



He-ma! Ahana to play Juliet

Hema Malini gears up to launch younger daughter Ahana as Juliet in their next film, directed by Aparna Sen. Esha watches proudly



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It is indeed a proud moment for Hema Malini. Like most parents, the yesteryear actress has decided to retire, sit back and relax to watch her daughters, Esha and Ahana Deol, take charge of their careers. The Dream Girl's eldest has decided to don the producer's hat for their next venture which will launch sister Ahana as Juliet.

While Esha starrer *Tell Me Oh Khuda* (TMOK) is still waiting to see the light of the day, the actress, now turning producer, is putting her heart and soul into getting things right for her sister's debut. Directed by Aparna Sen, the film is an adaptation of Shakespeare's tragedy Romeo-Juliet. However, mommy dearest, like every elder in the family, will always be present by her side to give Esha a helping hand.

As per sources, the veteran actress is using all the time she has before TMOK releases, to get the next film on floors soon. Taking a cue from this, Aparna Sen, too, is working doubly hard to finish the script and pre-production. Esha Deol seems to have taken a leaf out of elder brother Sunny Deol's attitude and is taking hands-on interest in the production of her younger sister's film.

"Esha started taking keen interest in filmmaking during the shoot of *Tell Me Oh Khuda*. Even after the shoots, she would be quite glued in to the post-production, going to the edits and learning the nuances. And now she is eager to put her knowledge to use for her sister's film. So she will be producing the movie along with Hema Malini," says a source. While Esha and Hema Malini were not available to throw light on the subject, Aparna Sen seemed too absorbed in writing when asked if she will be directing Ahana. "I am busy writing right now, Apologies. Not yet ready to talk about it," she reverted to our text.

The love story ends in a tragedy, but we hope, Ahana's career doesn't.

ROMEOS & JULIETS SO FAR

GEORGE CUKOR'S ROMEO AND JULIET (1936)

- » Leslie Howard as Romeo
- » Norma Shearer as Juliet

FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI'S ROMEO AND JULIET (1968)

- » Leonard Whiting as Romeo Montague
- » Olivia Hussey as Juliet Capulet

BAZ LUHRMANN'S ROMEO + JULIET (1996)

- » Leonardo DiCaprio as Romeo Montague
- » Claire Danes as Juliet Capulet



Aston Martin dumps Adnan

The singer was roped in to launch Aston Martin's sports edition car in India, but his payment was stopped at the last moment

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Adnan Sami is not a very happy man these days. The reason, a car! The singer and soon to be an actor, was all set to launch the prestigious Aston Martin sports car in India for their authorised dealer Infinity Cars Private Limited. However, just days before the big event, the cheque given to Sami by the company has bounced, leaving him with full of rage in place of money.

When contacted, Adnan Sami said, "It is clearly an issue which I am not aware of. It is not as if there is lack of funds and this was an initial token amount. They wanted me to do endorsements as well as, unveil the car."

Clueless about the reason behind the cheque being stopped, Sami added, "The company had not even communicated this to us and it has come as a rude shock. They had come to me, given me a presentation and then this has happened. I have no clue why. My lawyer is looking in the matter."

Vibhav Krishnan, Sami's lawyer told Mirror, "I would say it is quite an unnecessary fiasco. We don't know why the company has done this. Perhaps, it is because of Adnan Sami's fight with his wife. However, even that seems weird since, the company asked Sami to be a part of the campaign in March knowing fully well what had happened on that front. After making payments and then stopping the cheque without any reason or even intimating the star is unfair."

What's even more surprising



Top: The presentation made by the company for Adnan. Below: The cancelled cheque

for Sami and his lawyer is the fact that a prestigious company like Aston Martin would do something like this.

"They should have done their exercise on the celebrity they were roping in before they signed the deal and not afterwards. We want to resolve the issue and had tried to reach out to the company. But Infinity Cars have not been too forthcoming. The entire incident has left a bad taste and we are considering legal action," added Krishnan.

When contacted Lalit Chowdhury, CEO, Infiniti Cars Pvt. Ltd, the distributors of the Aston Martin car said, "There might be many reasons for us to stop the payment and we don't want to go there. The fact and the matter is that we stopped the cheque since the deal was not happening."

When asked whether they had intimated the star before stopping the payment, Chowdhury replied, "Obviously."