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The accidental prime minister full book pdf

The trailer of the much-awaited The Accidental Prime Minister was released today and it is impressive for its near spot on casting and the aspect of Dr Manmohan Singh's life which the biopic touches upon. The film stars Anupam Kher in the title role. Actor Akshaye Khanna also stars in the film, essaying the role of Sanjaya Baru, who was the former media advisor of Manmohan and the writer of the book on which the film is based on. Talking about the film during its trailer launch today, Akshaye said, "I was very clear that I wanted to be a part of the film. Vijay (director) wanted my character to be more creative. He told me he can't play around with any other character in the film, but mine is the only character he can. It was great fun creating the look for Sanjaya Baru. From the beginning, I always knew that it was a very important film, and the role was superb, so me doing this film was a no-brainer." The political drama has been helmed by debutant director Vijay Ratnakar Gutte and produced by Bohra Brothers. Also read: The Accidental Prime Minister trailer: Anupam Kher almost nails Manmohan Singh in this ambitious project Other cast members include Lipstick Under My Burkha fame Aahana Kumra who plays the role of Priyanka Gandhi, Suzanne Bernert as Sonia Gandhi, Arjun Mathur as Rahul Gandhi, Vimal Verma as Lalu Prasad Yadav, Avter Saini as Lal Krishna Advani and Anil Rastogi as Shivraj Patil among others. The Accidental Prime Minister is set to release on January 11, 2019. It is set to clash with Vicky Kaushal and Yami Gautam starrer Uri. We've detected that JavaScript is disabled in this browser. Please enable JavaScript or switch to a supported browser to continue using twitter.com. You can see a list of supported browsers in our Help Center. Help Center Top reviews Most recent Top reviews When 12-year-old Joe hears that the Prime Minister will be coming to his school for a publicity event, he knows it's the one opportunity he might have to talk to someone with some real influence. There are plans to close his beloved park, which would mean his Mum would lose her job, as well as all the local children losing out on a place to play. But when Joe gets the chance to speak out, he can't control the outburst that pours out of him. He is full of ideas of how things could be better, and everyone else agrees. Before he knows it, Joe is thrust straight through the limelight and into a seat at Number 10. But delivering on all those promises isn't easy, and Joe is going to learn that being Prime Minister isn't all riding around in comfortable cars and signing autographs on vegetables. A strong friendship runs through the core of this funny story that is perfect for fans of David Walliams. Political success puts a strain on Joe's friendship with best pal, Ajay and whilst his intentions at the start were pure, he loses sight of his original plight for the park and the safety of his mum's job. There is heart and warmth in between the dastardly villains (the other politicians, obviously) and slapstick jokes. McLaughlin's writing is perfectly pitched, with an ending that no one will see coming! Good, silly fun all round - just the way Joe would want it. It is a measure of how committed The Accidental Prime Minister is to gritty authenticity that Sanjaya Baru, on whose book the film is based, is played by Akshaye Khanna. Given this level of realism, Manmohan Singh should have demanded to be played by Tiger Shroff or, at the very least, by Ranbir Kapoor.The Accidental Prime Minister was always going to be a difficult book to turn into a film. Congressmen used to accuse Sanjaya Baru of telling the press that Manmohan Singh (whose Media Advisor he was) always tried to help the people of India but was frustrated at every turn by venal party hacks (and to some extent, perhaps by Sonia Gandhi).Baru's book, published over four years after he left the PMO, suggested that the Congressmen were not entirely wrong to see him as somebody who tried to distinguish between the Prime Minister and the party. On the other hand, it also offered us a rare insight into the Manmohan Singh PMO.Singh liked Baru and the book reflected the former Media Advisor's admiration for his old boss. But the two tragically fell out when Baru apparently broke his word to Singh that he would not publish The Accidental Prime Minister until after the 2014 election.Commercially, Baru's decision made sense. The book is one of the all-time great bestsellers of Indian publishing. But the effects on his relationship with Singh were severe. (And the Congressmen said they had been right about Baru all along.)A good director and a halfway decent scriptwriter could have turned The Accidental Prime Minister into a study of how power operates at the highest level. But the people who made this movie seem to have no real interest in Baru's book. Instead it is treated only as a convenient peg on which to hang the anti-Congress narrative which was