

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

(A) ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

A1. Seminar at Aurangabad

Fipresci-India Seminar on 'Writing on Cinema and Film Criticism' was held on 9 Feb 2020 at the MGM College of Journalism and Mass Communication, Aurangabad during the 7th Aurangabad International Film Festival where V.K. Joseph, Rekha Deshpande, Namrata Joshi, Sachin Chatte, Ashok Rane and Premendra Mazumder were present as the panellists. Students and teachers of the college attended the seminar.

A2. Seminar in Bangalore

Fipresci-India Seminar on the 'Role of Film Critics for Promotion of Film Festivals' was held on 2 March 2020 in Bangalore during the 12th Bengaluru International Film Festival where Aruna Vaudev, Sudhir Nandgaonkar, H.N. Narahari Rao, Vidyashankar Jois and Ashok Rane were present as speakers. The seminar was chaired by V.K. Joseph.

A3. Webinar Session-I

Fipresci-India Webinar Session-I was held on 28 June 2020 on 'Present Crisis of the Film Industry and the Role of Government'. Speakers: Madhu Eravankara, Manoj Barpujari, Namrata Joshi, Shubhra Gupta and Vidyashankar Jois. Moderator: G. P. Ramachandran. Accessible @

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lJ6B8pivErA&t=1522s>

A4. Webinar Session-II

Fipresci-India Webinar Session-II was held on 18 July 2020 on 'New Malayalam Cinema: Appeal, Challenges and Prospects'. Speakers: Bina Paul, Jayaraj, Santosh Babusenar, V.K. Joseph and Prem Chand. Moderator: Madhu Eravankara. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsaLQV21ojY&t=105s>

A5. Webinar Session-III

Fipresci-India Webinar Session-III was held on 25 July 2020 on 'Cinemas of Northeast India: A Resurgence'. Speakers: Manju Borah, Meghachandra Kongbam,

Haobam Paban Kumar, Bitopan Borborah and Pranjal Bora. Moderator: Manoj Barpujari. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHIxFbCSsBE&t=246s>

A6. Webinar Session-IV

Fipresci-India Webinar Session-IV was held on 1 Aug 2020 on 'Bengali Cinema: Where it Stands Now'. Speakers: Firdausul Hasan, Satarupa Sanyal, Atanu Ghosh, Indranil Roychowdhury and Subhajit Chatterjee. Moderator: Premendra Mazumder. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0psXkGZLnfM&t=132s>

A7. Webinar Session-V

Fipresci-India Webinar Session-V was held on 25 Aug 2020 on 'Future of Kannada Cinema'. Speakers: Pawan Kumar, Hemanth Rao, Adarsh Eshwarappa, Roopa Rao and B. Suresha. Moderator: Vidyashankar Jois. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdF3ZQ7vp8c&t=2s>

A8. Face to Face with Girish Kasaravalli

Fipresci-India in collaboration with Federation of Film Societies of India organised an online program 'Face to Face with Girish Kasaravalli' where Manu Chakravarthy was in conversation with the master director on 31 July 2020. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTzQb71EVH4&t=307s>

A9. Face to Face with Aparna Sen

Fipresci-India in collaboration with Federation of Film Societies of India organised an online program 'Face to Face with Aparna Sen' where M.K. Raghavendra was in conversation with the master director on 31 Aug 2020. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3p2Zq-74LZk&t=493s>

A10. Master Class by Dr. Bedabrata Pain

Fipresci-India in collaboration with Federation of Film Societies of India organised a Master Class on 'Digital Camera: Perception, Technology, Aesthetics' on 5 Sept 2020 by Dr. Bedabrata Pain, an internationally famous scientist renowned for his contributions for the invention of the active pixel sensor technology used from cell-phone cameras to digital movie cameras. He has 87 invention patents to his credit. He is the pioneer scientist for the invention of the RED camera. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wYy43ARxfk&t=5544s>

A11. Certificate Course in Film Appreciation

Fipresci-India in collaboration with the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy and Federation of Film Societies of India conducted an Online Certificate Course in Film Appreciation at Nirmalagiri College, Kuthuparamba, under Kannur University, Kerala since October 2020. Total Duration of the Course is 30 Hours. V.K. Joseph, President Fipresci-India coordinated the course.

(B) ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B1. Restoration of the Ancestral Houses of Ray, Ghatak and Sen

Fipresci-India supported the demand for Restoration of the Ancestral Houses of Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak and Mrinal Sen in Bangladesh through a Press Release issued on 31 Jan 2020. The demand raised by the Federation of Film Societies of India was supported by the International Federation of Film Societies.

B2. Fipresci-India National Critics' Award in Aurangabad IFF

Fipresci-India National Critics' Jury was installed in the 7th Aurangabad International Film Festival held from 5 to 9 Feb 2020 with V.K. Joseph, Rekha Deshpande and Namrata Joshi. The Jury conferred the Fipresci-India National Critics' Jury Award to the film *Maadathy: An Unfair Tale* (Tamil, 2019, 90M) directed by Leena Manimekalai and the Special Jury Mention to *Kastoori: The Musk* (Marathi & Hindi, 2019, 100M) directed by Vinod Kamble. Certificates of awards were handed over to the recipients in a colourful closing ceremony on 9 Feb 2020 at Aurangabad.

