Mahieka Sharma responds to speculation about her engagement with Hardik Pandya

Actress-model Mahieka Sharma on Friday dismissed rumours of her engagement with Indian cricketer Hardik Pandya with a cryptic post on Instagram, days after the internet speculated about a ring she was seen wearing in recent photos.

Mahieka posted an image of a black kitten with pink hair and wrote, "Me watching the internet decide I'm engaged when I just wear nice jewellery every day".

She followed it up with another post — a picture of a man in a toy car — with the caption, "Wyd if I pull up in this to fight the pregnancy rumours".

The speculation about Mahieka and Hardik's engagement started earlier this week after Hardik shared a series of photographs on Wednesday highlighting what he described as the key priorities in his life — cricket, his son Agastya, and Mahieka Sharma. The post was captioned, "My big 3".

The images included the couple performing a puja, a brief clip of Hardik kissing Mahieka, a gym session, and a mirror selfie of him carrying her. Hardik confirmed his relationship with Mahieka in October, shortly after dating rumours surfaced. At the time, he posted a set of pictures on Instagram Stories, including one showing the two together in a swimming pool, referring to her as his "11:11 wish".

Prior to this, Hardik had been linked to UK singer Jasmin Walia, who was seen cheering for him during an IPL match in Mumbai and travelling by the Mumbai Indians team bus.

Hardik was previously married to actress Natasha Stankovic. The couple, who tied the knot in 2020 and welcomed their son Agastya the same year, announced their separation in 2024 and are currently co-parenting him.a

Vivek Oberoi's 'Mastiii 4' edges past Farhan Akhtar's '120 Bahadur' on Day 1

Vivek Oberoi, Aftab Shivdasani and Riteish Deshmukh-starrer Mastiii 4, which hit theatres on Friday, opened to an average response at the box office. The latest instalment in the long-running adult-comedy franchise collected Rs 2.50 crore nett on Day 1, according to Sacnilk.

It managed a slight lead over Farhan Akhtar's 120 Bahadur, which earned Rs 2.35 crore nett.

The Masti franchise began in 2004. The original film collected Rs 1.8 crore nett on Day 1. The second film in the franchise, Grand Mastiii, raked in Rs 12.5 crore nett on the opening day in 2013. Great Grand Mastiii, the third film ins the series, underperformed on opening day and earned Rs 2.5 crore nett.

According to the makers, Mastiii 4 has earned Rs 4.85 crore gross in India.

Farhan Akhtar's 120 Bahadur, however, struggled to gain traction, clocking an all-India occupancy of around 5 per cent on opening day. The war drama chronicles the Battle of Rezang La.

Meanwhile, Ajay Devgn and Rakul Preet Singh-starrer romantic comedy De De Pyaar De 2 remained steady on its eighth day in theatres, despite new releases. The film raked in Rs 2.25 crore nett on Friday, at par with the new releases.

'Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri' teaser promises 90s-style romcom in the age of hookups

The teaser of Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri was dropped by the makers on Saturday to mark the film's leading man Kartik Aaryan's birthday. The romcom releases in theatres on 25 December. The one-minute-34-second teaser opens with the quote, "If you're going to live another week. Live the best week of your life." Kartik, who plays Ray, is seen flaunting his chiseled abs, while Ananya's Rumi is introduced as a hardcore romantic who dreams of a "90s ki love story in 2025 ka hookup culture".

The teaser hints how despite having contrasting personalities Rumi and Ray fall for each other.

Kartik's co-star Ananya Panday shared the teaser on social mediaand wished "Ray". "Happy birthday Ray from your Rumi. My gift to you and our return gift to everyone. #TuMeriMainTeraMainTeraTuMeri TEASER OUT NOW," she wrote.

"Thank you for all the birthday love… yeh raha Ray ka return gift," wrote on social media.

Presented by Dharma Productions and Namah Pictures, Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri is directed by Sameer Vidwans, who previously worked with Kartik on Satyaprem Ki Katha.

