

## PRESS-RELEASE

*Thiruvananthapuram, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022*

FIPRESCI-India, the India Chapter of the International Federation of Film Critics, organized a National Open Seminar (online) on 2nd January 2022 on the Govt. of India's decision to close down the Films Division (estd. 1948), National Film Archive of India (estd. 1964), Children's Film Society of India (estd. 1954) and the Directorate of Film Festivals (formed in 1973) by the end of January 2022 to merge those with the National Film Development Corporation (estd. 1975). Mr. V K Joseph, President of FIPRESCI-India chaired the seminar and introduced the issue for discussion. Mr. Rahul Rawail, Mr. Amrit Gangar, Mr. C S Venketeswaran, Mr. Anil Zankar, Ms. Priya Krishnaswamy, Mr. Saibal Mitra, Ms. Meenakshi Shedde, Prof. N Manu Chakravarthy, Mr. Sunny Joseph, Ms. Shilpi Gulati, Mr. Prateek Vats, Mr. Sudipto Acharyya, Mr. Rafeeq Ellias and Mr. Siraj Sayed deliberated various aspects on the issue. Decided that an independent committee will be formed soon to take it to the students of different film schools, film industry people and the film lover public in general to apprise them about the contributions of these prestigious organizations to the development of film culture and film history of India with a demand to disclose the report of the Expert Committee headed by Mr. Bimal Julka on whose recommendations these merger proposal is being hastily implemented by the Government unilaterally without addressing the arguments of the stakeholders.

With Best Regards



Premendra Mazumder  
General Secretary  
FIPRESCI-India

