

UTV Joins Hands with Prakash Jha Productions

The emperor of political films, Prakash Jha to make Rajneeti with UTV

16th March 2009, Mumbai: UTV has always had a long run history of working with reputed film makers and it continues to do so! UTV joins hands with ten times national award winner Prakash Jha for his next production ***Rajneeti***. Over the years Prakash Jha Productions has made several critically acclaimed and popular films including *Apaharan*, *GangaaJal*, *Mrityudand* and *Damul*.

Based on the story by Prakash Jha, Anjum Rajabali and Prakash have worked on *Rajneeti*'s screenplay for the last four years. Star cast for the film is one of the best and most exciting in recent times. The cast of the film includes Nana Patekar, Ajay Devgan, Ranbir Kapoor, Arjun Rampal, Manoj Bajpai, Katrina Kaif & Naseeruddin Shah. The first schedule of the film has been completed and second schedule is likely to begin soon. The film is slated for release in the first half of 2010.

"*Rajneeti* was an easy decision as it is the mother of all dramas with politics as the background and who is more adept and accomplished than Prakash Jha to pull off a film based on politics. Prakash has always believed in the concept of '*Cinema with Power*' and we look forward to a great story with *Rajneeti* too. I am sure this wonderful association will be fruitful to both the parties. We are eagerly looking forward to this project" **Ronnie Screwvala-CEO UTV**

"We take pride and comfort in our association with UTV which has always believed in quality cinema. I am grateful to my long time friend Manmohan Shetty who continues the association through Walkwater Media Limited. And I feel truly blessed to have the finest set of dedicated actors and technicians working with me. With Bhopal as its backdrop and five thousand trained actors from all over Madhya Pradesh working on the films landscape, *Rajneeti* is truly my most exciting and ambitious venture" **Prakash Jha**.

About UMP Plc :

Established in 1995, as a division within UTV Software Communications, UMP Plc has arrangements with a number of major Hollywood studios including Walt Disney, Fox Searchlight and Will Smith's company Overbrook Entertainment. Listed on at the London AIM market, UMP Plc has played an active role in pioneering the studio model

to the Indian film industry, where it is able to leverage script development, budget and time management and international distribution.

UMP Plc has emerged as a strong player in Indian and International cinema with the success of movies like 'Rang De Basanti', 'Khosla Ka Ghosla', 'Life in a... Metro', 'The Namesake' 'Jodhaa Akbar' & 'I Think I Love My Wife'. UMP Plc has co-produced movies like Ashutosh Gowariker's 'Jodhaa-Akbar', which is the biggest blockbuster of 2008 and M. Night Shyamalan's 'The Happening' which is amongst the top grosser in Hollywood. UMP Plc has also distributed movies like Aamir Khan's directorial debut 'Taare Zameen Par', Anees Bazmee's 'Welcome', Abbas Mustan's 'Race' in the international markets. With an aggressive slate of over 15 movies for the year 2009 some of its forthcoming movies include Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's Delhi 6, David Dhawan's Hook Ya Crook, Vishal Bhardwaj's Kaminey and many more.. UMP Plc is also working with a talent pool of directors that include Vishal Bhardwaj, David Dhawan, Shyam Benegal and Iranian director Majid Majidi amongst others. For more info log onto www.utvmotionpictures.com

For Press Queries please contact:

Jyotika Ahuja Corporate Communications & PR UTV 9619122379	Shruti Sundaraman Corporate Communications & PR UTV 9869572738
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