

An engineer who made his way to small screen through modelling Jammu's Sahil Salathia makes his debut in 'Everest'



GJ REPORT
JAMMU, OCT 26: Name of Jammu, City of Temples located on the foothills of Trikuta Hills will be on the lips of small screen viewers after National Award winning film director Ashutosh Gowariker's much awaited serial titled 'Everest' will be aired on Star Plus in a few weeks from now and Sahil Salathia, a promising model turned actor would be the reason for fetching recognition to his home town in the field of films and TV serials.

Sahil Salathia son of a highly decorated police officer of Jammu, Guljar Singh Salathia IGP (Retd), is an apt example of an age old adage, 'coming events cast their shadow before'; because of the reason that during his college days while he was pursuing engineering course in Chandigarh, this Jammu boy sailed through a tough screening test of 'Model hunt for Kingfisher'. This was a dream come true from where Sahil never looked back and is now making his acting debut in Ashutosh Gowariker's Everest in Mumbai.

Written by Preeti Mangain, the serial revolves around a young girl who sets

out to scale the world's highest peak, Mount Everest. Set in Uttarkashi, the serial is produced by known film maker Lawrence D'Souza. Sahil Salathia, who is upbeat about his debut TV series while talking to Greater Jammu from Mumbai revealed that he was fortunate enough to travel to Everest Base Camp, Nepal and the Dokriani Glacier in India, located at a height of 17,590 feet and 12,000 feet respectively above sea level for the shoot.

Having completed his basic schooling from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jammu and Srinagar and then engineering from Chandigarh, Sahil was drifted towards modelling and his success in Kingfisher Model Hunt satisfied his hunger in just one go. In a span of just two years Sahil made it to Mumbai and modelled for various companies including Airtel, Grasim, Fashion Big Bazaar, Tetley Tea, idea phones and Pantaloon in TV commercials.

This success made Sahil a national face of modelling wherein he made his presence felt in a big way. Being in one of the lead roles in Everest, Sahil Salathia said

that this is going to be a little expensive serial than a medium budget film. He revealed that he will be playing "Arjun Sabharwal" in Everest which is likely to go on air in the first week of November. Born on April 13, 1988 in Jammu, Salathia even aspires to act in films and make Jammu blink on the canvas of Bollywood in the years to come. Unlike other young aspirants Sahil didn't struggle much but his destiny pulled him towards modelling from where his acting career took off. Asked how he will be placed ten years from now, Sahil said that he believes in hard work and Staying Happy adding, 'I have adopted acting as profession and now there is no looking back'. It's just going to be a hard work and whatever is there in store for me will come to me, he asserted.

Asked for a message for young aspirants, Sahil was prompt in telling them to first pursue their studies, complete their professional courses and then plunge into whichever field they intend to or dream of. Education, he said is the key to success and every student must first pursue it before pursuing his or

her dreams. Leaving a piece of advice for girls who aspire to be actors, Sahil asked them to stay alive to the situations and not fall into any trap of casting couches, which he says he has not come across so far in the industry. Rest, ladder to success for them is also the same which boys climb and there is no discrimination based on gender.

Sahil gave credit of his being into the small screen world to his parents and sister who he said had remained very supportive throughout his career. "I had received amazing kind of support from my mother and father besides sister who were supportive and never discouraged me from joining films", Sahil reverberated what his heart said to him.

Everest is the story of a young girl and Army officer's daughter who is determined to climb Mount Everest. She travels to Uttarkashi and enrolls with National Institute of Mountaineering (NIM) where she meets two boys. The story depicts the journey to the top of the mountain during which the trio involves in some romantic moments besides developing strong bond of friendship.

Gowariker, prior to making Everest had also acted in

Kacchi Dhoop, directed by actor Amol Palekar. Sahil revealed that he had to undergo a tough training during shooting schedules but loved the moments.

The other stars with whom Sahil will be rubbing shoulders are Kishori Shahane, Manish Choudhary, Milind Gunaji, Mohan Kapoor, Rajat Kapoor, Rohan Gandotra, Shamata Anchan and Suhasini Mulay. Music for the series has been composed by A. R. Rehman and it has been produced by Ashutosh Gowariker and Lawrence D'Souza.

The cinematographers Alphonse Roy, Mahesh Aney and Piyush Shah have captured the mountaineering expeditions in most beautiful manner which would go on air in November this year.

Shot entirely in India and Nepal, Everest the story intends to explore the girl child issue, equal rights and how determination can help one to achieve new heights. For Sahil if this TV series in which he is making his debut touches expected TRP, this is going to be like making it to the Mount Everest in real sense. Jammu by all means will be a city proud of its son of the soil Sahil Salathia.



Dangyas made of barley flour decorated with butter prepared during Bakston (wedding) ceremony in Ladakh.

Undeserving NC men plundered relief: Mehbooba

GJ REPORT

SRINAGAR, OCT 26: Expressing serious concern over government's dismal performance in mitigating the sufferings of people caused due to September's devastating floods, Peoples' Democratic Party President Mehbooba Mufti Sunday said the ruling National Conference government has miserably failed on every front to put the flood affected areas of state back on gear.

Addressing people at different places in North Kashmir's Pattan constituency along with party's nominated candidate Molvi Imran Raza Ansari, the PDP president remarked that despite the arrival of Moharram month, government continues to remain in slumber with regard to preparations in flood affected areas with the flood affected Moharram routes in pathetic conditions and the Imambadas of Pattan that were inundated due to floods, left unattended

ed by the state dispensation.

Mehbooba stressed upon the fact that the unfair distribution of the relief has turned out to be another misery for the already perturbed people as the undeserving People continue to plunder while as the deserving ones are left at the mercy of the situation sans any help.

She further added that NC wanted more time in order to strengthen the process of looting the relief material as the party was doing everything except proving relief to the flood victims. "They wanted more time as they said that relief and rehabilitation measures should not be affected. It is a known fact that NC, Congress itself destroyed the process of relief distribution. They stole ration, blankets, tents, ordered illegal appointments and transfers. They were doing everything since floods hit valley except the relief and rehabilitation activities," she said.

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