

## Rani Mukerji to be feted in Australia

The actor will be honoured at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM), presented by the Victorian Government in Australia, for her contribution to cinema and for touching upon a social cause.

The 'Excellence in Cinema' Award this year will be given to the actor, whose film Hichki focuses on overcoming a physical challenge with determination and positivity. Rani Mukerji said, "The power of cinema to spread important social messages and enact positive changes is unmatched. As an actor, I have been blessed to have got the chance to be a part of such amazing films that have tried to make people sit up and think about society, the need to preserve human life and to value each individual's dreams and aspirations."

"I'm thankful that my body of work has contributed to making positive change. Hichki is a very special film for me and to be honoured as part of the colourful Indian International Film Festival of Melbourne makes it even more memorable," she adds.



## ▶ HAVE YOU HEARD?

# Love Sonia to open film fest in Melbourne

Director Tabrez Noorani's Love Sonia, starring Freida Pinto, Rajkummar Rao, Richa Chadha (picture), Demi Moore and Mark Duplass, will be the opening film at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM). The film is the story of a young Indian girl



trapped in sex trade while trying to save her sister. "Tabrez and I grew up in families with very strong women. Love Sonia is a film honouring one very strong woman's challenging journey," producer David Womark said. **PTI**