

Daily Current Affairs 17 March 2025



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Q1. Veteran Bollywood actress Madhu Malhotra, who passed away in March 2026, made her debut in the Hindi film industry with which of the following films?

- (a) Satte Pe Satta
- (b) Andhera
- (c) Karz
- (d) Hero

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (b) Andhera

Explanation:

- Madhu Malhotra, a veteran actress known for her prolific work in the 1980s and 1990s, passed away at the age of 71 on March 13, 2026, in Mumbai.
- Her professional journey in the Indian film industry began in 1975 with the film *Andhera*.
- The debut film, *Andhera*, was a horror production directed by the famous Ramsay Brothers, who were pioneers of the horror genre in India.
- Following her debut, she became a staple supporting actress, eventually appearing in more than 100 Hindi films throughout her career.
- She gained significant mainstream visibility a few years later in 1979 when she appeared in *The Great Gambler*, directed by Shakti Samanta, where she played the sister of the character portrayed by Amitabh Bachchan.

Information Booster:

- Madhu Malhotra was frequently cast in significant supporting roles alongside the superstars of the era, including Amitabh Bachchan, Jackie Shroff, and Rishi Kapoor.
- She was often associated with iconic musical sequences; for instance, she was featured during the picturization of the legendary song 'Lambi Judaai' in the movie *Hero*.
- Her career spanned several decades, allowing her to work with legendary filmmakers like Subhash Ghai and Shakti Samanta.

Additional Knowledge:

- *Satte Pe Satta* (Option a): Released in 1982, this was a massive hit where Madhu played the love interest of Paintal's character (Budh). She is fondly remembered for her presence in the song 'Mausam Mastana' from this film.
- *Karz* (Option c): A 1980 musical thriller directed by Subhash Ghai. While Madhu Malhotra was part of the cast, it was not her debut film.
- *Hero* (Option d): A 1983 blockbuster directed by Subhash Ghai that launched Jackie Shroff. Madhu Malhotra played a pivotal supporting role in this film, contributing to its emotional depth during the song sequences.

Q2. Madhu Malhotra, who recently passed away, was famously featured in the emotional picturization of which iconic song in the 1983 film 'Hero'?

- (a) Mausam Mastana
- (b) Lambi Judaai
- (c) Om Shanti Om
- (d) Pyar Karne Wale

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (b) Lambi Judaai

Explanation:

- One of the most defining moments of Madhu Malhotra's career was her appearance in the 1983 blockbuster film *Hero*, directed by Subhash Ghai.
- The film is celebrated for its soundtrack, particularly the song 'Lambi Judaai', which was soulfully rendered by the renowned folk singer Reshma.

- Madhu Malhotra appeared in the emotional sequences of this song, which became one of the most memorable and hauntingly beautiful parts of the movie.
- The song remains a classic track in Bollywood history, often cited for its deep emotional resonance and its portrayal of the pain of separation.
- Her involvement in such high-profile projects during the 1980s solidified her status as a familiar and beloved face in Indian households.

Information Booster:

- The film *Hero* served as the debut for Jackie Shroff and featured Meenakshi Seshadri as the female lead.
- The success of the film and its music helped supporting actors like Madhu Malhotra gain immense recognition across the country.
- Madhu's ability to portray emotional depth in brief sequences made her a preferred choice for directors handling complex family dramas.

Additional Knowledge:

- Mausam Mastana (Option a): This is a popular song from the 1982 film *Satte Pe Satta*. Madhu Malhotra was featured in this song alongside actor Paintal.
- Om Shanti Om (Option c): This is the iconic chartbuster from the 1980 film *Karz*, primarily featuring Rishi Kapoor. While Madhu was in the film, this song is not her primary association.
- Pyar Karne Wale (Option d): A famous song from the film *Shaan* (1980). It is unrelated to the specific career highlights of Madhu Malhotra mentioned in the context of her 1983 roles.

Q3. In the 1982 classic film 'Satte Pe Satta', veteran actress Madhu Malhotra played the love interest of which character?

- (a) Budh (played by Paintal)
- (b) Ravi (played by Amitabh Bachchan)
- (c) Shani (played by Kanwaljit Singh)
- (d) Guru (played by Kanwar Ajit Singh)

Ans.(a)

Sol. The correct answer is (a) Budh (played by Paintal)

Explanation:

- The 1982 comedy-drama 'Satte Pe Satta' is considered a cult classic in Indian cinema, featuring Amitabh Bachchan in a double role.
- In this film, which revolves around seven brothers, Madhu Malhotra portrayed the love interest of the character Budh, who was played by the veteran comic actor Paintal.
- Her role was integral to the lighthearted and romantic subplots of the film, particularly involving the brothers' transformation to impress their love interests.
- The chemistry and the comedic timing between the supporting cast members, including Madhu and Paintal, contributed significantly to the film's massive success and enduring charm.
- She was part of the ensemble that performed in the vibrant song 'Mausam Mastana', a track that perfectly captured the joyous spirit of the movie.