B3. Fipresci-India National Critics' Award in Thrissur IFF

Fipresci-India National Critics' Jury was installed in the 15th International Film Festival of Thrissur held from 6 to 12 March 2020 with Madhu Eravankara, Prem Chand and Premendra Mazumder. The Jury conferred Fipresci-India National Critics' Jury Award to the film *Run Kalyani* (Malyalam, 2019, 100M) by J. Geetha. Certificate of award was handed over to J. Geetha in a cosy closing ceremony on 12 Mar 2020 at Thrissur.

B4. Felicitation of the Former Presidents

As per decision of AGM Goa dt. 24 Nov 2019, the former Presidents of Fipresci-India Aruna Vasudev, Sudhir Nandgaonkar and H.N. Narahari Rao were felicitated on 2 March 2020 in Bangalore during the 12th Bengaluru International Film Festival for their memorable contributions to the organization. Vidyashankar Jois, Artistic Director of the Festival hosted the program. Recipients were felicitated with specially designed memento and handcrafted Bengal silk scarfs by the Chairman of the Karnataka Chalanachitra Academy. Many national and international guests were present in the ceremony.

B5. Grand Prix for the Best Indian Film 2019

As per recommendations of the members total 39 films were shortlisted for consideration. Links of all films with passwords were sent to all members for preview. In the first round a list of Top-20 was published on the basis of the maximum number of votes received. In the final round the members voted the film *Hellaro* (Gujrati, 2019, 121M) directed by Abhishek Shah for the Fipresci-India Grand Prix for the Best Indian Feature Film of 2019. Result was declared on 1 July 2020.

B6. Chidananda Dasgupta Birth Centenary

Celebration ceremony of the Birth Centenary of Fipresci-India's Founder President Chidananda Dasgupta (B. 20 Nov 1921 was launched on 20 Nov 2020 through the following programs:

- Aparna Sen remembered her father Chidananda Dasgupta. Accessible @ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oGH5ZKVtAI&t=5s
- Aruna Vasudeb delivered Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Lecture. Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCkAwZJbC-I&t=39s>

B7. Competition on Film Criticism

A Competition for Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Award for the Best Film Criticism was organised where 35 participants from different parts of the country submitted their entries. The Jury constituted with M.K. Raghavendra, Manoj Barpujari, Meena Karnik, Rwita Dutta, and Vidyashankar Jois evaluated the submissions and declared the following awards unanimously:

1. Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Award for the Best Film Criticism (Joint Winners): Sayantan Dutta, Kolkata (*Chola*, Malayalam) and Vedant Srinivas, Delhi (*Aamis*, Assamese).
2. Second Best (Joint Winners): Ashiwini Jain, Udupi, Karnataka (*Kumbalangi Nights*, Malayalam) and Labanya Dey, Kolkata (*C U Soon*, Malayalam).

V. K. Joseph, President Fipresci-India announced the awards on 20 Nov 2020, Accessible @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cVnfIMBbXE>

(C) MEDIA & PUBLICATION

C1. Website

Official website of Fipresci-India created in April 2019 @ <http://www.fipresci-india.online/> updated regularly. Members may access all circulars at the 'Members Area' by using the user ID and password already circulated to them.

C2. Facebook

Official Facebook Page of Fipresci-India created in Feb 2020 and it is already liked by 500+ users with more than 550 followers. All public updates are regularly posted there in this. Accessible @ <https://www.facebook.com/Fipresci-India-102388257997638>

C3. YouTube Channel

Fipresci-India YouTube Channel created in June 2020 already has about 200 subscribers. Total 14 titles have been uploaded with contents of about 22 hours watched by 2K+ viewers this year. Accessible @ https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=fipresciindia

C4. E-CineIndia

Our quarterly web-journal E-CineIndia (ISSN 2582-2500) was published regularly

with contribution received from different parts of the country/world. Accessible @ <http://www.fipresci-india.online/e-cine-india/>

1. Jan-Mar 2020 issue published with 25 Contributions
2. April-June 2020 issue published with 30 Contributions
3. July-Sept 2020 issue published with 44 Contributions
4. Oct-Dec 2020 issue published with 35 Contributions

(D) FIPRESCI INTERNATIONAL JURY

EC forwarded 11 jury applications to different festivals worldwide in 2020, a couple of which were finalised but could not be materialised due to pandemic. Only the following members could complete their service:

1. Madhu Eravankara (Dhaka, 11-19 January 2020) Physical
2. G.P. Ramachandran (Bangalore, 20-27 February 2020) Physical
3. Bitopan Borborah (El-Gouna, 23-30 October 2020) Online

Reported By: Premendra Mazumder, Secretary, Fipresci-India

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