

BENGALI AT HEART, TRULY INTERNATIONAL AT HER ART

Super entertainer, our dearest, cutest, ever smiling "mamoni" of Tollywood (aka, the Tollygunge Film Industry), Indrani Halder's first passion has always been film. However it was not easy to enter the world of cinema. She made her acting debut as a teenager in the serial, Tero Parbon. The journey that began long ago eventually turned her into a star and gave Bengal one of its finest actors. Since the late 1990s Indrani has been the reigning queen of Tollywood and has continued to work in mainstream Bengali films, parallel cinema and in the small screen as well. She had rightfully been endowed with roles in films directed by legendary makers such as Rituparno Ghosh's *Dahan*, for which she won a National Film Award along with her co-star. At the same time, her mainstream films like *Biye Phool*, *Jamai Babu*, *Sweth Patharer Thala*, *Thakhan Teish*, to name a few from her illustrious oeuvre, are also timeless box office hits all over West Bengal and with the bengali diaspora. Films like *Paromitar Aekdin*, *Angshumaner Chobi*, *Faltu*, *Jara Bhristhitey Bhijechilo*, *Saanjhatir Rupkathara*, *Dahan*, *Charachar* have made Indrani Halder one of the finest actors that Bengal had ever produced. Crossing the realm of Bengal, she performed in Hindi TV serials in Mumbai. *Sujata* was aired on Sony TV; *Maryada* was aired on Star Plus and *Savitri* on Life OK. These made her a well-acclaimed actor all over India. The national award came as a fitting tribute following a string of excellent performances in mainstream and parallel cinema and on television. Along with the National and Interna-

INDRANI HALDER



a sleuth, ran for nearly 500 episodes with TRPs like any other prime timers in the channel. And now Bengali audiences are eagerly watching her return to the small screen in the avatar of twin sisters – that has hit the screen recently.

Along with her first love, that is acting, Indrani has been actively associated with social causes, never failing to contribute towards the betterment of the underprivileged and the distressed. Her recent decision to join active politics has been widely lauded and all of Bengal wishes to see her in bigger political roles in the near future.



tional Awards, she has also won the BFJA (Bengal Film Journalist Award) award three times.

Recently Indrani's small screen popularity skyrocketed with her portrayal of the Sleuth Homemaker – *Goyenda Ginni*. Though not in the prime time slot, this thriller adventure story of a homemaker, who also happens to be

