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# OM Movie Review: Dhanush and Mammootty Deliver a Gripping, Emotionally Charged Spy Thriller

CHENNAI – 21 Nov, 2026 Director Rajkumar Periasamy, following the success of Amaran, ventures into the high-stakes world of illegal red sandalwood smuggling with OM—an ambitious, tautly woven espionage thriller anchored by two of Indian cinema's finest actors, Dhanush and Mammootty. Backed by an impressive ensemble featuring Sai Pallavi, Sreeleela, Naseeruddin Shah, and Indrans, OM blends raw crime drama with deeply human emotional undercurrents to create a thoroughly engaging theatrical experience.

The Plot Set against the gritty backdrop of Andhra Pradesh's red sandalwood trade, the story introduces Thirukumaran aka (Dhanush), who earns the trust of dreaded smuggler-turned-politician Burma Karthikeyan aka Siya (Mammootty) after saving him from an assassination attempt. Welcomed into Siya's inner circle like a younger brother, is actually Palani, a dedicated undercover police officer from Tiruvannamalai. Tasked with dismantling Siya's syndicate—and ultimately reaching the Dubai-based kingpin Hameed (Naseeruddin Shah)—Palani works under the covert "Operation Mole" (OM), spearheaded by sharp officer Nithya Reddy (Sai Pallavi). However, as Palani gets closer to Siya, he discovers unexpected shades of humanity in the criminal mastermind, all while struggling to shield his unsuspecting wife Roja (Sreeleela), their son, and his father (Indrans) from the dangerous double life he leads.

Performances Dhanush and Mammootty are the undeniable pillars of OM, elevating every frame they share. Dhanush brings tremendous physicality, vulnerability, and intensity to Palani, effortlessly balancing the grit of an undercover operative with the quiet guilt of a husband failing to meet his family's expectations. Mammootty commands the screen with effortless gravitas as Siya; the writing gifts his character fascinating contradictions—ruthless in business yet genuinely compassionate, whether discussing his love for football or helping a young boy with a medical crisis.

Sai Pallavi shines with poised authority as Nithya Reddy, bringing steady conviction to the procedural aspects of the mission. Sreeleela leaves a lovely impression as Roja, capturing the innocence and relatable marital misunderstandings of a young wife, while her natural chemistry with Dhanush grounds the film's domestic moments.




Direction & Technical Brilliance Rajkumar Periasamy crafts a rich, immersive world, taking the time in the first half to build tension and establish complex character dynamics that culminate in a thrilling, emotionally charged interval block. What sets OM apart from standard action thrillers is its focus on the psychological toll of undercover work, keeping audiences deeply invested in how Palani and Siya's destinies collide.

Technically, the film boasts standout craft. Cinematographer Ezhil Arasu K brilliantly captures both the dense forest landscapes and the tense, gritty atmosphere of the smuggling network. A single-shot action sequence featuring Dhanush is an absolute showstopper—a triumph of choreography, camera movement, and sheer physical endurance—while Mammootty's dramatic courtroom scenes are equally compelling. Young composer Sai Abhyankar delivers a top-notch musical score, with chart-topping songs and a pulsating background score that amplifies both the suspense and the poignant emotional beats.

Verdict OM is a compelling blend of espionage, crime, and heartfelt drama. Driven by powerhouse performances from Dhanush and Mammootty, sharp technical execution, and Rajkumar Periasamy's distinct storytelling, this spy thriller delivers a rewarding and memorable big-screen spectacle.