

= Thuppakki =

Thuppakki ( English : The Gun ) is a 2012 Indian Tamil @-@ language action film written and directed by AR Murugadoss . It features Vijay and Kajal Aggarwal in the lead roles , Vidyut Jammwal as the antagonist , as well as Jayaram and Sathyan in supporting roles . The film , produced by S. Thanu , features background score and soundtrack composed by Harris Jayaraj with cinematography handled by Santhosh Sivan , who with Thuppakki , introduced the Arri Alexa camera to Indian cinema . The story revolves around an Indian army intelligence officer from a Mumbai @-@ based Tamil family on a mission to track down and destroy a terrorist group and deactivate the sleeper cells under its command .

The film , which commenced production in December 2011 in Mumbai , was released on 13 November 2012 , coinciding with the festival of Diwali . Upon release , the film became the highest grossing Tamil film of 2012 . The film was also released in Telugu under the same title in Andhra Pradesh , where it was also very well received . Thuppakki went on to win six Vijay Awards from sixteen nominations , and was nominated for seven South Filmfare Awards , including Best Film ( Tamil ) , Best Director ( Tamil ) and Best Actor ( Tamil ) . Murugadoss remade the film in Hindi as Holiday : A Soldier Is Never Off Duty in 2014 , while Baba Yadav remade it in Bengali as Game in the same year . The film has also been dubbed into Hindi as Indian Soldier Never on Holiday by Goldmines Telefilms .

= = Plot = =

Jagadish ( Vijay ) , a captain in the Indian Army , returns to Mumbai from Kashmir . On his arrival , his parents and younger sisters force him to see Nisha ( Kajal Aggarwal ) , who they choose for him to be married to . At the bride @-@ viewing ceremony , Jagadish makes up excuses to avoid marrying her , which includes commenting about her being old @-@ fashioned . On the contrary , Nisha is a college @-@ level boxer , who is completely modern in her outlook . Jagadish realises this and proposes to her , which after initial refusal , she reciprocates .

One day , while travelling around the city with his police officer @-@ friend Balaji ( Sathyan ) , Jagadish witnesses the explosion of a bus in which they had travelled . He manages to capture the man ( Gautham Kurup ) who laid the bomb , but he escapes from the hospital where he was kept under custody . Jagadish kidnaps the bomber again , and also forces the police officer who helped the bomber 's escape , to commit suicide . Jagadish soon learns that the bomber is a mere executor , a sleeper agent , whose only role was to plant the bomb . He also discovers that the Islamic terrorist group Harkat @-@ ul @-@ Jihad al @-@ Islami , which the bomber belongs to , has planned various such attacks in the city in a couple of days . Enlisting the help of his fellow Army men and Balaji , Jagadish manages to thwart these attacks and kill the sleeper cell leader 's brother and eleven other terrorists , including the previously captured sleeper cell agent .

When the leader of the terrorist group ( Vidyut Jammwal ) learns about the role of Jagdish in the failure of the terrorist attack , he begins to target the families of the army men , except Jagadish , by kidnapping someone close to them . When Jagadish realises the plan , he substitutes one of the people to be kidnapped , with his younger sister Sanjana ( Deepthi Nambiar ) . Using his pet dog and his sister 's dupatta , he manages to reach the terrorists ' hideout , rescuing his sister , who was about to be killed after Jagadish 's bluff was exposed , and the other victims and eliminating the terrorists assembled there . Asif Ali ( MD Asif ) , the second @-@ in @-@ command of the sleeper cells is captured and killed by Jagdish .

When this attack fails , the terrorist leader decides to target Jagadish himself . He asks Jagadish to surrender to him or else there would be more terrorist attacks . Jagadish decides to sacrifice his life and devises a plan with his fellow army men . Jagadish meets the leader in a ship , which has been rigged with a bomb planted by Jagadish 's friend . When he learns about the leader 's plan of infiltrating the Indian Army with sleeper agents with the help of a traitor in the Indian Defense ? Kameeruddin ( Zakir Hussain ) , Jagadish decides to abandon his suicidal plan . He mocks the leader and compels him to a fight before escaping in a boat , with the leader as hostage . After the

ship explodes , he kills the bewildered leader . Jagadish confronts Kameeruddin and forces him to commit suicide , before returning to Kashmir along with his fellow army men .

= = Cast = =

Director AR Murugadoss and Santosh Sivan make cameo appearances in the song " Google Google " .