The film is backed by Karan Johar, Adar Poonawalla, Apoorva Mehta, Shareen Mantri Kedia, Kishor Arora, and Bhumika Tewari.

'Mirzapur: The Film': It's a wrap for Jodhpur leg of shoot, Ali Fazal shares BTS glimpses from set

Ali Fazal wrapped the Jodhpur shooting schedule of the crime drama Mirzapur: The Film, the actor announced on Saturday by sharing a video of a cake-cutting ceremony on the film set.

Actors Jitendra Kumar and Divyenndu also appeared in the behind-the-scenes snaps and video.

"And it's a schedule wrap for Mirzapur (film). Thank you, Jodhpur, for showering us with sooooo much love and hospitality (The food was awesome.) Thank you, Veer, for hosting us tonight. This is the worst set of photos and video I could collect on our last day here. Enjoy," Fazal wrote alongside the video.

"Onto our next stop - any guesses? Oh, also sorry guys - we all collectively are blurred. To many more 5 am wakeup calls," he added.

Backed by Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's Excel Entertainment, Mirzapur: The Film will reunite the key cast from the hit Prime Video franchise — Pankaj Tripathi as Kaleen Bhaiya, Ali Fazal as Guddu Pandit, and Shweta Tripathi as Golu Gupta.

Divyenndu, who plays Munna Tripathi, is expected to return despite his on-screen death in Season 2.

Panchayat and Kota Factory star Jitendra Kumar has joined the cast of the film as Bablu Pandit, a role originally played by Vikrant Massey in the web series. In Mirzapur Season 1, Babloo died a shocking death. His character in the film is likely to face a similar fate, causing Massey to turn down the offer, as per reports.

The Mirzapur series first premiered in 2018, followed by seasons in 2020 and 2024. A fourth season is also in the works. The franchise streams on Prime Video.

Also featuring Tahir Raj Bhasin and Anchal Singh, Mirzapur: The Film is billed as a romantic thriller expanding the universe of the acclaimed series.

Labour code reforms to help export industries meet global compliance demands

NEW DELHI, NOV 22

The implementation of the new labour codes will significantly strengthen India's export ecosystem by creating a more flexible, simplified and predictable regulatory environment—factors that are crucial for competing in volatile global markets and meeting international compliance standards, a commerce ministry official said on Saturday.

According to the official, the same set of provisions also ensures fair wages, social security, workplace safety, equality, opportunities for upskilling and dignity for workers. On Friday, the government finally implemented the four labour codes that had been pending since 2020. The move introduces several worker-centric reforms—such as timely minimum wages applicable to all and universal social security coverage, including for gig and platform workers—while also enabling longer working hours, expanding fixed-term employment and easing certain retrenchment rules for employers. The commerce ministry official explained that each provision in the codes plays a unique but interconnected role in enhancing the country's export competitiveness.

"For export-oriented industries, the codes provide flexibility, simplification, and predictability essential to compete in volatile global markets while meeting international compliance expectations," the official said.

A uniform definition of "wages" across all labour codes, the official noted, removes long-standing confusion caused by multiple and inconsistent definitions in earlier laws. For export-focused firms operating across various states, this standardisation eases payroll management and ensures consistency in wage calculations for social security contributions, bonuses and gratuity.

Similarly, the introduction of a national floor wage and the rationalisation of minimum wages provide predictability for labour cost structures across states, eliminating regional disparities for industries with multi-state operations.

"The prohibition of gender-based discrimination in recruitment and wages ensures equal remuneration for equal work. For export industries, this aligns domestic practices with international labour and human rights standards, particularly those demanded by global retail and sourcing partners," the official said.

The provision permitting women to work night shifts—subject to their consent and adequate safety measures—adds another layer of flexibility for export sectors that operate continuous production cycles to meet global demand.

Industries such as apparel, electronics and IT-enabled services can now legally deploy women during late hours, provided proper transport, security and welfare arrangements are in place, the official added.

