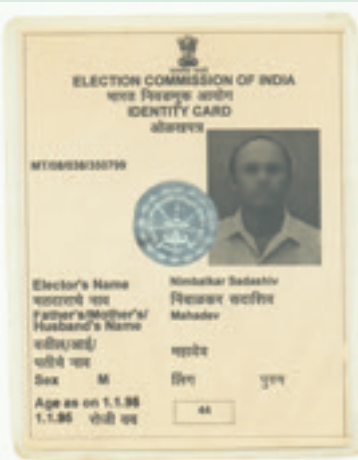


1983

1990



The Eldorado dream continues
Bum Bum Bum Bambai /
Bambai humko jam gayi
Bambai suits me fine
Govinda, a newly arrived migrant,
dances around the cityscape in
SWARG Heaven

1990

later renamed
M.I.F.F.

EXPRESSION first women's arts
festival in the city as the
feminist movement enters its second
phase

Independent documentary filmmaking
gets a boost as Films Division
starts BIFF, Bombay International
Documentary Film Festival



Top models Madhu Sapre and Milind
Soman are arrested for posing nude
in the embrace of a python for a
Tuff shoes ad

BJP starts using video
for election campaign in early '90s

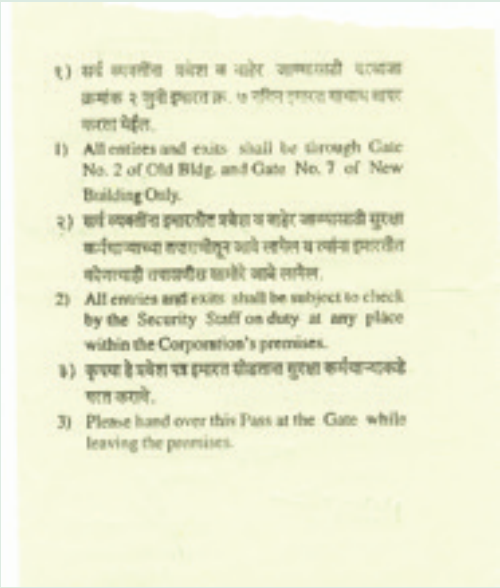


Through the '90s, space narratives of the city evolve

--> from Sai Paranjape's DISHA The Uprooted on conflicting aspirations revolving around migration from expansive rural land to the space-starved industrial city in '90
--> to Sudhir Mishra's DHARAVI on ever-decreasing living space and ever-expanding fantasies in '91
--> to low-rise vs. high-rise in the highstrung ANGAAR Rage in '92
--> to 'outsider' land mafia attired in fur caps 'biting dust' at the hands of the brahman saviour from Benaras in the ultra-violent GHATAK Lethal in '96
--> to tapori boy rises to oppose land mafia in GHULAM Slave in '98
--> to SPLIT WIDE OPEN where Dev Benegal elevates the generic real estate issue to the specifics of water crime in '99

Kamatipura still lures

Migrant taxi driver (Sanjay Dutt) plays saviour to a sex worker in SADAK The Road '91



1990 HUM Us/We the blockbuster song

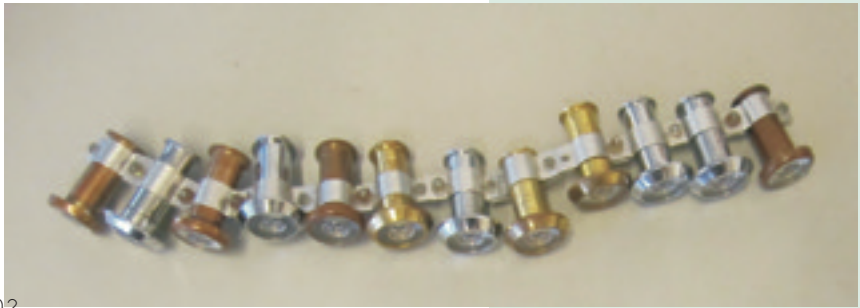
Jhumma chumma de de...

