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## Celeb buzz: Top 5 Indian sensations in Hollywood

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While International imports may be making their presence felt in Bollywood, Indian actresses are getting their fair share of fame in Hollywood too. Going beyond Frieda Pinto and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, **Neha Pradhan** places the spotlight on 5 ladies of Indian origin who have carved a niche for themselves in the international film circuit

### 1. Parmindar Nagra

Who would have thought that an Indian woman would inspire women all around the globe to take up football? Well, Parmindar Nagra sure did with her fiery and effective portrayal of Jess in 'Bend it like Beckham'. Not only did she win accolades for her acting skills but she also opened doors for Indian women in mainstream roles. This was followed by 'Ella the enchanted', 'Compulsion' and even the successful ER series where she was considered the 'future of ER'. Her new movie, 'Twenty8K' slated to release soon is highly anticipated by movie enthusiasts.



### 2. Mallika Sherawat

From Bollywood to Hollywood, Mallika Sherawat managed to create quite a stir with her crossover. Be it her small yet impressionable role in the Jackie Chan starrer, 'The Myth' or the full blown, highly appreciated lead role in 'Politics of love' or her appearances in red carpets and the esteemed Cannes festival, she sure knows how to carve her way to the top and stay there.

### 3. Sheetal Sheth

With her sharp features and sharper acting skills, Sheetal Seth is one actor of Indian origin who has mesmerised Hollywood with her unconventional choice of artsy films. Her performances in each and every movie, be it 'ABCD', 'American chai', 'I can't think straight' or 'The world unseen' has won appreciation from critics and audiences alike. From acting, she has now moved on to co-producing independent films like Reign, a highly acclaimed short movie. Truly, she is a perfect role model for aspiring South Asian actors.

### 4. Shriya Saran

After a long string of hits in Kollywood and few misses in Bollywood, Shriya Saran chose 'The Other End of the Line' as her Hollywood debut vehicle. Though the film only had a DVD release, this pretty damsel garnered fair amount of attention and bagged the coveted role of 'Parvati' in the movie adaptation of Salman Rushdie's novel, 'Midnight's Children.' Directed by Deepa Mehta, the movie is yet to release but is highly awaited for its exciting storyline and exciting cast.

### 5. Padma Lakshmi

Gourmand, model, actor and author, Padma Lakshmi is one exceptional woman who dons several hats and multi-tasks successfully. She was discovered at 18 and was the first Indian model to walk runaways in New York, Milan and Paris. The acting bug followed suit and she starred in the 2001 American movie Glitter as the lip synching disco singer Sylk with Maria Carey. She also played the flamboyant role of Geeta in the Mistress of Spices.

Currently she is concentrating on her American reality show as a host of Emmy winning reality series, 'Top Chef' which has won her several accolades and even few nominations.



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