

Telly gang's cricket plans...

As the country is totally gripped by the World Cup fever, cricket aficionados from our telly industry tell Lisa Antao how they make time to watch their favourite sports

The telly industry is notorious for its long working hours and erratic shoot-schedules. Some actors' dresses end up shoot-spilling on them despite of them falling in love. In a country where cricket is a religion and cricketers are considered like demi-Gods, it's no surprise that actors manage to fit in the biggest spectacle of the cricketing world i.e. the Cricket World Cup? This event is special not just because India is hosting it but this perhaps, it could be India's greatest cricketing legend, Sachin Tendulkar's last World Cup.

It gives technological advancement a boost. He says, "When my schedule is over, I watch matches while I'm in

the gym. Also, when I'm shooting, I'm constantly checking scores on my mobile phone. Technology has been a real boon for us cricket lovers. I record cricket matches on my DTH TV system at home and watch them when I get back home. I have told my production unit that I'll be taking an off to watch the finals match."

Meanwhile, besides watching India's matches, Sailesh Gulabani makes it a point to watch matches of his other favourite teams like West Indies, Australia and England, and is gearing up for the finals. He says

that his wife and he are planning to watch the finals at Wankhede, irrespective of whether Team India makes it to the finals or not. He says, "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I don't know when India will host the World Cup in the future again. I'm keeping my fingers crossed for getting hold of the tickets."

An ardent cricket fan and a member of the telly world's own cricket team, Boxy Boys! Jay Bharamashankar says he's trying his best to fetch tickets for the finals. "I absolutely love cricket so much that I can even leave my shoot to watch matches. I watch as many match-

es as I can in my vanity van while I'm shooting. But what I'm really looking forward to, is to watch the finals." Manav Gohil prefers watching the matches at home. "It's even more fun to watch matches along with friends as there's total masti. I prefer watching matches in the comfort of my own home, as one can catch immediate replays of the highlights."

He doesn't manage to watch all the matches, but Kinshuk Mahajan is glued to India's matches because of Sachin. "Unfortunately due to my hectic schedule, I'm unable to watch most matches. But I make it a point to watch India's matches anyhow, especially for Sachin. I'm really hoping that not only Team India reaches the finals but also wins the World Cup. I have asked my production unit to grant me a day off on the day of the final match."

Iqbal Khan who has played a lot of cricket during his younger days has gradually lost interest in the game. He talks about the

matches. He says, "Because of my hectic schedule, I don't get the time to watch the matches nor do I make time for it. However, whenever India is playing, the atmosphere on the sets is completely charged. There's excitement, suspense and tension all at the same time. And the Irish team's performance has piqued my interest to watch their matches."

A complete sports lover, Nikhil Arya is one

a blast." In this World Cup fever, women are not far behind. "I'm not a hardcore cricket fan but I like to watch when India is playing. On the sets, I'm the only girl amongst all the boys participating in the cricket frenzy. Also, I'm a big fan of Sachin and I really hope India wins this World Cup because Sachin

truly deserves it," says Kaushik. Kritika Kamra's patriotic feelings go best of "I'm definitely excited. India's performance because so my patriotic feelings to the fore during the Cup. In between schedules, I keep a track of scores by asking people the sets and during the World Cup because I rush to the makeup to the m



Jay Bharamashankar



Kinshuk Mahajan



Nishant Malkani



Kritika Kamra



Kavita Kaushik