

# Dilip Prabhavalkar's 'Chimanrao tey Gandhi' once again on Pune stage

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AFTER A span of several years, a rare event lies in store for fans of veteran actor Dilip Prabhavalkar, who will bring his much-acclaimed standup talk show, 'Chimanrao tey Gandhi', for a charity event to the city.

In the talk show, Prabhavalkar shows audiences glimpses into his journey as an actor across all three mediums - theatre, television and movies - through rare clippings, dialogues, experiences on set, and even an occasional skit. This is something he has performed on very few occasions in Pune.

The event will be held at Balgandharva Rangmandir on December 8.

Supriya Damle, secretary of the Hindu Mahila Sabha which has organised the event, said Prabhavalkar last brought the talk show to the city in 2012.

"He has always been hosting these talk shows abroad. Actually it is quite a treat as I have



**Dilip Prabhavalkar**

seen some clippings of his shows in Toronto and other cities, where he provides some rare glimpses into the working of the industry and his own experiences. Prabhavalkar started his acting career with theatre and his Marathi TV serial debut was with 'Chimanrao Gundyabhau' in 1977, which was based on a series of short stories by C V Joshi. His role as Mahatma Gandhi in Munnabhai MBBS is how the name of the talk show has come up, as it encompasses his three-decade-old career. He uses the audio-visual medium to present roles he has played across all the mediums and backs it up by a live narration

about the process behind each role. In fact, he even does an on-the-spot live performance of all three roles," Damle said.

Asked about some of the elements of the talk show, Damle said some rare sketches of Doordarshan programmes like Gajra, a weekly programme from the black and white era; with his role as Chetkin, the witch in popular children's play Albatya Galbatya; or instances like when he hitched a ride while still in costume to reach a theatre show are some of the experiences which audiences can expect during the talk show.

Prabhavalkar was born in 1944 in Bombay Presidency of British India. Recipient of numerous awards, including a National Film Award and a Filmfare Award, he holds a master's degree in biophysics and initially worked for a pharmaceutical company before he took up acting. Known for his versatility, Prabhavalkar gained prominence for significant roles in the comedy and drama genres.