Jhumma give me a kiss is shot at Mukesh Mills, with a sprawling compound of 40,000 sq. metres at Colaba, which closed down after a fire in 1982

the burnt-down factory at the edge of the sea in the heart of the city provides a picturesque location for shooting feature films and advertisement shorts - is rife with whispers about ghosts and haunted spirits - as well as houses 800 former employees

1990 Aapla Mahanagar (Our City)

Marathi daily starts publication under the editorship of Nikhil Wagle



In 1991, at Swati Building in the crowded Lokhandwala complex (a nouveau-riche neighbourhood of Andheri), a police team kills 7 gangsters including the notorious Maya Dolas and Dilip Buwa in broad daylight, and video-records the entire event as evidence

(Hindi film SHOOTOUT AT LOKHANDWALA is made based on this event in 2007)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hXN2tWvKqQ>

Encounter killing: A controversial police strategy to kill criminals in direct shoot-outs in order to avoid procedural delays and legal lapses is implemented in the '90s

1991
Over 1000 places of worship in Greater Bombay are housed in unauthorized structures (rather, the unauthorized structures are protected by erecting religious sentiments around them)

BMC Report 1991

Demography

Population of the Island City: 32,85,042 in '81 and 31,74,889 in '91 (3.4% decrease)
Population of Greater Bombay: 66,17,058 in '81 and 1,02,03,360 in '91 (35% increase)

Census 1991

BMC revises DC (Development Control) Rules for Greater Bombay in 1991, allowing sale/lease of mill land for 'redevelopment'

GR, Urban Development Dept, 20 February 1991

Greater Bombay: Employment in manufacturing industry reduces from 36% in '81 to 28.5% in '91, and employment in trade and services industry increases from 52% to 64% in the same period

Census 1991

1992-93 Shivsena-sponsored riots against the minority Muslim community and the subsequent serial bomb blasts divide the city along communal lines and make it prone to public violence

the riots spark debates on citizenship

BOMBAY'S BLOOD YATRA ('93) chronicle of the riots

I LIVE IN BEHRAMPADA ('93) on development, citizenship & a Muslim ghetto

MAMMO ('94) subversion of citizenship laws in a non-polemical tale

NASEEM ('95) the 'growing up' of a young city girl in a Muslim family on 6th Dec

BOMBAY ('97) released only after approval from Bal Thackeray

ZAKHM Wound ('98) xenophobia within the family unit

FIZA (2000) the city that resembles a borderland under conflict

BLACK FRIDAY (2004) thriller

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (2008) Hollywood

1993

Release of **KHALNAYAK** The Villain film star Sanjay Dutt is arrested for possession of unregistered fire arms after his M.P. father, Sunil Dutt, is hounded by Hindu fanatics for being sympathetic to Muslims

Stock exchange scam of Rs 4000 crores (roughly US\$ 1.3 billion) exposes the greed and ambition of the Indian middle class. In '94 Filmfare Awards invites the central figure of the scam, Harshad Mehta, to present the trophy for best villain of the year

1992

NMMC (New Bombay / Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation) is constituted to administer a part of the new city (the rest of the area remains under CIDCO which continues to convert rural land into urban and industrial plots)

Vasai-Virar region

380 sq. kilometres, beyond the northern border of Greater Bombay, constituted of unused ports, small towns and fishing-salt pan-agriculture-based villages. As government de-regularizes agricultural land in '88, private builders initiate haphazard development resulting in real estate-related criminal activities and 150% rise in population between '81 and '91

Census 1991 and Regional Plan – MMRDA, 1986-2001

1991

The region is placed under CIDCO (City and Industrial Development Corporation) for 'planned and synchronized development'

By the late '90s a substantial number of working-class migrants from outside the state settle here, making Bhojpuri songs and Ramlila performances a part of the local culture

1992

Western Railway starts a Ladies Special local between Churchgate and Virar

1993-98

Bombay police provides intense police protection for Justice Srikrishna as he takes over as head of the Commission of Inquiry on the Bombay riots

Yet, on a Saturday afternoon, a burglar breaks into his house and steals a VCR



1991 Assassination of Rajiv Gandhi

his funeral becomes a national spectacle on TV and initiates the appetite for Reality TV

Market for the reality narrative and infotainment grows with the emergence of video news magazines launched by leading media houses: **Newstrack** in '88 by the India Today group; **Business Plus** in '90 by Paradigm Media; **Eyewitness** in '91 by Hindustan Times; **Hindi Observer News Channel** (ONC) by the Observer group in '91; and bilingual **Indiaview** by ITV of the Dalmia group in '91

1992

As part of 'economic reforms' government liberalizes the broadcast industry and foreign private channels such as BBC, Star TV, CNN, and domestic channels like Zee TV and Sun TV begin satellite telecast - in December '92, when Doordarshan blocks out reportage on the Babri Masjid demolition, viewers watch it on BBC

1993

Star TV acquires 49.9% shares in the domestic Hindi Zee TV network



'92-'93
bawdy songs

...*sarkais khatia*... and ... *chohi ke peechhe kya hai*...
... move the cot closer... ... what is beneath the blouse...
invoke debates on public morality
and censorship norms get stricter



