

## **NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF INDIA**

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India  
Law College Road  
PUNE 411 004  
India

**Report for 1982**

### **Activities : NATIONAL**

#### **New Building**

There was some delay in finalising the design lay out and blue prints of our new buildings and vaults. This has since been finalised and the construction work is about to commence. The new premises should be ready for occupation, hopefully, within the next two years. Till such time we will continue to face problems of storage, maintenance, documentation and effective utilisation of the Archive collection.

#### **Regional set-ups**

The two regional offices at Bangalore & Calcutta, which started functioning nearly a year ago, are getting themselves stabilised to meet the increasing demands from film societies, film study groups and research workers in the Southern and Eastern region. The regional offices also liaison with film producers/distributors, laboratories in the region for speeding up the archival acquisition of regional Cinema. Three more regional set-ups at Trivandrum, New Delhi and Madras are being planned to start before 1985. These regional offices will operate as nucleus film study centres for organising film appreciation courses, lectures, seminars and coordinating the Archive's National Film Theatre screenings.

#### **Staff**

The present staff strength is 53 with 31 technical hands and rest on the administration side.

#### **Organisational Status**

The post of Curator has since been upgraded to Director with Head-of-Department powers. N.F.A.I. continues to be a media unit of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India.

#### **Storage space**

A temporary tubular structure constructed in the present premises will take care of our immediate storage problems to some extent. However, we are on the look out for some more storage space nearby as a stop-gap arrangement till the new building and vaults are ready.

#### **Acquisition**

992 films were added during 1982. The bulk came by way of free deposits from Government agencies and private producers and also from foreign archives under the



exchange programme. About 200 titles ( 61 Indian and rest foreign ) were procured by the Archive on nominal payment. The detailed statement of archival acquisition as on 31st December 1982 is given below :

Items	Collection as on 31-12-1981	Jan. - Dec. 1982	Total as on 31-12-1982
Films	7099	992	8091
Books	10164	1105	11269
Periodicals	214	-	214
Disc records	1439	44	1483
Stills	15989	8159	24148
Wall posters	3738	246	3984
Song Booklets	2946	59	3005
Scripts	11085	515	11600
Pamphlets	4151	248	4399
Press Clippings	1376	2787	4163
Microfilms	658	278	936

The above figures include free deposits also.

Some of the significant film acquisitions of the year are :

#### Indian

Satyajit Ray's JOI BABA FELUNATH ( 1978 ), BALA ( 1976 ) & SADGATI ( 1982 ), recent award winning films AGRAHARATHIL KAZHUTHAI/Donkey in a Brahmin Village ( Tamil/John Abraham ), BARA ( Kannada/M. S. Sathyu ), DAKHAL ( Bengali/Gautam Ghosh ), CHAN PARDESEE ( Punjabi/Chitrart Singh ), IMAGI NINGTHEM ( Manipuri/Aribram Syam Sharma ), THANEER THANEER ( Tamil/K. Balachander ), UMBARTHA ( Marathi/Jabbar Patel ) and 36 CHOWRINGHEE LANE ( English/Aparna Sen )

#### Foreign

Ingmar Bergman's AUTUMN SONATA ( 1978 ), Andrei Tarkovsky's MIRROR ( 1975 ) & STALKER ( 1980 ), Sergei Eisenstein's QUE VIVA MEXICO ! ( 1931 ), Max Ophuls' LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN ( 1948 ) and EARRINGS OF MADAM DE ( 1953 ), Jean Renoir's LE GRANDE ILLUSION ( 1938 ), and Yasujiro Ozu's I WAS BORN BUT..... ( 1932 ) and TOKYO STORY ( 1953 )

#### Checking Output

The film checking department checked, cleaned and repaired 28,817 reels in 35mm and 3600 reels in 16mm gauges in the course of the year. 660 reels were also chemically treated.

#### Distribution Library

Five new titles were added to the Distribution Library, which has now more than 200 prints of Indian and Foreign film classics for non commercial screenings of film societies and film study groups. The Distribution Library at Poona accounted for the maximum bookings with 3278 while Bangalore took 395 and Calcutta 93 during the year. The films were seen by over one hundred thousand film enthusiasts drawn from film societies, educational institutions, and cultural organisations. During the year, 83 new member clubs



were registered with the Distribution Library which has now a total membership of 558 regular borrowers from all over the country. Apart from loaning films, the Archive has also been supplying suitable literature on the films to the borrowing film societies.

#### **Book Library**

About 600 readers availed of the Archive Book Library facilities at Poona. The documentation section supplied information to 53 requests during the year.

#### **Viewing facilities**

The two viewing tables (Steenbeck and Intercine) available with the Archive provided viewing facilities to 107 research workers, 15 of whom came from abroad. The screening facilities available at the nearby Film & TV Institute of India were also made use of.

#### **Assistance to Film Training institutions**

The FTII, Pune and other film training institutions in the country continue to draw heavily on the Archive collection for their academic purposes.

#### **Courses / Lectures / Seminars**

Two more programmes were introduced under the Archive's Screen Education Activity. A four-day seminar of teachers involved in Film Appreciation teaching was held at Poona under the joint auspices of National Film Archive of India and Film & TV Institute. Twenty teachers from different parts of the country participated in the seminar which went into the question of arriving at a proper methodology for presenting Film Appreciation teaching in urban and rural set-ups.

