

Character killed...

THE EVERYDAY MAKING OF THE YOGYA BAHU

A) JUNE 22, 9:15 AM



Parul Chauhan is on the phone as she leaves her apartment in Lohkhandwa, Kandivli, for a morning shoot at Film City.

B) 10.02 AM



Parul likes doing her own make-up, and transforms into Ragini in under half-an-hour. PCS/SATYAJIT DESAI

E) 11.05 AM



The scene didn't need Parul to deliver a line, but she prefers checking the screenplay to figure her cues.

F) 11.20 AM



In a precursor to a scene where Ragini discovers that sister Sadhana is dead in a bomb blast, she is chased by a frantic Babuji.

C) 10.35 AM



Now that co-star Sara Khan is dead (on the show), Parul gets make-up van to herself. The rain is a bit of a spoiler today.

contd from pg 6-7

"It is a happy moment for a writer when his creation wins an award. The award ought to go to the writer. The actor isn't wittingly in for his/her performance, but simply for what he is on the show, which is thanks to the writer," he reasons.

Meghna Malik seconds that. "I find the concept of awarding a character quite weird, and silly. It's an award that ought to go jointly to the actor, writer, producer and director. No one person can take full credit for the success of a character."

Actor Satyajit Sharma who plays the hot-headed Basant in *Balika Vadhu* is in disagreement. A character shouldn't step out of the confines of the set, he says. "To each his own,

but I believe a character is sacred, and to come out in public dressed as Basant would, for me, break the illusion."

But TV reporter-turned-actress Sonali Verma who was recently voted Favourite Maan for her role as Gayatri in *Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai*, thinks such awards are self-explanatory. "These are awards for the Star family, they celebrate relationships. They are meant to be this way," she says.

Tulsi still going strong

True, it was Tulsi, Parvati, Komolika, and Purnu who set the stage on fire at the recent Awards, not Smriti Inraasi, Saakshi Tanwar, Urvasi Dholakia and Shweta Tiwari. "The TRPs of the Awards are a

clear indicator that these characters are still popular," says a proud Inra. She insists she was never suffocated by Tulsi's stardom. "Success can never suffocate you, and I co-created her after all. She can't take over me." Neither does she feel she lost her sense of self. "I created an identity for myself with my other work," she says, referring to her social work and entry into politics.

But truth be told, Inra was never able to take on another role, with as much impact. Neither of her productions, *Thodi Si Zamene Thoda Sa Aasmann*, *Virrudh*, *Mere Agne Aur Maniben*. Com tasted the success *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi* did. She continues to remain the idealistic, forgiving

daughter-in-law despite the fact that the show ended a couple of years ago.

Still liking 'Komo' lika'

It's pretty much the same for Urvasi Dholakia, the vamp everyone loved to hate in *Kasauti Zindagi Kay*. "I have no idea what it was about *Komolika* that everyone liked. Maybe the fact that she was one of the first glamorous vamps," she says. While Dholakia explored her funny bone in *Comedy Circus* and bared all on reality show *Sach Ka Saamna*, she hasn't recaptured viewer attention like she did with her enormous *tikka* and swaying walk in the *Star Plus* soap that folded up in 2008.

See TV's fiction head Subesh



THEY (PARUL AND SARA OF BIDAII) WERE DRESSED IN TRENDY OUTFITS. I SENT THEM HOME TO CHANGE. THEY RETURNED IN TRADITIONAL INDIAN ATTIRE. WE COULDN'T AFFORD TO GIVE THE FANS A CULTURE SHOCK.

RAJAN SHAHI
PRODUCER, BIDAII