'92-'93 Shahrukh Khan, middle-class migrant, plays the role of the fallen idealist in **RAJU BAN GAYA GENTLEMAN**
Raju has turned into a gentleman - a take on **SHRI 420**
and the revenge maniac in **BAAZIGAR** Gambler

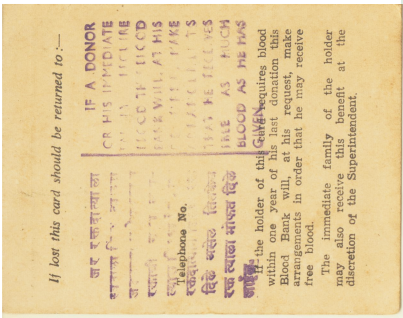
1993 **Masterji** - a photo series by Dayanita Singh on the dance choreographer Saroj Khan who has codified a kind of aggressive female sexuality in legendary numbers

Kaate nahi katate ye din ye raat -
Sridevi in **MR INDIA**; *Ek do teen* -
Madhuri in **TEZAAB**; *Choli ke peechhe*
kya hai - Madhuri in **KHALNAYAK** ...

1994

In order to expand its constituency from Marathi to Hindu, Shivsena launches a Hindi tabloid, **Dopahar ka Saamna**

Rupert Murdoch (Star TV) announces a pay-TV channel in Hindi



1994

Balaji Telefilms run by Ekta Kapoor opens shop - produces a large number of regressive soap operas (many female performers get steady employment)

HUM AAPKE HAI KAUN Who am I to you
lures the Indian diaspora and cultivates the overseas market

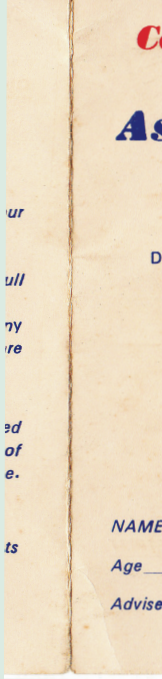
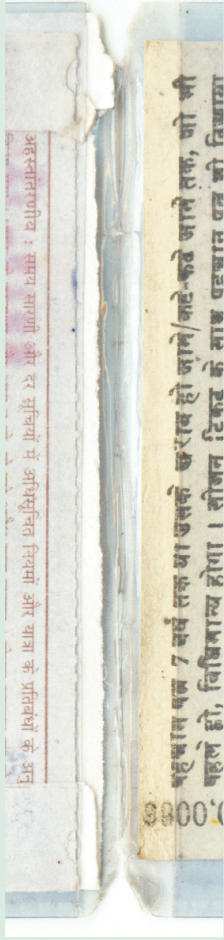
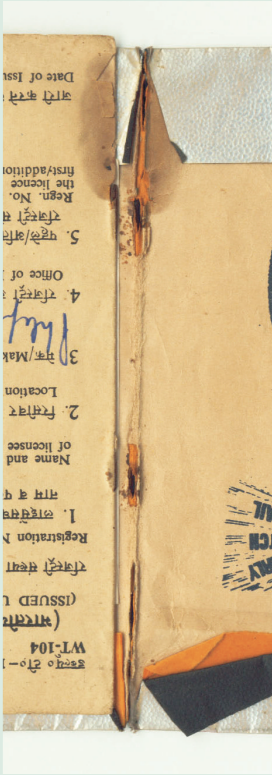
with the warming up of the market in the west, popular writings on Bollywood and the rich in Bombay become a lucrative proposition (pulp writers like Shobha De begin to be widely translated and studied in foreign universities)

