

# glam-sham

## Reel life villain turns real hero

Actor Riyaz Khan, who is usually seen doing on-screen stunts doused out a fire near his residence recently, saving the life of his neighbour

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Actor Riyaz Khan, who is well-known for his on-screen stunts and negative roles, played hero in real life recently. On the day after Diwali, when he was having a family get-together at his parents place in Saligramam, he saw a fire break out in his neighborhood and rushed to put out the flames thus saving the life of 74-year-old lady.

Speaking about the incident Riyaz says, "I was at the balcony when I saw something near the roof of the opposite house burning. At first I ignored it as I thought that someone might be burning garbage. But when I saw the people in the nearby house panicking, I sensed something was wrong. So I rushed to the opposite house, which is a single

storied building, and informed the old lady, Chembakam, who lived in the house about the mishap and rushed to the terrace."

He adds, "By the time I reached there, the entire thatched roof had caught fire and there were fumes everywhere. I went down and informed my elder son, Shariq, to call the other residents of the house, who were away for a function and I switched off the electricity from the main.

Meanwhile, my wife Uma called for a fire engine."

He says, "As I came closer, I saw that all the bamboo sticks were burning and some of the vinyl sheets which were kept on the terrace had started melting. So to prevent the fire from spreading to other sheets, the cable wire and even the trees, I climbed up the tank and threw many

buckets of water to douse the fire. It took an hour to bring the situation in control. After which all other neighbours had come to help and the fire engine had also arrived." According to him, it was his on-screen stunts which gave him the necessary courage to fight the blaze at that moment.

The residents of the house are touched by the actor's timely help. Vanaja Premkumar, the daughter of Chembakam says, "My mother was unwell and when she heard about the fire, she was in a state of shock and did not even know how to react. Riyaz's son had informed us about the fire and when we rushed to the spot, we found him struggling to put out the fire. I was touched seeing that being an actor, he did not care about himself and managed to save the life of my mother. He is a real life hero for all of us."

Actress Uma Riyaz Khan says, "At first, I was really worried when Riyaz rushed towards the fire but I was proud of him. Someone had to take the initiative and others will follow suit and in this case it was my husband. Even TV actress Maunika, who stays in the same street came in later with her brother to help out."

**'I CLIMBED THE TANK AND THREW WATER AT THE FIRE'**

Actor Riyaz Khan plays hero in real life



## BOSKEY BYTES

Obama 'misses' popularity

## Windows 7 gets positive response from tech lovers

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Although the previous version of Windows' much hyped Operating System — Vista received tepid reviews from PC users around the world, everyone is very excited about its latest offering, Windows 7. Improving on the drawbacks that Microsoft had when it was launched a few years ago, Windows 7, which was introduced recently has been getting some positive feedback from the tech community. Many of those who were biting their nails over Google Wave, also seem to have forgotten about Wave for the time being because of this new OS.

A Chennai based working professional, Shrinidhi Hande, specialist and user computing at HCL COMNET recently got the opportunity to throw a Windows 7 party sponsored by Microsoft, so he could introduce the OS to his close friends. "They sent me a kit with all the necessary things for a party including small games and trial CDs."

"Windows 7 looks promising and would undo the damage Vista had caused. Home groups, jump lists, remote media streaming etc., are a few exciting features. One of the issues it has that the strong DRM (Digital

The latest offering from Microsoft is welcomed by PC lovers in the city

Rights Management) which many users may not like.

Also pricing could have been more liberal, more so for Vista users."

For working professional Kavita R, Windows is the most user friendly OS.

"When Vista came, my friends and I got the OS but were disappointed because first of all, it took us quite a while to understand and then it was pretty slow. We then had to go back to XP

as there were too many issues with it. But from what I have heard,

Windows 7 is supposed to be really user friendly, simple and fast," she adds.

Prasanto K Roy, chief editor, CyberMedia says, "Vista had lots of issues such as start-up problems and slow response time. However the latest version has some great things to offer. It is what I call the 'service pack' for Vista. I think that it will be def-

initely well received among the regular PC users too."

"As such Windows is user friendly and the latest version is pretty good addition to it. It also works well with older hardware components, which is a good news for those in the PC hardware industry. But next year when Google Chrome OS will be launched, it would be something to watch out for," he adds.

**'IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN VISTA'**



(Top) Windows 7 party kit. (Right) Shrinidhi Hande

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VATTER  
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