

'Chhoti Anandi' to enter small screen world soon (TV Snippets)

Mumbai, Jan 5 Indian small screen's beloved Anandi from "Balika Vadhu" is set to travel back in time and get an animated makeover. Bringing all the childhood adventures of the fictional TV character, a home-grown animated series "Chhoti Anandi" will head to the television space soon.

Encouraged by the success of "Balika Vadhu", Colors channel has associated with production banner Sphereorigins to launch the animated series. The show will simulcast on Colors and Rishtey from January 17, read a statement.

The fun-filled show with Chhoti Anandi and her pack of friends (Chhote Sipahi) will capture adventures of Anandi's playful childhood.

As for the storyline, Chhoti Anandi will be shown as an eight-year-old wise child, known to find innovative and unique ways to solve problems in the bylanes of a village in Rajasthan. The series will highlight her entertaining yet mischievous side.

Raj Nayak, CEO of Colors channel, said that it is the "popularity" of the fictional character which made them plunge into the animated world of Anandi.

"Through 'Chhoti Anandi', we plan to engage and strengthen our bond with the tiny tot audience and present a show that is visually appealing and entertaining at the same time," Nayak said.

With an aim to strike a chord with the audience with a recall value, a similar backdrop, colour and music as that of "Balika Vadhu", will be painted at the end of every episode.

Talking about the concept, producer Sunjoy Waddhwa, chief managing director of Sphereorigins, said: "It is a challenging prospect to translate a fictional character into an animated series like 'Chhoti Anandi' who is wise beyond her age and will question society's regressive norms."

Waddhwa asserts that the "show will not be an animated representation of the story of 'Balika Vadhu', but 'Chhoti Anandi's adventures'."

The animation for the series has been done by Anish Patel, founder and CEO of HopMotion animation studio.

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Deepika, Devoleena to shake a leg on TV show

Popular TV actresses Deepika Singh and Devoleena Bhattacharjee have put on their dancing shoes for an upcoming episode of the show "Diya Aur Baati Hum".

On the occasion of Laalima's (Shefali Sharma) 'sangeet' ceremony, Devoleena, best known for her role of Gopi in "Saath Nibhaana Saathiya", will make a special appearance in the show in a bid to reconcile Sandhya (Deepika) and Sooraj's (Anas Rashid) relationship.

Amid all this, Deepika will be seen dancing to the song "Ainvayi ainvayi" from Anushka Sharma and Ranveer Singh's film "Band Baaja Baaraat". Devoleena, meanwhile, will shake a leg to the song "Nagada sang dhol" from Deepika Padukone starrer "Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela".

"Due to our hectic shooting schedules round the year, I only get to meet Deepika during the annual STAR Parivaar Awards. I had a great time shooting for 'Diya Aur Baati Hum'. It's a fun track and weddings are always fun to shoot for," Devoleena said in a statement.

"Deepika and I always have a good time together and this time was no different. We even helped each other dress up and had a good time dancing to such lovely songs," she added.

Devoleena will also be seen gifting Sooraj and Sandhya a lord Krishna idol.

"Diya Aur Baati Hum", which is aired on Star Plus, focuses on the life of IPS officer Sandhya Rathi and her family.