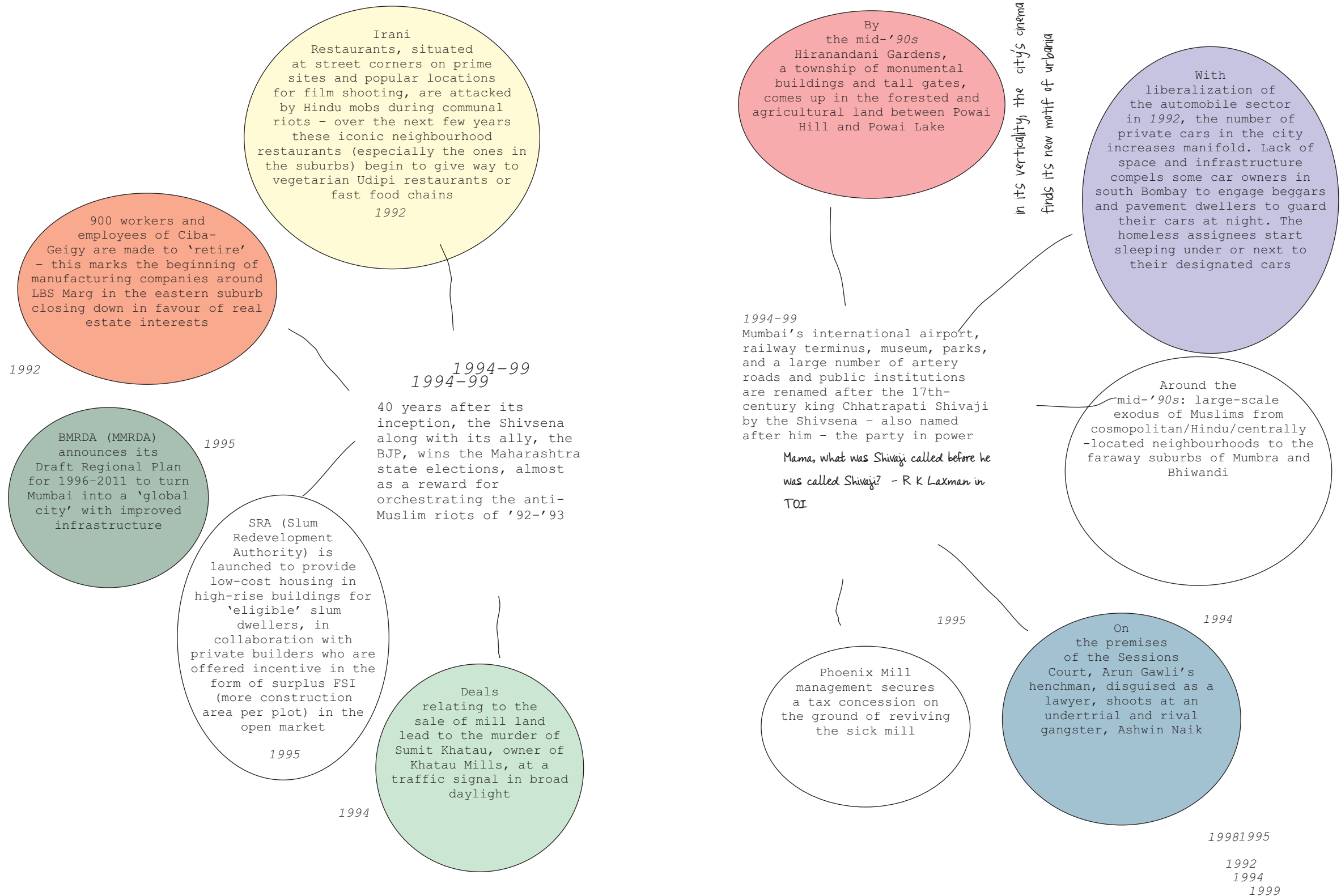
The success of the Hindi dubbed version of **JURASSIC PARK** begins a trend of dubbed Hollywood films (Association of Voice Artists is formed in 1999)

Shivsena monopolizes control over cable TV networks through Cable Sena - starts censoring television channels - does not allow any other service provider to operate

City police notifies taxi drivers not to ply single women passengers after midnight

women activists surround police headquarters in large numbers after midnight





1994

Encyclopaedia of Indian Cinema
edited by Ashish Rajadhyaksha and Paul Willemen

Bombay First (later Mumbai First) launched by members of the Chamber of Commerce to 'transform Bombay into a world-class city to live and do business in'

By late '90s, with pirated VHS cassettes, ever-increasing television programmes and dilapidated cinema theatres, entertainment gets domesticated

Many home-based women lose their only contact with public places in the city (their regular visits to cinemas)

Tapori - Bollywood's indigenous hoodlum character consolidates: Aamir Khan's Munna in **RANGEELA** The Flamboyant, '95 and Siddhu in **GHULAM** The Slave, '98

1995 Bachchan launches film corporation ABCL and declares bankruptcy in three years
1996 publication:

So Many Cinemas by B D Garga
1997 Kalpana Lajmi tries a mix of vintage Bollywood and contemporary sexuality issues in **DARMIYAN** In Between

1997
In defiance of the 'Hindu don' title, Arun Gawli starts a secular Marathi party, Akhil Bharatiya Sena (**All India Army**), in opposition to the Shivsena (**Army of Shivaji**)

