

BOLLYWOOD

By: Roshni Mulchandani

Bollywood has been ultra busy in the last month. And, of course, we're more than thrilled to give you the lowdown on the latest happenings.

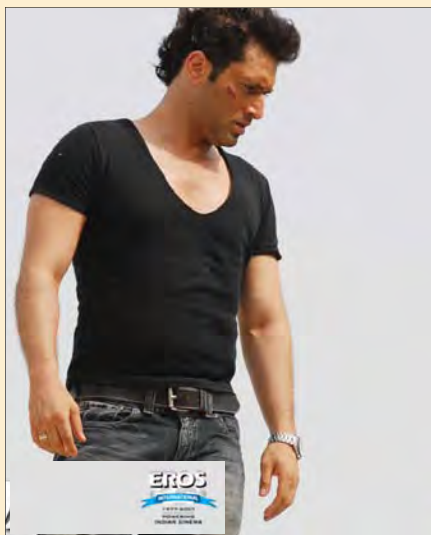
Last month we reported that an excited *Rani Mukherjee*, who was back in action after a hiatus, was readying herself for *Dil Bole Hadippa*. Unfortunately the film went on to create anything but noise at the box-office. It seems that audiences couldn't quite digest *Rani* in a double avatar—male cricketer versus Punjabi *kudi*. The actress was needless to say, disappointed with the response especially since the actress has no other films in her kitty. Word has it that the *Rani* has realized that her reign may actually be over and has taken up an offer to be a judge on the upcoming Indian Premiere Dance League. Yes *Rani*, when all fails, television often does provide that solace you are looking for.

It is finally confirmed!

Karan Johar will be producing the Desi remake of the Hollywood hit *Stepmom*. Stepping in for Julia Roberts will be none other than *Kareena Kapoor* and *Kajol* will do the same for *Susan Sarandon*. The actresses will be sharing screen space together again after *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Ghum*. Now, now, don't go looking for any fire here. Both the actresses get along famously so much so that they are looking forward to working together and of course, *Kareena* has worked with *Kajol's* husband *Ajay Devgan* numerous times in the past. *Kapoor* is rumored to be partaking in a workshop with the film's director where she is learning to be like a "normal girl." It really is a sad day when an actress needs to take lessons on how to be a "normal" we say.

Thank goodness **Ranbir Kapoor** knows normality

and probably won't take lessons. However, the actor is on a high after his latest *Wake Up Sid!* has been declared a sweeper hit and his performance has been deemed award worthy. He does have two more films coming up



before the year is out: *Ajab Prem Ki Gazab Kahani* with *Katrina Kaif* and *Rocket Singh*: **Salesman of the year**. His chemistry with *Kaif* is said to be watched out for especially since it caused *Kaif's* beau *Salman* to raise an eyebrow. Without a doubt this *Kapoor* is headed only one way: Up!

Unfortunately for **Ranbir**, his pretty girlfriend **Deepika Padukone**

couldn't fast for his long life this year. *Karwa Chauth* saw most of Bollywood's wives, fiancés and girlfriends ditching food for their respective others. *Twinkle Khanna* was joined by hubby *Akshay Kumar* who too fasted—a traditional the couple created for themselves. Additionally, *Kajol*, *Sridevi*, *Mana Shetty* and even *Ameesha Patel* took to a day of no food, no water and waiting for the Moon as they prayed for their spouses' long lives. *Katrina Kaif* was quick to respond with an "I'm not married" remark when asked if she would be fasting for the day. *Gauri Khan* was vacationing in Rome and took a pass this year. All in the name of *pati-devs!*

Shiney Ahuja has finally been granted bail

after a three month stint in jail. The actor has been behind bars for the last three months after he allegedly raped his domestic help. He has been asked to relocate to Delhi until his trial at which time he will be allowed back to Mumbai. As soon as the actor was granted his bail, he was greeted with many a film offers from old friends including his first time director *Sudhir Mishra* who immediately signed him up for a new film titled *Hitman*. The film is said to star Founders of the "Bollywood Bad Boys Club," *Sanjay Dutt* and *Salman Khan*. Needless to say, this film will have all ingredients for a full-on bad boy flick.

And sadly, that's all we have time for this month CityMasala readers! We'll be back with more action and news from the better wood ...
Bollywood.