

**Dilip Prabhavalkar, Indian Marathi Actor, Director, Playwright & Author
in conversation with Shri Vijay Kenkare, senior director and playwright**
webinar held on 5th October 2020, 5.30pm

Dilip Prabhavalkar in conversation with well-known director and senior playwright Shri Vijay Kenkare along with Shri Yogesh Tadvalkar as moderator, was really a delight to watch. Dilip Prabhavalkar a Biophysicist by profession having a decent job in a pharmaceutical company decided to change his profession for good and follow his passion of "Acting" as Career at the age of 47. Since then he has exhibited his multi-faceted talented personality by excelling in acting, writing and being philanthropist. Describing his passion, he said "Whatever you do for subsistence is the Livelihood and if it is in the field of your choice then it makes "True - Living".

It is never too late to follow your passion and excel in it

Dilip Prabhavalkar shifted from his profession as a biophysicist in pharma company to follow his passion of acting and took up career as an "Actor" at the age of 47, first entering commercial drama in 1990. Over the years Dilipji has made an everlasting impact by his roles as character artist, comedian, villain in Marathi theatre and films as well as in Hindi films.

The all-round experimental actor and the prolific writer Shri Prabhavalkar makes the reader laugh and introspect every aspect of life in a lighter way. He has also been involved in helping the organisations working dedicatedly for spastics, orphans, old age homes etc. He said that he a strong believer of the fact of that we have to give back to the society

Always channelize all your energies, keep following the passion, do as much as possible, he advised the students.

Modesty , Respect towards Mentors & Peer Appreciation are values to be imbibed

During the conversation, on most of the occasions Shri Prabhavalkar attributed the success of characters that he had played, to his Directors. He humbly submitted that the credit goes to the Director as it is he, who visualizes the role and he is confident that a particular actor will perform the character to the best and hence then the Character gets automatically unfolded.

Shri Dilipji cited instance , wherein he felt very comfortable to be on stage with veteran actor Mohan Joshi, as a fellow actor in a Two-Character Marathi Drama . He also appreciated Smt Vijaya Mehta for her role in Marathi drama "Sandhya Chaya" . This peer appreciation are virtues which were highlighted during the conversation.

While appreciating these comments about peers, Shri Vijay Kenkare told that Dilipbhai has that inner strength which enables him to reincarnate the character/s within him and which then automatically transforms into the character/s. This is the reason why he plays role of a mischievous Chimanrao and a scary Taty Vinchu in an equally effective manner. During conversation, prolific actor Dilipji, renowned director Vijayji and the studied moderator Yogeshji were in complete sync and complementing each other, which was very heartening to watch.

Discipline, Self-Study & Deep observation show you path towards your goal

While describing the preparations that were made for various roles that Shri Prabhavalkar has played, Shri Kenkre elaborated that Dilipji can go to any extent to gather information for preparation of a particular character. He cited play "Jawai Mazha Bhala" as an example. He also informed that the colloquial accent of the character of Chinese-speaking Prince was harnessed after carefully listening to the conversations of the Chinese staff serving at the Flora Hotel at Worli, which Dilipji visited frequently only to learn this Chinese accent.

Dilipji's qualities of being disciplined, doing assignments with total dedication, keeping detailed notes of discussions, observing nuances of various personalities, music, dances, photos & videos, got highlighted during discussion with Shri Kenkre. He also emphasized that understanding of rhythm was important quality with which Dilipji matched with the vibrations of the audience and the characters and hence plays got appreciated. Observation, imagination, concentration further shaped the character which he played.

Not overconfidence, but feeling of insecurity about your preparedness in fact leads to Excellence in Performance

Dilip Prabhavalkar mentioned that he felt to be an "Insecured Natyakarmi" as he always thought that he could study more & prepare about the characters till he actually performed them on stage. He cited example that this feeling of insecurity cropped up in him even on 750th enactment of the Marathi play "Hasva-Fasvi". He said, "The reason for this insecurity is that the audience is different every time and you have to understand this fact and perform on stage. Asking questions to understand characters increases the dialogue with the director of the play and effectively enriches the play". While commenting on this feeling of insecurity, Shri Kenkre said "This insecurity disappears as soon as he goes on stage and he is with full of enthusiasm and vigour".

The other outcome of continuous study of various character & events has been reflected in his Creative-writing. He has created a wealth of literature ranging from short stories, newspaper articles to compendium of letters, books, skits etc. which will appeal to everyone from children to the elderly. It is certainly worth learning from his book how to present various life events and everyday experiences in interesting words and in a mischievous style.

Effective Communication is a crucial factor

Answering to the questions of Vidyalkar's teacher, Dilipji pointed out the similarities between theatre drama and lecture sessions, commenting that success of both is based on the ability to communicate effectively. Shri Vijay Kenkre who has been an experienced teacher further elaborated that the teachers should be able to communicate effectively as per the needs and understanding levels of the students.

Adapting to change is the Mantra to stay relevant and effective, in changing times

Shri Dilip Prabhavalkar in his concluding remarks advised the students and teachers to observe the changes around them and adapt to the changes to remain relevant and effective for a longer time. He also reiterated that acquiring new ideas, working with enthusiasm and energy with the younger generations will surely make career successful and long lasting.