

Apurva Agnihotri in *Bidaai*

The eight-year leap in Star Plus' numero uno show *Sapna Babul Ka Bidaai* has two of its popular actors, Kinshuk Mahajan and Sara Khan, exiting from the show and new ones coming in. Sara will be shown to be dead and Kinshuk's status is not clear yet. However, according to sources, Sara's death is a gimmick and she will come back later while Kinshuk will continue in a different role.

Apurva Agnihotri will be the new entrant opposite Ragini played by Parul Chauhan. As Anmol, Apurva will play an extremely positive role instrumental in bringing back a smile in the Raj-

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vansh family, which is grappling with a tragedy. He, however, is not willing to talk more about his character. "I am hoping to make a place for myself in this hugely popular show," is all that he is willing to say.

Apurva was last seen with his wife Shilpa Saklani in a reality show *Pati Patni Aur Woh*. Says Apurva, "These reality shows have really spoilt us. They go on for a short period and bring good money," smiles the actor who has consciously stayed away from soaps of late. "Most of the serials offered to me were village-based and I don't see myself playing a *zamindar*. I think I

will be a misfit," he grins. Also, he was busy helping his wife Shilpa who is keen on setting up a production house. "She is creative and good behind the camera," he says proudly.

Before he took on *Bidaai*, Apurva had three other offers, which thankfully for him had city-centric stories. "I know that rural backdrops are dominating the small-screen but slowly the scenario is changing and urban settings are being weaved in," he points out. The reason he opted for *Bidaai* was mainly the director Rajan Shahi with whom he has worked earlier in *Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin*. In fact, the actor till date is best remembered for his role as Armaan-sir in this path-breaking Sony show. "Rajan is a very good human being and though he is a hard taskmaster I know how he functions and am comfortable with him," says Apurva who is hoping that a sequel to *Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin* is made. "I have suggested this to the producers Deeya-Tony Singh, I would love to be a part of it," says the actor, who catapulted to fame with this serial. He was later seen in *Kaajal Sabki Aankhon Mein Basi* and reality show *Nach Baliye*.

■ Chaya Unnikrishnan

