

BANGLADESH FILM INSTITUTE AND ARCHIVE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
787, DHANMONDI R.A., ROAD NO. 9/A (OLD-19)  
DACCA, BANGLADESH.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1981.

ACTIVITIES.

With a view to materialising its keen desire to develop the film industry of the country, the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh sanctioned under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, a phased-out development project for establishment of a permanent complex of Film Institute and Archive at Dacca. In the 1st phase of the project an well-organised Film Archive with three air-conditioned and humidity controlled Film Vaults, a film book library with reading room and a sound-proof air-conditioned projection hall having capacity of 142 seats have been setup during a short period. After successful completion of the 1st phase in the year 1980 all expenditures are being borne ~~from~~ out of the Government Revenue.

STAFF.

There was no change in the administrative setup. It remains as under :-

The setup consists of a Curator as head of the Department, Administrative Officer-1, Accounts Officer-1, Film Officer-1, Store Officer-1, Librarian-1, Assistant Librarian-1, Film Checker-2, Projectionist-3, Upper Division Assistant-1, Stenographer-1, Air-conditioning Supervisor-2, Store keeper -2, Counter Clerk-2, Motor Driver-1, Telephone Operator-2, Leader-1, Peon(Messenger)-4, Electrician-2, Lower Division Assistant-2, Farash-4, Gardener-4, Security Guard-3 and Sweeper-2.

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BUDGET.

Total budget grant for the Bangladesh Film Institute and Archive during the year had been Taka 23,50,000/-, equivalent to US \$ 11,7500.

ACQUISITION OF FILMS.

Upto 31st December, 1981 total collection of films was as detailed below :-

Film print	...	...	47
Final picture Negative	...	...	148
Short films	...	...	<u>333</u>
			Total = 528

OTHER ACQUISITION.

The details of other acquisition such as books and periodicals on film, still photos, posters, scripts, song-books etc. are as given below :-

Items.	Collection upto 31st Dec., 1980.	Addition during Jan-Dec., 1981.	Total Nos. on 31st Dec., 1981.
Books on film	1510	411	1921
Posters	1004	139	1143
Song-books	105	60	165
Still photos	3743	847	4590
Periodicals	71	1755	1826
Film festival materials	57	41	128
Shooting scripts	251	63	314
Misc. on film	179	127	306

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The followings are the significant additions to the Archive :

BANGLADESHI,

The first talkie film "Mukh-o-Mukhosh"(Face and Mask) (Bengali, 1956) produced by Mr. Abdul Jabbar Khan, 'Nadi-o-Nari' by Sadek Khan, "Stop Genocide" and "Kacher Dewal" by Zahir Raihan, "Surja Dighal Bari"(award winner) by Mashiuddin Shaker and Sk. Niamat Ali etc.

SPECIAL EVENTS,

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh arranged Dacca International Film Festival-1981 in which besides Bangladesh, a good number of foreign countries namely U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan, Canada, China, France, Malaysia, Pakistan, Poland, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Romania and Yugoslavia participated. The Bangladesh Film Archive in close association with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting made remarkable contribution in organising the festival and towards its success. At the desire of some of the participating countries, discussion forums and screening of films of their own countries were arranged in the Bangladesh Film Archive's Auditorium. This helped much in knowing about the stages of development, ways and means, handicaps etc. on the way of developing the film industries of different countries.

TRAINING,

From August, 1981 Bangladesh Film Archive started its Film Appreciation Course in 8 subjects viz : (1) History of Cinema, (2) Film Criticism, (3) Screen Play Writing, (4) Motion Picture Photography, (5) Film Direction (6) Film Acting, (7) Editing and (8) Audiography. Owing to certain

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limitations, 68 trainees were admitted to the course out of as many as 250 applicants after aptitude test and interviews by the experts. On successful completion of the course and examination, 16 students were awarded certificates of Merit.

Foreign trained and well known personalities of the film industry of Bangladesh were engaged as Lecturers. Some foreign film makers were also invited as guest lecturers.

#### SEMINARS,

On 30th March an International Seminar was arranged in Archive's Auditorium on "Cinema : Entertainment and Moulding of Values". Where Mr. Zulharomus, Member, National Film Council of Indonesia, Mr. Bimala Dharma of Sri Lanka, Bonlart Shethamangal of Thailand, Mr. Azaz Gul of Pakistan, Mr. Obaidul Huq and Mr. Badal Rahman of Bangladesh participated.

On 31st March, 1981 Retrospective-Zahir Raihan (Late Zahir Raihan was a pioneer film maker in Bangladesh) was discussed and films made by Mr. Zahir Raihan were screened.

On 1st April, 1981 a Seminar on reputed film maker, Mr. Sadek Khan (now settled in London) with screening of his films, was arranged.

On 19th October, 1981 a Seminar on "25th Year of Talkie Film Making in Bangladesh" was arranged.

#### FILM SOCIETIES,

Film Societies are regularly screening films to their members. Some of the Societies arranged seminars, discussion on films, international film movements, festivals etc. in the Film Archive's Auditorium.

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FILM SHOWS.

As the Film Institute and Archive has not yet collected sufficient number of foreign films, it had to borrow films from the Embassies in Bangladesh for illustration to the students of the Film Appreciation Course and *for* the members of the Film Societies. Almost every day, we are screening films. During the year we have screened 126 times (90 foreign films) which have been seen by about 14,500 persons and 66 times (50 films) National films which have been seen about 5,500 persons.

VISITORS.

Within this short time of the establishment, the Film Institute and Archive has gained popularity. Many important persons including the Ministers of the Government, foreigners and high ranking diplomats from embassies in Bangladesh visited the Film Archive.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

We are very much thankful to those who have kindly given us films on loan, materials, publications on film for their preservation and various members of the International Federation of Film Archive for sending us their publications and other materials. Some of the members of the FIAF have already expressed their willingness to donate some films to our Archive for which we are negotiating to collect as soon as possible. We are grateful for this kind offer of donation of film to our newly established Film Archive.

PERMANENT COMPLEX.

Bangladesh Film Institute and Archive has been functioning in a hired house of about 8,500 Sq. ft. area but it

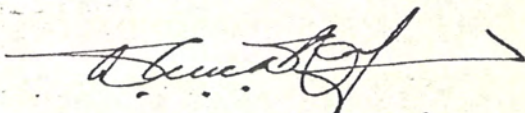
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is insufficient for our purpose. So, we are trying to hire another house adjacent to this building. For the Permanent Complex of the Film Institute and Archive, designed to be a film city, a scheme has already been prepared and submitted to the Government for approval.

/Palash/

  
(A.K.M. Abdur Rouf),  
CURATOR.  
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