Popular trade union leader Datta Samant is gunned down by Chhota Shakeel's men - 1,00,000 workers attend the funeral

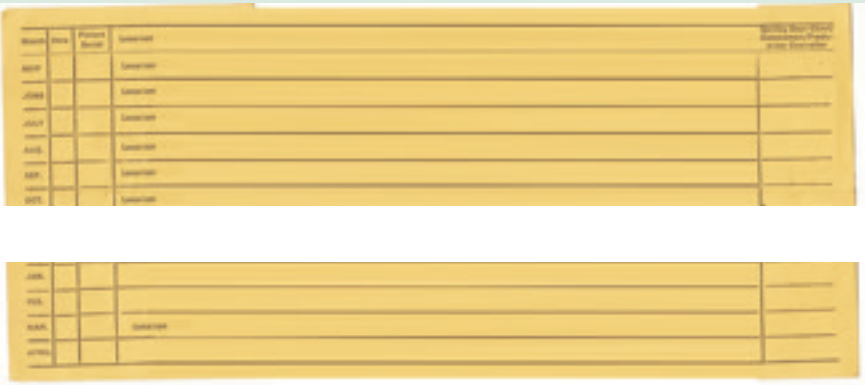
Baron of the music industry Gulshan Kumar is shot dead

Best villain award goes to Rekha for **KHILADIYON KA KHILADI** Champion of Champions - STAR SCREEN AWARDS

1995

Xenophobic leader Raj Thackeray brings Michael Jackson to the city

DDLJ - DILWALE DULHANIA LE JAYENGE
The one with a large heart will get the bride
known as the first NRI film, valorizes the diaspora and its archaic notions of Hindu family values



CNN announces a Hindi news channel in partnership with Doordarshan

Youngsters gyrate to pop nationalism with Alisha Chinai's music video *Made in India*

Diasporic writers chronicle their Bombay

A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry, on the interface between two Parsi protagonists and migrant artisans from north India at the time of the Emergency of 1975

Salman Rushdie's **The Moor's Last Sigh** the protagonist of hybrid ancestry (Indian-Jewish-Arab-Portuguese) meets a caricature of Thackeray

The government announces PIO (people of Indian origin) scheme of visa-free travel for the Indian diaspora - barring people living in Bangladesh and Pakistan

1998
700 Bengali-speaking Muslims are deported from Mumbai on charges of being illegal Bangladeshi migrants, but they are denied entry into Bangladesh and thus remain stranded at the West Bengal border - **the Mumbai police, the West Bengal government and the state of Bangladesh** get entangled in a debate over citizenship



1999



2000



January
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

February
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29

March
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31

April
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30

May
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31

June
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

July
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

August
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

September
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30

October
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

November
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30

December
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

D.d.l.J. Chasma Company
"Glasses that make adventures turn into recreation
...and turn into Selfie-land!"

Available in all major cities of India

1995

TIME CITY FOR SALE

AVAILABLE on Company lease/rent 1 to 5000 Sq. ft. tenement, bungalow furnished / semi-furnished in Alkapuri, Vasampura, Samsa, Panch-Puri, Karelhamb & all prime location throughout Baroda. Contact: Rakash Parakh (Rakash Parakh Realty)

AVAILABLE on Company lease/rent 1 to 5000 Sq. ft. tenement, bungalow furnished / semi-furnished in Alkapuri, Vasampura, Samsa, Panch-Puri, Karelhamb & all prime location throughout Baroda. Contact: Rakash Parakh (Rakash Parakh Realty)

ભેરત બિઝનેસ

ગુજરાત માર્શીસ મેન્સુફેક્ચરર્સ લિમિટેડ

SURAYA Rental Properties

Commercial, Industrial, Residential, Offices, Warehouses, etc.

Available in all major cities of India

2000

1996 The court room of the Chief Justice of Bombay becomes colourful as 547 sex workers, rescued and remanded by the Bombay police, appear in court for daily hearings along with their visitors - pimps, brothel-owner aunties, dedicated customers and other beneficiaries



INHAB T / be ong	
Virtually	
Mentally	
Philosophically	
Physically	

1996 Shivsena cadres, assisted by government machinery, vandalize cinema halls showing Deepa Mehta's film **FIRE**, objecting to the naming of the lesbian protagonists after the mythological characters Radha and Sita

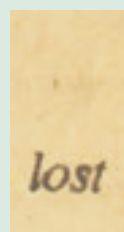
1998 Bajrang Dal, assisted by Shivsena, attacks artist M F Husain and ransacks his house in Mumbai on the pretext of avenging Hindu religious dignity sullied by the works of the artist

