

‘Bigg Boss Telugu Season 9’ losing credibility?

MOSTLY DUE TO POOR CONTESTANT PICKS

SUHAS SISTU

BIGG Boss Telugu has long thrived on controversy, charisma, and compelling personalities. But season 9, so far, is eroding that foundation — and it’s not because of the host or the format. Though it came with the tagline ‘Idi chadarangamkaadu, raanarangam’ (It’s not chess, it’s war), the show is not showing the same fire it promised. It’s the weak selection of contestants that’s turning what should be a high-voltage reality show into a

forgettable routine. **Where’s the spark?** Contestant lineups in earlier seasons felt rugged, unpredictable, and teeming with clashing egos. This year’s cast, however, leans heavily into “safe” names and internet personas, many carrying baggage from past controversies. For instance, Sanjana Galrani entered the house with known legal issues, immediately shifting focus from the show itself to her personal drama. Flora Saini’s entry also brought pre-existing controversies to the fore

before she even got a chance to perform. **Rules break, respect fades** When viewers see contestants breaking fundamental rules—like the rule of speaking Telugu—without apparent consequences, it signals weak enforcement and less accountability. Bigg Boss himself had to scold contestants for repeatedly ignoring Telugu. That undermines the very structure that gives the show its gravity. **Drama by default, not design** Elsewhere, the show is

running out of organic tension. Relationships and fights feel manufactured. Wildcard entries like Divya Nikitha, selected despite having low support in the Agnipariksha audition, suggest favoritism over fair competition. When eliminations feel rigged or influenced by off-screen factors, viewers lose trust. **A show built on gamble, not formula** Bigg Boss is supposed to be about raw human unpredictability. This season, it has become a predictable exercise

in name value and past controversies. The result: a show that looks busy but lacks depth, and reinforces the idea that the franchise is banking more on spectacle than substance. With the latest wildcard entries like Divvela Madhuri and Ramya Moksha, who recently made headlines for their controversial public statements, the makers seem to be attempting a last-minute rescue operation to revive audience interest. These contestants bring drama potential, but whether they can inject real momentum into



the show—or simply add more noise without substance—remains to be seen. All eyes are now on how these wildcard contestants will shake up the

house dynamics in the coming weeks. If these contestants also fade like the rest—season 9 risks becoming one of its most forgettable chapters.

‘MeesaalaPilla’ from ‘MSVP Garu’: Vintage melody with modern touch

MEGASTAR Chiranjeevi has joined forces for the first time with blockbuster filmmaker Anil Ravipudi for the much-awaited family entertainer Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu. Touted to be packed with family emotions, humor, and mass appeal in Ravipudi’s signature style, the film is gearing up for a grand Sankranti 2026 theatrical release. The promotional campaign began on a powerful note with the launch of the first single ‘MeesaalaPilla’, whose promo dropped during the Dussehra festival. Within hours, the track went viral across social media platforms, trending with thousands of fan-made reels and edits celebrating Chiranjeevi’s unmatched screen aura and the song’s vibrant energy. One of the biggest talking points from the promo is the refreshing on-screen chemistry between Chiranjeevi and Lady Superstar Nayanthara. The duo is seen portraying a grounded and



charming husband-wife pair, offering a blend of fun, warmth, and emotional relatability—something audiences are already loving. The song boasts a melodious yet upbeat vibe brought to life by the soulful vocals of Udit Narayan and Shweta Mohan. Bhaskara Bhatla’s playful lyrics add a catchy

local flavor, while Bheem-sCeciroleo’s lively music makes “MeesaalaPilla” an instant chartbuster. Music lovers have already begun calling it one of the most addictive Telugu singles of the season. Produced by SahuGara-pati and Sushmita Konidela under the Shine Screens

and Gold Box Entertainment banners, the film has now set high expectations among audiences. With the first single making waves, all eyes are now on the next glimpse from Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu as excitement continues to build ahead of its festive release.



‘Mithra Mandali’ pre-release event sparks buzz

THE upcoming buddy comedy Mithra Mandali is gearing up for a theatrical release on October 16, generating strong buzz among audiences. Produced under BV Works and presented by Bunny Vas and SaptaAshwa Media Works, the film features Priyadarshi and popular digital star Niharika NM in lead roles. Directed by Vijayender S, the film boasts a huge ensemble cast including comedy icons Brahmanandam, Vennela Kishore, Satya, VTV Ganesh, and others.

As part of promotions, a grand pre-release event was held on October 13, graced by actor Sree Vishnu as the chief guest. Speaking at the event, he praised the team’s effort and said, “Mithra Mandali is full of heart and humor. It will make audiences leave the theatre with a smile.” He also appreciated Priyadarshi’s script choices and welcomed Niharika NM to Telugu cinema. Priyadarshi expressed confidence in the film’s entertainment value, saying, “If you don’t like this movie, don’t watch any of my future films!” Niharika NM added that she was delighted to officially

enter Telugu films with a project rooted in friendship and emotion. Producer Bunny Vas called Mithra Mandali a “clean family entertainer and an early Diwali gift”, while assuring audiences that the film will deliver non-stop laughs. Director Vijayender thanked his team for their unwavering support and invited audiences to enjoy the emotional and humorous journey of friendship on screen. With positive early buzz from trailers and songs, Mithra Mandali is set to entertain audiences starting October 16.