Information Booster:

- *Satte Pe Satta* was an adaptation of the American musical *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.
- The film featured an ensemble cast of leading ladies including Hema Malini, Sarika, and Ranjeeta Kaur.
- Madhu Malhotra's performance in the film is often remembered by fans of 80s cinema as part of the "six couples" storyline that mirrored the lead pair's romance.

Additional Knowledge:

- Ravi (Option b): This was the lead character played by Amitabh Bachchan, whose love interest in the film was Indu (Hema Malini).
- Shani and Guru (Options c & d): These were other brothers in the film. While they also had respective love interests among the group of girls, Madhu Malhotra was specifically paired with Budh.

Q4. How many Hindi films approximately did Madhu Malhotra appear in during her career spanning the 1970s to the 1990s?

- (a) Over 50
- (b) Over 200
- (c) Over 100
- (d) Exactly 75

Ans.(c)

Sol. The correct answer is (c) Over 100

Explanation:

- Madhu Malhotra was a highly prolific actress who maintained a consistent presence in Bollywood for over two decades.
- During her career, which reached its peak in the 1980s and early 1990s, she appeared in more than 100 films.
- This high volume of work is a testament to her versatility and demand as a supporting actress who could handle comedy, drama, and horror with equal ease.
- Her filmography includes collaborations with some of the most influential directors of the time, such as Subhash Ghai, Shakti Samanta, and the Ramsay Brothers.
- Beyond her famous roles in *Hero* and *Satte Pe Satta*, she was part of other notable projects like *Karz* (1980), *Shradhanjali* (1981), and *Vidhaata* (1982).

Information Booster:

- The 1980s was an era of "formula films" and "multi-starrers" where reliable supporting actors like Madhu Malhotra were essential for providing depth to the expansive scripts.
- Many of her films were commercial successes, making her a "lucky charm" or a familiar face that audiences associated with the golden era of commercial Hindi cinema.

Additional Knowledge:

- The diversity of her work is highlighted by her transition from horror (*Andhera*) to action-dramas (*Vishwanath*) and social dramas (*Shradhanjali*).
- Her death on March 13, 2026, marked the end of an era for those who grew up watching the vibrant and melody-filled cinema of the 80s.
- The entertainment industry remembered her for her professionalism and her contribution to the supporting cast ecosystem that defines Bollywood's history.

Q5. In the 1979 film 'The Great Gambler', Madhu Malhotra played the role of the sister of which legendary actor's character?

- (a) Rishi Kapoor
- (b) Amitabh Bachchan
- (c) Jackie Shroff
- (d) Dilip Kumar

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (b) Amitabh Bachchan

Explanation:

- 'The Great Gambler', released in 1979, was an action-thriller directed by Shakti Samanta, featuring Amitabh Bachchan in a double role (Jay and Vijay).
- In this film, Madhu Malhotra played the role of the sister of the character played by Amitabh Bachchan.
- This particular role was a significant turning point in her career, as it gave her high visibility alongside the reigning superstar of Indian cinema.

- The film was shot in various international locations, including Venice and Lisbon, and her association with such a large-scale project helped her transition into more mainstream and prestigious roles in the following decade.

- Playing the sister of a lead hero was a common and often pivotal role in 70s and 80s Bollywood, frequently serving as the emotional anchor of the plot.

Information Booster:

- *The Great Gambler* is also famous for the song 'Do Lafzon Ki Hai Dil Ki Kahani', shot on a gondola in Venice.

- Following the success and exposure from this film, Madhu Malhotra was cast in several other films alongside Amitabh Bachchan, most notably *Satte Pe Satta*.

- Her career trajectory demonstrates how supporting actors in the 70s built lasting legacies by being part of iconic "Angry Young Man" era films.

Additional Knowledge:

- Rishi Kapoor (Option a): Madhu Malhotra worked with him in the 1980 film *Karz*, but she did not play his sister in *The Great Gambler*.

- Jackie Shroff (Option c): He starred in *Hero* (1983) where Madhu had a role, but this was much later than the release of *The Great Gambler*.

- Dilip Kumar (Option d): Although Madhu appeared in the film *Vidhaata* (1982) which starred Dilip Kumar, she is specifically noted for her sibling role with Amitabh Bachchan in the 1979 thriller.