already current when Manmohan Singh was PM. A file photo of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (Arvind Yadav/HT PHOTO) In this version, the Gandhis were power-hungry dynasts (and Italians, at that!) who chose Manmohan Singh to be their puppet and then sacrificed him when he was not needed.The movie of The Accidental Prime Minister creates an imaginary Baru who is quite different from the real man. The film turns him into a key figure in the government whose relationship with Manmohan Singh is, frankly, a little weird. They hug, they hold hands, they weep together and they bond over 'Que sera sera'. I don't think that even Baru has claimed to have that close a relationship with Singh or to have wielded so much power in the PMO.But for this script to work, he needs to be a powerful person, a sort of Sir Lancelot to Singh's King Arthur. So by the end of the movie, viewers may conclude that he is like the lizard on the ceiling who thinks he is holding the whole roof up. The real Baru is not a Walter Mitty-esque figure so this caricature cannot have been his idea. He says that his involvement in the film was zero. He signed off the movie rights in 2015, met the director twice and that was it.The movie's imaginary Baru is played by Akshaye Khanna in a fetching toupee with many sharp, nip-waisted suits and just two expressions: Smirk and No-Smirk.He is nothing like the real Baru who is not much of a smirker.I guess that by claiming that this tired retreat of the old hackneyed narrative is actually Baru's insider account the film looks for a thin veneer of credibility. But it also damages many reputations: not just Baru's. Manmohan Singh is portrayed as a spineless crybaby and his many achievements as Prime Minister go unacknowledged, except for the Indo-US nuclear deal. As for Sonia, she gets the usual mafia-boss treatment that this narrative requires. Rahul is turned into a figure of fun while rousing newsreel footage at the end hails Narendra Modi as he makes adoring crowds swoon.That would be fine (from a propagandist perspective) if this film was well made. But, as the reviews have all pointed out, it is a terrible movie seemingly made by an amateur. Nor does the director ever capture Delhi. PM House and 10 Janpath look as though they were shot on sets left over from an Ekta Kapoor production complete with loud garish colours. (How difficult can it have been to recreate these interiors authentically when there are so many photos around?) Singh's SPG guards look like waiters sent over by a tentwallah. (Which idiot told the director that SPG officers never wear ties?)The details of the minor characters are wrong. (Ahmed Patel, the comic opera villain of this piece, is called "Ahmed bhai" not "Patelsaab" by his colleagues.) I doubt if P Chidambaram or Pranab Mukherjee would recognise themselves. (I have no complaints about my cameo appearance by the way but next time around could I please get the same sharp suits as Akshaye Khanna? And yes, the toupee would help too.)Ultimately the film fails not because it is propaganda. It fails because it is very boring. The sound you hear at the end, over the screeching soundtrack, is not Joseph Goebbels turning in his grave.It is the sound of the ghost of Goebbels snoring loudly, having been as thoroughly bored as the rest of us. SHARE THIS ARTICLE ON Anupam Kher in The Accidental Prime Minister. (Image courtesy: Instagram)Cast: Anupam Kher, Akshaye Khanna, Suzanne Bernert, Arjun Mathur, Aahana KumraDirector: Vijay Ratnakar GutteRating: 1.5 Stars (Out of 5)The timing of The Accidental Prime Minister is no accident. But everything else about the film is. It seeks to capture an important juncture of Indian political history. But devoid of cinematic finesse and totally clueless about how to go about the onerous job, it hits the skids at the very outset and never recovers.Co-written and directed by first-timer Vijay Ratnakar Gutte, the film has an unequivocal agenda and spares no effort to make its point in bold relief. If there is anything at all going for it, it is the fact that it breaks something akin to new ground: it is Bollywood's first 'fiction' film about real politicians and bureaucrats who held sway over India not all that long ago. So shouldn't The Accidental Prime Minister have been a riveting political drama? Logically, yes. But it isn't. It's indescribably vapid.The Accidental Prime Minister Movie Review: A still from the film. (Image courtesy: YouTube)It harps persistently upon the pulls and pressures that made Dr Manmohan Singh's two terms as the PM of India thankless. 