1998 Shivsena cadres vandalize the concert of Pakistani ghazal singer Ghulam Ali at Hotel Juhu Centaur in Bombay / also damage the cricket pitch at Ferozshah Kotla grounds in Delhi prior to a Pakistan-India match in 1999

1998 Shivsena minister Pramod Navalkar launches cleansing operation against masseurs, bar dancers, sex workers, hijras, rock musicians, Pakistani artistes and young lovers

1997 Lata Mangeshkar performs live for the first time in 12 years - for a Shivsena-led initiative at Andheri Sports Complex

With iconoclasm as the flavour of the season, a bunch of popular Marathi plays spring up ridiculing Gandhi and nationalism - **Gandhi viruddha Gandhi** (Gandhi vs. Gandhi) '96, **Gandhi and Ambedkar** '97, **Mee Nathuram Godse Boltoy** (This is Nathuram Godse Speaking) '99, **Shobhayatra** (The Show Parade) '99



Documentaries on performers

1990 **CHILDREN OF THE SILVER SCREEN**

NFDC produces its only documentary - on child artists, director Dilip Ghosh

1992 Reena Mohan makes biographical film **KAMLABAI**, on and with the first female performer of the Indian screen

1993 Jill Misquitta's **CLAP TRAP** on extras / junior artistes in the film industry

1993 Riyad Wadia makes **FEARLESS - THE HUNTERWALI STORY** about his grand-aunt, the legendary stunt artist Nadia

1997 **SUNDARI: AN ACTOR PREPARES** - Anuradha Kapur and Madhusree Dutta make play/film on performance and impersonation in early 20th-century Bombay theatre

1999 **THIN AIR** by Ashim Ahluwalia - on three magicians in the city

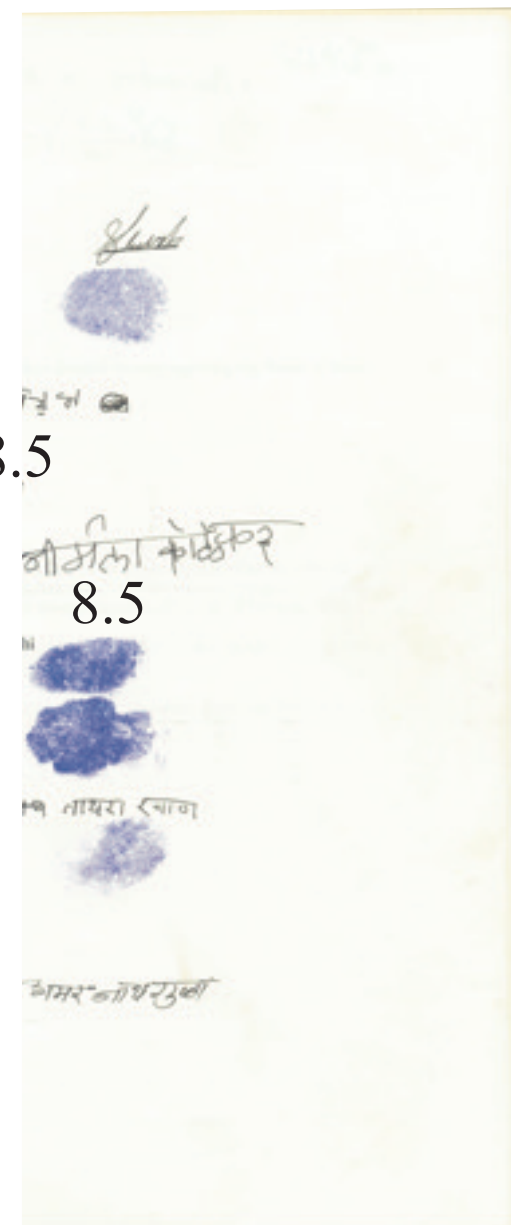
Through the decade of the 90s, artist Atul Dodiya evolves Bombay/Mumbai:

Labyrinth/Laboratory, a body of works simultaneously addressing contested, complex, contemporary cultural legacies, and the brash popular as personal memory, while Kiran Nagarkar writes his chawl novel, **Ravan and Eddie** ('95)

1998 As the city is rechristened Mumbai in '95 in the name of exorcising the colonial past, veteran columnist Behram Contractor of Busybee fame publishes **From Bombay to Mumbai**, a collection of the best of his columns in 1996-97