= = Production = =

= = = Development = = =

In July 2011 , sources reported that Vijay and AR Murugadoss would collaborate to make an action film , after completing their then @-@ respective ongoing projects , Velayudham and 7aum Arivu . Vijay 's father S. A. Chandrasekhar was initially going to produce the film , but Kalaipuli S. Thanu took over the project . Although Maalai Nerathu Mazhaithuli was initially considered as the title , the film became titled Thuppakki . A. Sreekar Prasad and Thotta Tharani , who was making a comeback to Tamil films after a three @-@ years hiatus , and Santosh Sivan were hired for editing , art direction and cinematography , respectively ; all of whom worked on an AR Murugadoss film for the first time .

Though Kingfisher Calendar model Angela Jonsson took part in a brief photo shoot with Vijay by Santosh Sivan in Chennai , Kajal Aggarwal was eventually confirmed as the female lead , while Akshara Gowda was cast to play the second female lead . Gautham Kurup was chosen to play an antagonistic role , while Vidyut Jamwal , who was simultaneously shooting for Billa II , would be playing another negative role . Sathyan , following several collaborations with Vijay , confirmed that he was part of this project , too . Further , Malayalam actor Jayaram also confirmed his presence in this project . Murugadoss confirmed that he himself would appear in a cameo role . Dubai @-@ based Malayali orthodontist Prasanth Nair was also signed to play a small but important role , making it his acting debut in Tamil cinema .

= = = Filming = = =

According to early reports , filming was to commence at Thiruchendur and continue in Mumbai . Even though it was supposed to start on 26 November 2011 , filming began on 5 December in Mumbai . Vijay would appear in a completely different hairstyle as well as a facial makeover . The first schedule , that lasted for 35 days , was completed by January 2012 . At Linking Road in Bandra , Mumbai , Vijay acted and operated the camera himself for one scene with cinematographer Santosh Sivan 's assistance , which had to be filmed quickly with the unaware public . Sivan commented that it was shot perfectly and decided to retain it in the film . Sivan further told that a major part of the film was being shot in real locations with hidden cameras . He did not use the usual 35 MM camera to shoot the film , but was said to have utilised the latest Arri digital technology , that was introduced in 2011 , becoming one of the first persons in the world to make use of the technology .

In March , the unit completed a 10 @-@ day shoot in Bangkok for a song sequence , featuring Vijay and Aggarwal . The second schedule started on 12 April in Mumbai . The third schedule ended in May 2012 , following which only two songs were remaining , both of which had been scheduled to be shot in Thailand . Vijay met with a minor accident during the shoot and hurt his knee . The shooting was stalled following the incident and the actor left to London to undergo treatment . The team then moved on to Pune for canning three songs . One of the songs was shot atop of a train , along with 300 dancers constructed by art director Sunil Babu . The dance sequence , choreographed by Shobi , was shot in the Mumbai Pune Expressway . The crew then left for Switzerland to shoot a romantic number , with Vijay and Aggarwal , at various locations , for which

Sivan was unable to give dates , and Nutty , a Bollywood cameraman shot it instead . The final song shoot took place at DY Patil Stadium in Mumbai , with which principal photography wrapped . The budget of the film was estimated to be ₹ 700 million ( equivalent to ₹ 920 million or US \$ 14 million in 2016 ) .

= = Soundtrack = =

Harris Jayaraj composed the soundtrack of Thuppakki , teaming up with Murugadoss for the third time . The lyrics were written by Na . Muthukumar , Viveka and Madhan Karky , who had written over 35 pallavis for one of the songs . Vijay , seven years after his last attempt at playback singing , and Andrea Jeremiah lent their voices for " Google Google " , a party number in the film . Though Harris Jayaraj had announced in August that Thuppakki 's music launch would take place the following month , the audio was eventually released on 10 October 2012 .

= = Release = =

The film was initially due to release on 9 November 2012 , but was postponed by four days to 13 November , coinciding with Diwali day . The film released in more than 1500 screens , becoming the widest release for a Vijay film .

Upon release , an Islamic group violently protested against the film , claiming that it portrayed Muslims as terrorists and traitors . Murugadoss , S. Thanu and Vijay 's father S. A. Chandrasekhar later tendered an open apology to representatives of 23 different Muslim outfits , and agreed to delete the scenes to which objections were raised , after activists had gathered near Vijay 's residence at Neelankarai and raised slogans against him and the film in Arabic and Urdu .