'Family' is allowed to be uttered only once - the Mahabharata had two families, India has one, quips the PM's media adviser late in the second half. On a couple of other occasions, the word goes mute obviously on censor board instructions. But the film makes no bones about its intention.What it tells us is that between 2004 and 2014, India had a weak Prime Minister who was remote-controlled by the Congress president and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, played here by German-born actress Suzanne Bernert. With due apologies to Simmba, tell us something we don't know! This insider's view of the workings of the PMO - the film is partly adapted from Sanjaya Baru's memoir of his four-year association with Dr Singh - has nothing new to offer in terms of either cinematic quality or contemporary history.The Accidental Prime Minister Movie Review: A still from the film. (Image courtesy: YouTube)So intent is Gutte on portraying a great man let down by his party that he allows other aspects of The Accidental Prime Minister drift. In fact, what plays out on the screen is so risible at times that you'd be forgiven for thinking that the film is the handiwork of the social media cell of a particular party. It is all very well to present a cinematic portrait of a respected economist-turned-reluctant-politician who is painfully soft-spoken, but must a two-term PM of India be turned into such a caricature?Lead actor Anupam Kher must be commended for putting in a lot of hard work but his portrayal simply doesn't work. His performance, which relies more on physical imitation than on genuine empathy, renders Dr Singh as a catatonic, wound-up doll running on precariously low battery. As a consequence, the film's pivotal character comes across as an amusingly flappable, nervous wreck rather than a sad, forlorn scholar-bureaucrat pitchforked into a role he simply wasn't cut out for and yet made the most of. The film seems to strip the then PM of his dignity.The book that Sanjaya Baru wrote was about his years in the PMO as a close aide of Dr Singh during the latter's first term in office that saw him perform a tightrope walk on the nuclear deal. The film goes beyond that specific period and interpolates developments of later years in the form of news footage and sequences carved out of reporgate on Dr Singh's second term, which was dominated by serious scams - 2G, CWG, coal - and the Anna Hazare anti-corruption movement.Akshaye Khanna as narrator Sanjaya Baru delivers the film's stray bright spots, but he bears no resemblance whatsoever to the real-life individual that he impersonates. The actor who probably would have looked the part is theatre person Atul Kumar, who plays one of the key figures in the film's PMO - national security adviser JN Dixit. Not that Akshaye isn't watchable - he brings stoic humour into play, with the script requiring him to turn to the camera every now and then and share insider dope and make a wisecrack aimed at the film's main punching bag, the lady of 10 Janpath, and her son.The Accidental Prime Minister Movie Review: A still from the film. (Image courtesy: YouTube)Arjun Mathur is cast as Rahul Gandhi but is given little to do. He makes token appearances whenever the film needs a whipping boy. Aahana Kumra as Priyanka Gandhi has even less footage. The only actor other than Akshaye who emerges from this mess unscathed is Divya Seth Shah, who effortlessly settles into the persona of Gursharan Kaur, Dr Singh's wife.The Accidental Prime Minister carries an upfront disclaimer that asserts that it is intended only for entertainment and admits that creative liberties have been taken in the interest of dramatisation. The film, however, is neither hugely entertaining nor engagingly dramatic. At the point when Sanjaya Baru, Dr Singh's media advisor from 2004 to 2008, broaches the idea of a book on his experiences, he says: "Sach likhna itihaas ke liye zaroori hota hai (Writing the truth is important for history). But in the same breath, he acknowledges that truth has many facets. He tells the PM that the proposed book would present only "your" truth and "mine" truth.The film isn't interested in any sort of nuance and the 'truth' is dishbed out with broad strokes. Senior Congressmen are presented as silly old men - there aren't any women in the mix except for the one at the top - bent upon digging deep holes for themselves. Pranab Mukherjee and Kapil Sibal get the rough end of the stick. When Sonia Gandhi pulls Dr Singh's name out of the hat in 2004, the film cuts to the disappointed visage of the actor in the guise of Pranab Mukherjee. Subtlety isn't Gutte's forte, so he holds the camera on that face long enough to record a visible grimace.The Accidental Prime Minister Movie Review: A still from the film. (Image courtesy: YouTube)The director has no pretence of balance or objectivity. Witness Kapil Sibal's 'performance' in his famous "zero loss" press conference. The man is all at sea. The scene would have been funny hadn't its execution been so silly. The unkindest cut is reserved for Ahmed Patel. He is reduced to a conniving, comic emissary of the party high command. Even a fine actor like Vipin Sharma is left struggling to salvage the part. He is the smirking, sour-faced villain's henchman - a Bollywood stereotype that has no place in a film that aspires to be a bold, unfettered look at Indian politics. The Accidental Prime Minister is anything but that.

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