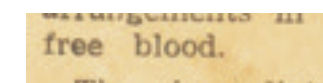
1998 Phalguni Pathak debuts in the Gujarati *dandiya* dance sector with a unique cocktail of rustic Gujarati folk songs, rock-inspired band arrangements and Bollywood-style performance

By late '90s the surveillance camera becomes a consumer good in the Indian market



8.5

8.5



From the late '90s, art director Sharmishta Roy brings in a post-globalization lifestyle statement into films about ultra-rich urban youth **DIL TO PAGAL HAI** The heart is crazy, **KUCHH KUCHH HOTA HAI** Some little things happen

1997 The last of the studio clusters at the Teli Gulli-Chakala Junction neighbourhood, Nataraj Studio, shuts down

Other studios - like M&T, Mohan and Modern - had given way to real estate development and the Western Express Highway decades earlier

1997 As the government-sponsored IFFI (International Film Festival of India) gets permanently located in Goa, **MAMI** (Mumbai Academy of Moving Images) is constituted by film industry veterans to organize an annual Mumbai international film festival with corporate sponsorship

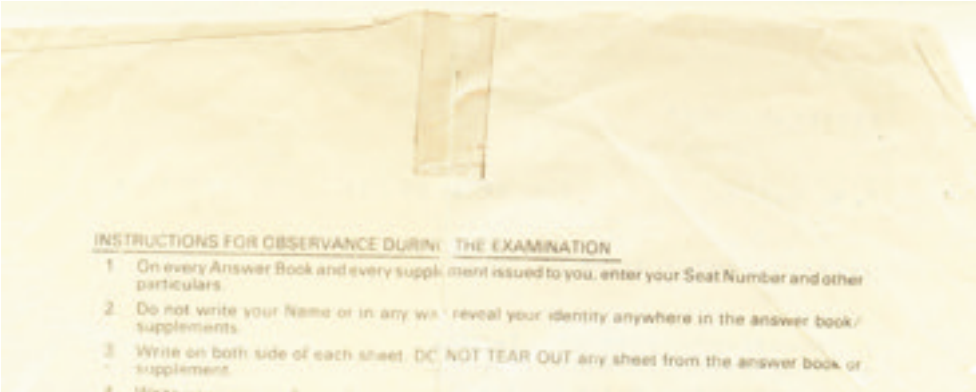
Will audiences come back to the theatres?

After a lull of more than a decade, there is market investment in high-end movie theatres in the western suburb: 1997-99 Samrat upgrades to **Cinemax** at Goregaon (W), Darpan to **Cine Magic** at Andheri (E), Sona to **Cine Star** in Kandivali (E) and **Movietime** opens in Malad (W)

With the death of big studios since the late 70s, film production work based on artisanal practices - carpentry, prop making, costume making, banner painting, etc. - gets fragmented across small sweatshops around shooting locations (Goregaon, Andheri, Dadar and Chembur)

In the late '90s, with the advent of digital technology, post-production studios - for editing, dubbing, sound mixing, sub-titling, mastering, duplicating, etc. - too shrink into small kiosks in the bazaars and residential areas (Adarsh Nagar, a shanty town adjacent to upmarket Lokhandwala, becomes a media industry zone)

culminates in the construction of **IMAX** (2000) with the largest dome in the world and five screens, at a deserted corner in Wadala



The Mumbai Mafia / Male Movies of the 1990s:

'90 **INDRAJALAM** **Magical Spell** (in Malayalam) Mohanlal plays the don

'91 **AGNEEPATH** **Path of Fire** After a disastrous stint in national politics Bachchan is relaunched in his 13th role as vigilante Vijay, a character with a 'Mumbaikar' accent (rumoured to be based on gangster Manya Surve)

a set resembling the multistoreyed mud structures of Dharavi Kumbharwada is used as the don's den

'91 **ABHIMANYU** (in Malayalam) phenomenon of bonding between the migrant outlaw and the sex worker in the city

entire Kamatipura is recreated at Ashoka Studio in Madras

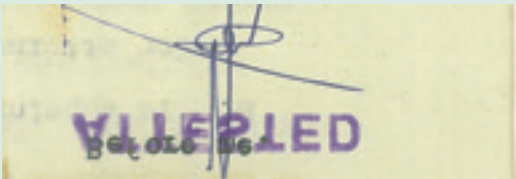
'92 **ANGAAR** **Rage** chawl romance - real estate mafia - benevolent don / a take on the 70s' don-turned-builder-turned-social worker Yousuf Patel