= = = Distribution = = =

The distribution rights for Thuppakki in Tamil Nadu were bought by Gemini Film Circuit . Several distributors including Bellamkonda Suresh , Geetha Films and Suresh Films were competing for the Telugu dubbing rights , with SVR eventually purchasing the rights for ₹ 15 crore , the second highest in terms of obtaining the Telugu rights after Kamal Hasan 's Dasavathaaram . ATMUS Entertainment had reportedly paid the highest price for a Vijay film to distribute the film in North America . It was distributed in France by BR Films International in more than 10 centres .

= = = Marketing = = =

Thuppakki 's first look poster was leaked on the internet on 30 April 2012 , a day prior to its scheduled release on 1 May . The poster , that depicted Vijay holding a cigar in his mouth , led to criticism by social activists for violating the Indian Tobacco Act , which prohibits advertising tobacco products . Murugadoss however defended the poster , explaining that it was only for promotional purposes and added that the film had no such scenes , claiming that even a small sequence featuring Vijay smoking had been deleted from the film .

In October 2012 , another promotional poster , which depicted a police @-@ uniform clad Vijay carrying the Aggarwal on his hands was claimed to have been lifted from a poster of An Officer and a Gentleman ( 1982 ) which depicted its lead actor Richard Gere lifting actress Debra Winger . Murugadoss claimed that Thuppakki did not have an army backdrop like Gere 's film but was set in Mumbai instead , going on to assert that everything in his film was original . He however admitted to have used the poster of An Officer and a Gentleman , and in an interview with The Hindu said , " Sometimes , you admire something so much that sub @-@ consciously it becomes a part of your work " .

The makers confirmed that the film 's first trailer would be released on 22 June , coinciding with Vijay 's birthday . However , Murugadoss announced that the teaser was to be released on 1 July , ten days later . Upon progression , the teaser and poster launch event was delayed , following an

injunction order from the court , which had directed the makers of the film not to use the Thuppakki title in any form . With the court case ending on 5 October , the first teaser was released in October 2012 .

== Home media ==

The broadcasting rights were purchased by STAR Vijay for ? 11 crore ( US \$ 1 @. @ 6 million ) . Overseas DVD were marketed by Lotus Fivestar and Seyons TSK .

== Reception ==

== Critical reception ==

L Romal M Singh of DNA India stated that the film " is different . The difference is visible in every shot , every dialogue spoken and the amazing attention to detail . What stands out most in this incredibly entertaining film is that Tamil films have finally come of age ? in so many interesting ways " . Behindwoods.com rated the film 3 @. @ 5 out of 5 stars , calling it " a fully loaded festival package from Vijay , Murugadoss and co " . Deccan Chronicle rated it 3 @. @ 5 / 5 and cited : " Thuppaki has come out as an action thriller that depends on mind games and smart plans rather than bloody fights . This is Murugados 's film in its true sense and Vijay adds immense value to it by his performance " . IBNLive named it a " well written Tamil film that engages the audience " and added that it had " the energy of Vijay and intellect of AR Murugadoss " .

Manoj Kumar of International Business Times wrote : " Director AR Murugadoss makes sure that he does not regress with any of his films . He frequently comes out with a different plot and narration style , and " Thuppaki is a brilliant example of this " . Sify 's critic stated that Murugadoss " has made a complete entertainer that blends with Vijay 's mass image , thanks to his racy script " , calling it a " perfect Diwali entertainer " . Sangeetha Devi Dundoo of The Hindu commented : " One of the first promos of the film , with snapshots of Mumbai , lurking terror , the antagonist threatening Vijay to which he responds ' I am waiting ' went viral on social networks . The wait , clearly , has been worth it for the audience . And the man who 's probably having the last laugh is Murugadoss " . OneIndia rated the film 3 out of 5 and said , " Vijay is stupendous in the role of an army officer . He brings a lot of energy to his character and thrills the audience in action sequences . Kajal Aggarwal looks good . Vidyut Jamwal has done decent job and Satyan is good " . Haricharan Pudipeddi of The New Indian Express said , " Most of the characters are made to look dumb as Vijay steals all the attention . Kajal 's role as a boxer , which she squanders with her cliched performance , is definitely a turn off in the film . Jayaram and Sathyan , who 're supposed to make us laugh , fail miserably in the process " and concluded , " In essence , " Thuppakki " has the energy of Vijay and intellect of A.R. Murugadoss " .

