

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

REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1984

Bangladesh Film Archive started its official functioning from 1st July 1980 in a hired house with a few unskilled and inexperienced members of staff. Bangladesh is a developing country. Like all other organisation Film Archive is facing many problems. In-spite of that the Archive has set an example in the country. Now we are trying to build the permanent complex of Film Archive. The scheme of the project was submitted to the authority but as it was not properly submitted, we are to resubmit it with some technical data and necessary changes. By establishing the Film Archive we have been to benefit the film industry, film makers, artists technicians, film societies and researchers of the country to greater extent. The training course of film is also gaining popularity in the country. With skeleton numbers of unskilled man-power this Archive is aheading towards its ultimate goal.

Bangladesh Film Archive is getting revenue grant from the government of Bangladesh. In the current year's budget is taka 24,82,000 equivalant to US \$ 1,00,000/-.

In Bangladesh maintenance cost of the Film Archive is very high. Throughout the year we have to consume electricity for air-conditioning, to keep the dehumiditifier machines in operation etc. for the safety of the films from moisture due to tropical climate and heavy monsoonmal rainfall.

The administrative setup has remained almost unchanged. At present some posts are lying vacant which will be filled up and as the Bangladesh Public Service Commission sends their nominees. In the present set-up we need some more technical man-power for proper documentation and preservation.

Acquisition of film:

Upto 31st December, 1984 total collection of films was as detailed below :

Item	Collection as on 31.12.1983	January to December, 84	Total as on 31.12.84
Feature Film Prints	82	15	97
Feature Film Negetives	181	8	189
Short Film	428	243	691
Short Film Negetives	6	7	13
Dupe Negetives	14	5	19
Old films (unidentified)	137	19	156
	848		1165

All the film collected films are being preserved in 3 (three) temperature controlled film vaults. The films are regularly checked and cleaned by the experts. During the year under report 1478 reels of 16 mm & 35 m.m. print were checked and cleaned and some damaged portions were restored.

Other acquisition:

The details of other acquisitions such as books and periodicals on film, still photographs, wall posters, shooting scripts, song books, synopsis, press clippings, film festival materials, etc. are as giving below :-

Item	Collection as on 31.12.83	January to December, 84	Total as on 31.12.84
Books on film	2093	17	2110
Periodicals on film	2892	366	3258
Posters	1418	135	1553
Song book of film	173		173
Still photographs	5883	8	5891
Film festival materials	166	2	169
Shooting scripts	438	44	482
Misc. on film	1201	18	1219
Synopsis	291	27	318

As the film books are not available in the country we have to import them from various outside countries at the cost of our hard earned foreign currencies. There is a reading room by spending where the film art students and others are getting all the facilities regularly.

The following are the significant additions of the archive:-

Bangladeshi :-

- (1) Kakhno Aasheni, by Zahir Raihan
- (2) Aasia, by Fateh Lohani
- (3) Surjassnan, by Salahuddin
- (4) Sutarang, by Subhash Datta
- (5) Rupali Saikate, by Alamgir Kabir
- (6) Surja Sangram, by Abdus Samad
- (7) Suprabhat, by Anowar Kabir

Foreign

- (1) Dip Jele Jai - Aashit Kumar Sen
- (2) Pathe Hale Deri - Agradut
- (3) Pasher Bari - Sudhir Mukharjee

Training

Bangladesh Film Archive is conducting Film Appreciation Course, because no facility is available in Bangladesh for any kind of education in the field of film. Now a days cinema is very much popular in our country of 95 million people. Therefore, training in the field of Film is very much necessary.

Till December 1983, this Film Archive completed 4(four) Film Appreciation Courses on the following subjects :-

1. History of Cinema
2. Film Criticism
3. Screenplay Writing
4. Film Direction
5. Motion Picture Photography
6. Editing
7. Audiography
8. Art Direction
9. Acting

This course is for 4 (four) months duration. There are 4 (four) lectures (each of three hours duration) in a week, for efficient conducting of the course the Film Archive has engaged foreign qualified teachers and well known personalities of the film industry. There are five written papers each of 100 marks and 50 marks in viva voce test. After the Examination, Certificate is given to each successful student.