'93 **GARDISH** **Drugs** an ordinary boy is sucked into street violence - complete with sex workers, bar dancers and muscle men
the location is a 'dangerous basti called Kala Chowki' (name of a working-class neighbourhood in Parel)

'95 **RAAM JANE** **God only knows** Shahrukh Khan starrer / an orphan-turned-don / deliberate comic strip treatment

'98 **SATYA** beginning of Ram Gopal Varma's gangster series - south Indian hotel worker turning gangster resembles the life of Sadhu Shetty in the '70s
footage of the city in docu style Ganapati visarjan at Chowpatty monsoon light

'99 **VAASTAV** **Reality** Sanjay Dutt plays the Marathi don who grows up in a working-class chawl / loosely based on real-life mafia don Rama Naik's story



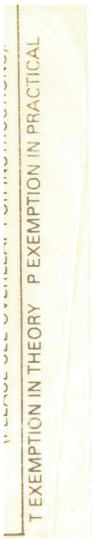
1998 Indian government passes a law exempting cinema and television exports from taxes

The film industry is given industry status, qualifying it for institutional finance

Subhash Ghai's Mukta Arts gets listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange

1998 Shivsena launches **Bharatiya Kamgar Chitrapat Unit** (Indian workers' cine unit), in opposition to the independent Allied Mazdoor Union and Cine Artists' Association

1999 Smita Thackeray, daughter-in-law of **Marathi Hruday Samrat** (emperor of Marathi hearts) Bal Thackeray, turns Hindi film producer / after producing just one film, she becomes a key figure in IMPPA



1998 Picturesque Konkan Railway, connecting the hinterlands of Maharashtra and Karnataka with Mumbai, starts operating

and

Tapori Aamir Khan runs headlong towards a rushing local train in **GHULAM**

1994-99 Shivsena - BJP alliance government commissions construction of 56 flyovers in the city

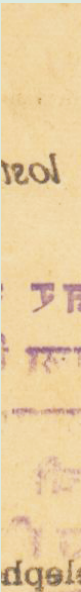
1999

Nhava Sheva port starts functioning with public-private investment, expecting a boost in migration of labour and capital to New Bombay

50% of slum dwellings are located on private land, and the rest are on lands belonging to various state agencies

Slum Sanitation Survey by Montgomery Watson/Yuva, 2001

slum dwellers pay more than the residents of apartment buildings for electricity, water supply and other basic amenities



1999

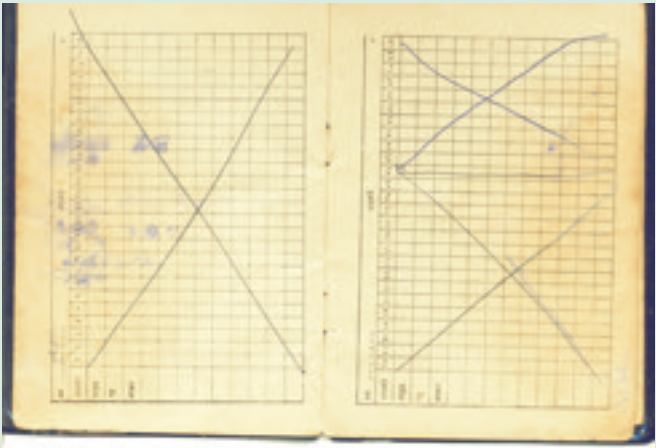
Café Naaz, the celebrated site for ideas, romance and film shooting, is demolished

Channel V Board approves 81% increase in the programming budget for India

Corporate houses and art galleries conceive **Kala Ghoda Annual Art Festival** in order to convert the area into an art district

Mumbai as a **monsoon tourism** destination for Arab nationals is aggressively promoted by the rapidly expanding hospitality industry

Crossroad - the first shopping mall comes up in Tardeo at the site of a closed pharmaceutical plant - causes huge traffic congestion at Haji Ali junction





At the close of the century:

Population in

GREATER BOMBAY	1,19,14,378
METROPOLITAN REGION	1,88,93,059
MAHARASHTRA	9,67,52,000
URBAN INDIA	28,53,55,000
INDIA	102,70,15,000

CENSUS 2001

1999 "PRESENTING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN - THE BOWLING COMPANY - INDIA'S PREMIER LEISURE CENTRE. 30,000 SQUARE FEET OF STATE-OF-THE-ART FUN - THAT'S A FIRST FOR MUMBAI, WE CAN TELL YOU"

Bowling alley opens at Phoenix Mills compound, beginning an era where land reserved for manufacturing industry would be taken over by the service industry and entertainment outlets