‘Bison’ trailer: Politically charged sports drama

YOUNG actor Dhruv Vikram, son of versatile star Chiyaan Vikram, is gearing up for what could be a defining moment in his career with his upcoming film Bison. Despite delivering strong performances in films like Adithya Varma and Mahaan, Dhruv is still awaiting that one big commercial breakthrough. Now, with acclaimed filmmaker Mari Selvaraj at the helm, Bison is generating strong expectations. The trailer of the film, which released yesterday, has caught everyone’s attention with its intense narrative and emotional depth. Staying true to his film-making style, Mari Selvaraj once again chooses a socially grounded theme. The story follows Dhruv’s character, a determined young man from a marginalised community whose life revolves around his passion for Kabaddi. The trailer opens with his humble beginnings and turbulent journey, revealing the harsh oppression he faces from caste-based discrimination and societal prejudice. Despite constant humiliation and setbacks, Dhruv’s character refuses to surrender, instead rising with resilience to fight for identity, dignity, and the pride of his people. The trailer promises a raw, realistic sports drama layered with emotional intensity and strong social commentary—hallmarks of Mari Selvaraj’s impactful storytelling. Actresses Anupama Parameswaran and Rajisha Vijayan appear in strong rural roles, bringing authenticity to the village setting and emotional grounding to the story. Their rustic screen presence enhances the film’s culturally rooted tone. Backed by impactful visuals and a compelling narrative, Bison is set for release on October 17th, coinciding with Diwali. With a powerful theme, emotional depth, and Dhruv Vikram’s intense performance, the film is being seen as a potential game-changer in his career.



‘Super Subbu’ promises bold humor in a village comedy with a social twist

THE upcoming web series Super Subbu brings a refreshing mix of humor, emotion, and social relevance to Indian storytelling. The plot follows the misadventures of a hapless young teacher who dreams of escaping his domineering father, only to end up with an unexpected assignment—teaching sex education in a conservative village. The biggest irony? He’s a virgin himself, setting the stage for a comedy full of awkwardness, heartfelt moments, and self-discovery. Director Mallik Ram explains the inspiration behind the series: “Super Subbu was born from the observation that sex education is still treated as a taboo subject in our society. Parents avoid it, schools skip it, and children grow up with confusion and myths. Through Subbu’s journey, we use humor to break silence around a sensitive topic and make it accessible. The village of Maakhipur feels real and rooted, just

like the people many of us grew up around. At its core, this story is about courage, community, and acceptance.” Actress Mithila Palkar, who plays a key role, says, “It’s a quirky yet meaningful story about dreams, relationships, and coming of age in unexpected ways. The characters feel so real, and the narrative is both funny and emotional. I’m excited for audiences to see me in a very different avatar.” Actor Sundeep Kishan adds, “We’re now telling stories that are brave and relatable. Super Subbu celebrates simple joys while addressing real issues through lovable characters and engaging writing.” The series is expected to blend entertainment with a strong message, making it one to watch out for



POPULAR actor Vishnu Vishal, well known to Telugu audiences through films like FIR and Ratsasan, is all set to return with a gripping investigative thriller titled Aryan. Directed by Praveen K and produced by Vishnu Vishal Studios, Shubra and Aryan Ramesh, the film has already sparked curiosity with its intense teaser, which received an impressive response from viewers. Continuing the promotional momentum, the makers today unveiled a powerful single titled “I Am The Guy”. The track, composed by Ghibran, features lyrics by Samrat and is sung energetically by Ghibran and Srikanth Hariharan. The high-octane song has gone viral on social media, further boosting expectations for the film. Aryan is scheduled for a theatrical release on October 31. In the Telugu states, the film will be released by Sudhakar Reddy, father of hero Nithiin, under the Shresht Movies banner. Known for distributing blockbuster hits like Vikram, Amaran and Thug Life, Shresht Movies is planning a grand release across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The film features an impressive cast including Selvaraghavan, Shraddha Srinath, and Manasa Chowdhury in key roles, while Vishnu Vishal will be seen as a determined police officer unraveling a dark mystery. Supporting roles are



played by Sai Ronak, TarakPonnappa, Mala Parvathi, Avinash, and Abhishek Joseph George. The story is co-written by Manu Anand of FIR fame. Harish Kannan handles cinematography, San Lokesh is the editor, and Ghibran scores the music. The makers will soon announce updates on the trailer and audio launch events.

Mrunal Thakur sets the ramp on fire

Actress Mrunal Thakur, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming film Dacoit alongside Aditi Sesh, made a stunning appearance at Lakmé Fashion Week, leaving fashion enthusiasts captivated with her bold and glamorous runway presence. Walking for ace designer duo Pankaj & Nidhi at Lakmé Fashion Week in partnership with FDCI, Mrunal embraced a powerful high-fashion avatar. She wore a shimmering gold-

en sleeveless top paired with a sleek black skirt featuring a daring thigh-high slit, perfectly blending elegance with drama. The look was elevated by statement golden earrings, adding just the right touch of opulence to her ensemble. Interestingly, Mrunal opted for a minimalist styling approach, keeping her hands free of accessories and choosing classic black heels to maintain the focus on her striking outfit. Her makeup was subtle yet sharp, enhancing her natural beauty, while her hair was styled in a neat updo that highlighted her strong fea-

tures. What truly stood out was her commanding runway attitude. She skipped the usual smile and instead delivered intense, piercing expressions, locking eyes with the camera and exuding top-model confidence. Fans and fashion critics alike praised her fierce walk and bold aura, calling her one of the best celebrity showstoppers of the season. With every appearance, Mrunal Thakur continues to prove she’s not just a rising star in cinema, but also a style icon who owns every frame—on screen and on the runway.