Local reputed Film Makers and foreign visiting film experts also give lectures to the students on request.

Film Societies

Although there are many film societies in Bangladesh there is no auditorium for film screening, suitable places for arranging seminars, workshops, exhibitions etc. for the benefit of their members, Bangladesh Film Archive regularly providing its auditorium to them. Many film societies arranged seminar, workshop, exhibition, film shows, discussion on film, film festivals etc. with the help of the Archive.

Film Show

Bangladesh Film Archive has not yet obtained membership. But the archive has been screening film regularly to the film art students. Film societies, educational and cultural institutions and film industry peoples. As this Archive has not yet collected sufficient number of foreign films, it had to borrow films from Embassies in Bangladesh.

During the office hours from 7-30 to 1400 hours and almost every day in the evening this Archive is screening film. During the year 1984 Archive screened short and full length film about 195 times which have been seen by about 25350 persons.

During this year Archive also arranged a weeklong Indian classical film shows which was extended on demand from the interested personalities from film industry, film societies film journalists etc.

Besides the above we exhibited weeklong German film viz (1) The lost honour of catharina Blun (2) Jail Bait (3) Fear of Goal-keeper (4) The Tin Drum (5) Mephisto (6) End of game' (7) Circle of Deceit (8) The Children from No.67 (9) Don't Worry, Dear Motherland and arranged a brief discussion on german film in presence of a young german film maker Mr. Christoph Hopner and also were shown his about II short films.

Semnar/Exhibitions:

During the year 1984 Bangladesh Film Archive arranged Seminars on the Role of Film Archive and the Role of Film in Contemporary Social Developments Mr. P.K. Nair, Director, National Film Archive of India and Professor, Satish Bahadur, Film and Television Institute of participated in this 3 days seminar along with National experts and intellectuals from 11th to 16th September, 1984.

Two exhibitions were held this year, one 'Film as Film' The exhibition provides a survey of the early stage development ranging from the absolute film of the twenties to the structural film of the present day beginning with films made by artist. The exhibition was held from 21st July, 1984 illustrated with films every day.

The exhibition of large sixty still photos of the New German Film was held from 26th September to 7th October, 1984

In addition the Film Archive also helped many Film Societies for arranging Seminars, workshop, exhibitions and film shows.

Visitors

After the establishment of Bangladesh Film Archive it has gained reputation for its activities, Many distinguished guests and foreigners visited this organisation and highly appreciated. During this year some noted figures such as Mr. F. Arne, Secretary General, Worldview International Foundation, Sri Lanka, Mr. Ryoya Tuskaguchi, Manager, Project Planning, Technical Coordination project Development Division, Sony Corporation, Japan Mr. P.K. Nair, Director, NFAI, Mr. Satish Bahadur, Prof. Film & T.V. Institute of India, Mr. Christoph Hobner, film Director, West German, Mr. Carlos Arnaldo, Division of Development of Communication Systems, UNESCO, Paris, Mr. Dhritiman Chatterji India film actor Mr. Badal Basu and Mr. Satadru Chaki, Indian Journalist & Writer Mr. Dulal Dutta, film editor of India and many more foreign visitors and Local Ministers, dignitaries etc. visited the Archive.

International relations

The Curator of this Archive participated in the 40th FIAF Congress held at wien, Vienna and actively participated in the symposium of Film and Cinema in Central Europe 1991-1994. The importance of Non-industrial Film within our Cultural Heritage and in the meeting of the Preservation Commission. The Curator also met all the colleagues from different Archives and exchanged views.

The Curator also participated in UNESCO Consultation on the preservation of Moving Images and expert consultation on the preservation where a report was presented.

The Curator participated in the First Asian Seminar on Developing Film Archive held in Pune, India from 20-25th February 1984.

The Archive is maintaining relations with other Film Archives, film makers, critics, artists film societies etc.

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