

Iqbal averse to reality shows



An intense lover in *Kaisa Ye Pyar Hai*, a patriot in *Choona Hai Aasman*, and now actor Iqbal Khan is geared up to portray an underworld don in the serial *Waaris* on Zee TV.

So, what attracted him to a role like this? "I am a competent actor and doing something different is always good for one's career. Moreover, there are a few characters that I think I can pull off nicely. The role of Shankar in *Waaris* is one such character," said Iqbal.

And is it true that the serial is inspired from Ram Gopal Varma's *Sarkar Raj* and his character from that of Abhishek Bachchan's?

"A daily soap can't be inspired from a two-and-a-half hour movie. But it might be possible that there is some influence of the movie's characters in our roles. Besides, working in a production house headed by Smriti Irani, who has successfully produced serials like *Viruddh*, is in itself reason enough to choose this role," said Iqbal.

The actor, who recently quit *Choona Hai Aasman* despite having a strong character, thinks that the channel was not promoting the show well. "There's no point sticking to a show that is not doing well among the audience. When I first read the script, it fascinated me, but things became worse with time," he said.

So, isn't he planning to participate in any reality show with his wife Sneha? "If you participate in a reality show, your personal life becomes public. I want my private life to be my own," he said.

And does he want to do any saas-bahu drama? "First of all, I want to do only one serial at a time. Moreover, I'd really like to maintain distance from the regular family drama on television. Male actors rarely get to play meaty roles in these typical saas-bahu shows," he said.