Raising the threshold for government approval for lay-offs, retrenchment or closure from 100 to 300 workers is also expected to boost operational flexibility.

"This provision gives exporters the confidence to expand employment during peak demand periods without the fear of excessive rigidity during downturns," the official said, adding that export-oriented industries—regularly audited by international clients and certification bodies—also benefit from transparent, digitally traceable documentation.

The labour codes have additionally consolidated, expanded and made portable the rights of plantation workers. India currently has about 2 lakh exporting units employing more than 50 million workers. In 2024–25, the country's goods and services exports reached a record USD 825 billion.

Kotak ahead in IDBI race; govt plans 60% stake sale, Fairfax and Oaktree also in fray

NEW DELHI, NOV 22

Kotak Mahindra Bank appears to have emerged as the frontrunner to buy the government's stake in IDBI Bank, with Fairfax and Oaktree also in the race, NDTV Profit reported on Friday.

Sources to the business channel suggest that IDBI Bank's market cap of over ₹1 lakh crore could make it difficult for any potential investor to cough up cash to buy a 60 per cent stake in the bank. But Kotak Mahindra Bank, which has a market capitalisation of ₹4.14 lakh crore, may look at a part-cash, part-equity merger deal to buy IDBI Bank.

Kotak Mahindra Bank did not comment on the news to NDTV Profit. Earlier this week, the government suggested that a request for proposal (RFP) for the IDBI Bank stake sale would be published shortly. The Centre had earlier indicated that it wanted to wrap up the divestment by March 31, 2026. The government and public sector insurer LIC, an investor in IDBI Bank, plans to divest a combined 60.72 per cent of stake, thereby transferring the management control to the new owner. After the transaction, the government is expected to retain a 15 per cent stake in IDBI Bank, and LIC will hold 19 per cent.

Earlier, Emirates NBD and Fairfax were seen as primary suitors for IDBI Bank and had even conducted the due diligence process. However, in October, Emirates NBD announced it will infuse $3 billion to acquire a majority stake in RBL Bank. With Emirates NBD now focussing on its announced $3 billion infusion for a majority stake in RBL Bank, Fairfax was left as the main competitive suitor.

Stock split

Kotak Mahindra Bank on Friday said its board has approved a 5-for-1 stock split. Investors who hold one equity share of face value of ₹5, would now receive five equity shares of face value ₹1 each.

The bank, which completed 40 years of operations this month, said it seeks to make its shares more affordable and boost participation from retail investors. The bank last carried out a stock split in 2010, when the face value was reduced from ₹10 to ₹5. It also issued bonus shares in a 1:1 ratio in 2015.

Sebi keeps hands off digital gold, urges investors to prefer regulated ETFs

NEW DELHI, NOV 22: Capital markets regulator Sebi is not looking to regulate 'digital gold' or 'e-gold' products as these do not fall under its purview, Sebi chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Friday. Speaking on the sidelines of the National Conclave on REITs and InvITs-2025, Pandey said that regulated gold-related investments can be made through exchange-traded funds (ETFs) offered by mutual funds or through other tradable gold securities. The clarification came days after the digital gold industry urged Sebi to bring digital gold platforms under formal regulation. Earlier this month, Sebi had warned investors against investing in digital or e-gold products, saying such instruments fall outside its regulatory framework and involve significant risks. The cautionary statement came after Sebi observed that some online platforms have been promoting 'digital gold' or 'e-gold' products as an easy alternative to investing in physical gold. "In this context, it is informed that such digital gold products are different from Sebi-regulated gold products as they are neither notified as securities nor regulated as commodity derivatives. They operate entirely outside the purview of Sebi," the regulator had stated. "Such digital gold products may entail significant risks for investors and may expose investors to counterparty and operational risks," it had added. Sebi had further clarified that investor protection mechanisms applicable to regulated securities will not extend to such unregulated digital gold schemes. The regulator had stated that investors can gain exposure to gold through Sebi-regulated instruments such as Gold ETFs offered by mutual funds.

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