

STATE AWARDS FOR FILMS

1955



MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 21, 1955

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF AWARDS

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Sri V. Shantaram

Prof. R. Subbarao

Sri Ardhendu Mukerjee

Film in India, 1954

DURING the year 1954, 274 Indian feature films were approved for public exhibition. Out of these 118 were Hindi, 47 Bengali, 38 Tamil. 27 Telugu, 18 Marathi, 10 Kannada, 8 Malayalam, 3 English, 3 Punjabi, 1 Oriya and 1 Assamese. In the number of feature films released there has been a five per cent increase over the figures of 1953. At this production level, India ranked third as a producer of full length feature films, the first two being United States of America and Japan.

The major centre of production of films continued to be Bombay with Madras and Calcutta taking the second and third place. About 45 per cent of the total number of films were produced at Bombay, about one-third at Madras, about one-fifth at Calcutta and a few at other smaller centres. Most of the Hindi films were produced at Bombay, most of the Bengali films at Calcutta and almost all the Tamil and Telugu films at Madras. Two films were produced in colour and the rest in black and white.

Themes providing material for the Indian feature films included romance, mythology, historical episodes, the lives of saints and social problems. The average length of the film was about 13,000 feet but the films in Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam tended to be longer. Almost all the films had songs, although experiments were made during the year at Bombay and Madras in the production of films without any songs. Dances also continued to be a feature of many films.

A scene from MAHATMA PHULE





A scene from BIRAT BAHL!

In technical quality the Indian feature film has been considered to be as good as any produced elsewhere. As far as themes are concerned, there is a section of film producers who show awareness of the needs of a resurgent nation and are trying to make the Indian film an artistic expression of human values. It has been estimated that the box-office collections have also improved by about ten per cent during the year 1954.

Documentary films numbering 120 were approved for public exhibition for the same period. The usefulness of these films has received increasing recognition, and India has come to occupy a position of importance in the world by the quantity and quality of its documentary production.

The Films Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, has made 38 documentary films during the year. Some of its documentaries have been exhibited at International Film Festivals. Besides documentaries, the Films Division produces a weekly newsreel. Documentaries and newsreels produced by the Films Division were exhibited in more than three thousand theatres in the country and it has been calculated that approximately sixty crores of people have seen these films in 1954. Among the productions of the Films Division, mention must be made of two film magazines made specially for children.

An outstanding event of the year (1954) was the institution of State Awards for the best films produced in the country. State Awards are intended to encourage production of films of a high aesthetic and technical standard and educational and cultural value. The President's Gold Medal for the best Indian feature film of 1953 was presented to the film "SHYAMCHI-AAI" (Marathi) produced and directed by P.K. Atre. Certificates of Merit for feature films were awarded to "DO BIGHA ZAMIN" (Hindi) produced and directed by Bimal Roy and to "BHAGVAN SRI KRISHNA CHAITANTA" (Bengali) produced and directed by Debaki Kumar Bose. The Prime Minister's Gold Medal for the best children's film produced up to the year 1953 could not be awarded as none of the entries was considered to be of a sufficiently high standard, However, a Certificate of Merit for the children's film was awarded to "KHELA GHAR" (Bengali) produced by Aurora Films. In the documentary section, the President's Gold Medal for the best

A scene from MIRZA GHALIB



documentary was awarded to "MAHABALIPURAM" produced by the Films Division and directed by Jagat Murari. Gertificates of Merit in this section were awarded to "HOLY HIMALAYAS" produced by the Films Division and directed by K.L. Khandpur and "TREE OF WEALTH" produced by the Information Films of India and directed by A. Bhaskar Rao.

The need for making films specially suitable for children came to be recognised more and more during the year. Government announced the decision to set up a Children's Film Society for production and distribution of special films for children and to give grants to the society for the purpose.

In May, 1954, Government published their decisions on the recommendations of the Film Inquiry Committee and announced their intention to form a National Film Board, a Film Production Bureau and a Film Institute. Preparatory work for giving these decisions a concrete shape was started and continued during the year.

In all 930 Indian films and 1,777 imported films (feature films as well as shorts) were examined by the Central Board of Film Censors in 1954. The total footage of Indian films examined was 48,36,001 feet and of imported films 37,19,504 feet. 42 imported films were refused certificates while no Indian feature film was refused a certificate by the Board in 1954.

With a steady increase in the number of feature films produced, greater popularity of the documentary and the educational short, expanding audiences and superior technical methods employed and with greater emphasis on social awareness in the selection of themes, the Indian Film Industry forged ahead in 1954.







A seeme from CHELEYKAAR

Feature Films Approved for Public Exhibition in 1954

HINDI:

Afreeka ; Baap Beti ; Dhoop Chhaon ; Samrat ; Ramman; Dhobi Doctor; Suhagan; Dost; Lakeeren; Mann; Haar Jeet; Taxi Driver; Toote Khilone; Baadbaan; Bazooband; Bhai Saheb; Payal Ki Jhankar; Ilzam; Majboori; Prisoner of Golconda; Alibaba & Forty Thieves; Sadma; Dak Babu; Miss Mala; Sangam; Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh (Revised); Angarey; Sheeshe Ki Diwar; Aulad; Gokul Ka Raja; Shart; Pooja; Malika-E-Alam Noor Jehan; Kasturi; Aar Paar; Sher Dil; Hanuman Janma alias Sati Anjani; Laila; Teen Tasveeren; Raj Yogi; Shabab; Gawaiya; Ferry (Kashti); Watan; Maha Puja; Naaz ; Subah Ka Tara ; Sitamgar alias Khubsurat Tapu ; Dauka ; Darwaza; Khushboo; Hakumat; Ramayan; Rishta; Ehsan; Vijayagarh; Chor Bazar; Munna; Shama Parwana; Nastik; Waris; Amar Keertan; Shiv Kanya; Pilpli Saheb; Jadugar; Saltanat ; Noor Mahal ; Chalis Baba Ek Chor ; Savdhaan ; Biraj Bahu; Radha Krishna; Kavi; Tilottama & Pahili Tarikh; Mastana; Guzaara; Ibrat; Shivratri; Durga Pooja; Barati; Amar; Badshah; Mehbooba; Fojilama; Kalakar; Aurat Teri Yehi Kahani; Ameer; Toofan; Pehli Jahalak; Chakaradhari; Gul Ghahar; