

Pleased as PUNCH

Olympic pugilist Vijender Singh adds quick wit to his resume

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From recently acquiring a secretary to being a showstopper for Rohit Bal to plans for a birthday bash in Delhi for your "new" friends, you also just inaugurated the Gold's Gym's Mulund branch. Life's changed after your Olympic win.

Not much, except that I receive too many party invitations. I have to oblige, for the sake of boxing. I want to promote the sport in India and bring it to the same level as cricket by being more visible. IPL-like tournaments will help too. The corporate world can change everything.

Mumbai's charm has touched you too.

Most successful cricketers are based out of Mumbai. I am merely here for some work and the event.

But are you not compromising on your training?

I am the same and I will prove it with results. If I don't, come back to me with the same question. I did take a break after my win but now I am back at my training camp in Patiala. I am already training for five hours a day.

What do you do in your spare time?

I sleep. And listen to music — I love Kailash Kher's songs.

Movie offers?

I love watching them, especially Akshay Kumar's films, but I don't have the time to act. Promotions are different; movies are full-time

commitment and I don't think I can act. Besides, the actors may not like it if a boxer joins their fraternity.

Why do you say so?

All I can tell you is that an actor refused to shoot with me recently.

How about an item number?

That's Rakhi Sawant job, not mine.

How are things back home?

My family's extremely proud of me. But my real home is National Institute of Sports, my training camp in Patiala. It has such a lively sporty feel to it that if you come there, I promise you, you'll forget Mumbai.

You have a huge female fan following.

Don't even talk about it. I am fed-up. They write all kinds of letters to me and mail them to my home address and my parents end up reading them.

So you're still not used to all the limelight?

I am, but my humble parents are not.

Do you have a girlfriend?

I have many friends and something or the other keeps coming up in the media.

You're neither accepting nor denying it.

So why not leave it at that?

