermassive blackhole...'. This album is essentially rock, but with the electronic element infused. This is a great example of Britrock and there's something here that's more soulful than many other bands around.

Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King by Dave Matthews Band When I got this album, I would play it on a loop in my car. There is this song, 'Why I am...', and the first song, 'Shake me like a monkey... that I love. It's the most rocked-out album they've come out with.

-Nikhil Hemrajani

'Badshah's Royal Falooda is a truly royal treat'

EAT Parin Lakhani, owner of Paratha Mantra

restaurant has a nice clean minimalistic décor.

Juno's Pizza (Kemps Corner) The pizzas at this new joint are different from all others. The garlic house special with roasted fresh garlic and tiny pieces of capsicum is sumptuous.

Badshah (Crawford Market) Need I say anything further? The Royal Falooda is a truly royal treat for a hot summer night. Or you can get a midnight treat of spicy pav bhaji at this place.

Woodside Inn (Colaba) This bar has a great selection of beers from the world over, great music, and a friendly, lively vibe. The burger and beer festival was quite a treat. Try the fresh salads and the potato skins with wasabi mayo.

Barbeque Nation (Bandra) This place has unlimited mouth-watering starters. Even being a vegetarian, you can't complain as the taste makes up for the variety. A particular potato starter with a tarter sauce was simply divine. Great service too!

- Rochelle Pinto

'Every minute of Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro is funny'

WATCH Siddharth Kannan, TV host and RJ

as Crime Master Gogo are characters that have been etched in my memory.

Black (2005) Inspired from the true story of Helen Keller and her teacher, Black revolves around a blind and deaf girl and her relationship with her teacher. From Sanjay Leela Bhansali's direction to the actors' performances, this film is nearly perfect.

Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro (1984) Every minute of this film is funny, whether it's the Mahabharat scene or a drunk Om Puri trying to help Satish Shah's dead body start his car, which happens to be a coffin. If you're looking for fun with satire, this is your best bet.

Rocky (1976) Every time I watch this film, it pumps me up to take on the world and makes me believe that nothing is impossible! I've seen it more than 30 times.

Forrest Gump (1994) Tom Hanks plays the lovable simpleton, who despite a low IQ, breezes unfazed from one instance of remarkable good fortune to the next. If you ever find the grind of life getting you down, this film can replenish your energy.

-Priyanka Jain