J Hurtado of Twitch Film called the film 's cinematography " astonishingly good " and added that , " Murugadoss and Vijay have never worked on a better @-@ looking movie " , but called the film " an enjoyable , though largely forgettable film " . Kanchana Devi of Truthdive rated the film 3 @. @ 75 / 5 , calling it " a perfect action entertainer and a great treat for Diwali from Vijay and A.R.Murugadoss " . N. Venkateshwaran of The Times of India said , " ' Thuppakki ' will definitely be picked up by a big Bollywood star for a remake . For , the gun was bang on target " . In contrast , Vivek Ramz from in.com rated it 3 out of 5 and said that it " doesn 't meet the huge expectations it had created for itself " , calling it " another regular commercial film which entertains in bits and pieces " . Pavithra Srinivasan of Rediff rated the film 2 @. @ 5 out of 5 , saying " Vijay fans will find plenty to rejoice in this subdued avatar of their star , but audiences who seek intelligence in their movies will find it rather dull " .

== Box office ==

India

On the opening day , Thuppacki netted around ? 92 @.@ 5 million ( US \$ 1 @.@ 4 million ) in Tamil Nadu box office alone . It collected a sum of ? 456 million ( US \$ 6 @.@ 8 million ) in Tamil Nadu , and ? 653 @.@ 2 million ( US \$ 9 @.@ 7 million ) worldwide by its first week . In Chennai city alone , the film netted ? 48 @.@ 3 million ( US \$ 720 @,@ 000 ) in its first week with an average theatre occupancy of 99 % . The second week witnessed an occupancy of 90 % in the city and netted around ? 94 @.@ 1 million ( US \$ 1 @.@ 4 million ) creating a new record for Vijay and taking a distributor share of ? 46 @.@ 0 million ( US \$ 680 @,@ 000 ) in 13 days . It still stood in the number one position by the third week resulting in a total collection of ? 113 @.@ 6 million ( US \$ 1 @.@ 7 million ) . After a long run for eight weeks at the Chennai box office , the film netted ? 134 million ( US \$ 2 @.@ 0 million ) , the second highest figure among Tamil films .

Ten days after the release , Thuppacki was released in 31 screens in Mumbai . It was bought for a record price in Karnataka by a leading distributor , and opened well at the box office there . The opening 3 @-@ day collection from 8 multiplexes of Bangalore alone netted at ? 3 @,@ 180 @,@ 000 ( US \$ 47 @,@ 000 ) Thuppacki was released in 126 screens in Kerala and collected ? 40 million ( US \$ 590 @,@ 000 ) in two days with a distributor share of ? 20 million ( US \$ 300 @,@ 000 ) , which is a record for any Tamil release . Many of the centres witnessed police charging before the shows and were forced to go for a fifth show on the first day which resulted in almost 600 shows in a single day : a record number of screenings for any film in the state . The film reached the ? 1 billion ( US \$ 15 million ) mark in 11 days of its release . The film 's total domestic box office collections at the end of its run stood at ? 1 @.@ 8 billion according to distributors Eros International .

#### Overseas

In its first weekend , Thuppacki earned £ 134 @,@ 280 ( ? 11 @.@ 8 million ) at the UK Box office . The film has collected ? 50 lakh in the second weekend on 11 screens . The total collection of the film in the UK and Ireland region was ? 1 @.@ 85 crore after the fourth weekend . In the US , the film collected \$ 320 @,@ 349 ( ? 17 @.@ 6 million ) on 36 screens for the first week . The per screen average stands at \$ 8 @,@ 899 ( ? 488 @,@ 000 ) and the Telugu version earned ? 846 @,@ 000 from nine screens . At the end of its second week , it once again topped the collection chart by adding ? 7 @.@ 5 million to its 13 @-@ day total ? 2 @.@ 51 crore ( \$ 4 @,@ 52 @,@ 734 ) . In Australia , Thuppacki grossed A \$ 80 @,@ 264 ( ? 46 @,@ 73 @,@ 000 ) on six screens and the average per screen collection of the film stands out at A \$ 1656 after two weeks . The film continued to do good business at the International box office in its second week . It performed well in Malaysia , where it grossed around ? 87 @.@ 7 million ( US \$ 1 @.@ 3 million ) at the box office after three weeks .

= = Accolades = =

= = Remakes = =

Murugadoss remade the film in Hindi as Holiday : A Soldier Is Never Off Duty in 2014 , starring Akshay Kumar in the leading role . Baba Yadav remade it in Bengali as Game the same year starring Jeet . The film was dubbed in Hindi as Indian Soldier Never on Holiday by Goldmines Telefilms .