A six-week workshop for the Teachers in Film Appreciation was held from 10th May to 19th June, 1982. 26 candidates sponsored by the Universities, from all over India, participated in the workshop. The annual Film Appreciation Course was held under the joint auspices of NFAI & FTII from 28th June to 24th July. 71 candidates, some of whom sponsored by Universities / Colleges attended the course. Short courses in Film Appreciation were also held by the Archive at Heggodu, Madurai, Madras Film & TV Institute, National Institute of Design (Ahmedabad), Department of Journalism and Communication (Kerala University, Trivandrum), Manipur Film Development Council (Imphal), National School of Drama (New Delhi). Number of films from the Archive collection were used for illustrative purposes.

#### **Joint screenings**

Weekly screenings (every Tuesday) of selected Archive films are being held at National Centre for Performing Arts, Bombay under the joint NFAI / NCPA Film Circle programme. National Film Archive of India and Federation of Film Societies of India screenings are held twice a month regularly at Bombay with one foreign and one Indian film alternating. Joint screenings in collaboration with Karnataka Film Societies Development Council and Federation of Film Societies of India were also introduced in Bangalore through our regional office on similar lines as that of Bombay.

#### **Archive Publications**

Monograph on Sukhdev has been completed and is now under print. The ones on Ritwik Ghatak, Dalsukh Pancholi and Prabhat pioneers Damle and Fatehlal are under preparation.



### **Special Programmes / events**

1. Homage to C. Ramchandra  
The Archive paid homage to late Shri C. Ramchandra, one of the most popular music directors of Indian films, by arranging a compilation programme of selected song sequences from his important films to an invited audience.
2. Indian Panorama-Retrospective  
Collaborated with the Film Festival Directorate in holding retrospective of New Theaters, Prabhat, Bombay Talkies and Wadia Movietone – the four major film studios of the thirties, which laid the foundation of the Indian Talkie and also contributed some of the classic Indian films of the early sound period. The programme was held as a part of the Indian Panorama of the Calcutta Filmotsav during January '82.

### **Advisory Committee**

The Archive Advisory Committee met twice during the year. Preparing an oral history of cinema by recording interviews with eminent film pioneers and the adoption of a special legislation for the national deposit of films in the Archive in a routine manner, in accordance with such laws prevailing in other countries, were some of the important recommendations made by the Advisory Committee.

### **Activities : INTERNATIONAL**

#### **FIAF Congress at Oaxtepec**

No representative of the Archive participated in the 38th FIAF Congress at Oaxtepec.

#### **Unesco**

National Film Archive of India was nominated as a member of the Apex Co-ordination Committee for Film and TV exchanges at the meeting held at Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development, Kuala Lumpur, during July 1982. The second meeting of the Committee was held at Philippines Film Archive, Manila, during December '82, when possibilities of having a uniform data base for computerisation of the basic data of film and TV material available in the Asia Pacific region, as preliminary step towards exchange of such material between film training institutions and archives and broadcasting institutions, was discussed and agreed to.

#### **Cinema India-London**

A fresh print of D. G. Phalke's KALIYA MARDAN (1917), one of the early Indian silent films from the Archive collection, was specially made available for the inaugural Film programme of the Festival of India at NFT, London. The Archive also assisted the Film Festival Directorate in arranging a retrospective of Ritwik Ghatak, one of the forgotten masters of Indian Cinema, as a part of Cinema India, project. It is for the first time a retrospective of this controversial Indian filmmaker has been held outside the country.

#### **Archival Exchange**

Film exchanges were carried out with the Albanian Film Archive, Tirana, Jugoslovenska Kinoteka, Belgrade, Gosfilmofond, Moscow, Australian Film Archive, Canberra and Museum of Modern Art, New York.



### **Foreign Visits**

Director, P. K. Nair, attended the Unesco Experts Meeting on Asia Pacific Cooperation for Film & Video Exchange held at AIBD, Kuala Lumpur, in July and the first Apex Co-ordination Committee meeting held at Manila during December. He was also one of resource persons for the Regional workshop on Development of Libraries and Resource Centres in Film and Broadcasting organisations held at Manila during November-December 1982. While at Manila he familiarised himself with the working of Philippines Film Archive and the Manila Film Centre and also the Film Centre at the University of Philippines.

### **Important visitors**

Australia	J. Dowling, Research worker, Sydney A. Warnath, Researcher in Film Archives S. Mitchell, Librarian Peter Jeffery, Lecturer in Murdoch University
Denmark	Hanne Longreen, Research worker
France	Jean-Paul Poirier, Research Scholar, Paris
Hungary	Combar Josefei, Cire Toddle and Ferenc Kohalini from the Ministry of Culture, Budapest
Japan	Tamaki Matsuoka and Hitoshi Motoyoshi, Research workers
Philippines	Annella Manalo, Film Archivist
Sri Lanka	Laleen Jaymmane, Research Scholar
U. K.	Sarah Vincent, Animator from London
U. S. A.	Leslie Flemming, Research worker
USSR	V. Zimanin, Script writer and J. Oldokkina, Film Director

Director : P. K. Nair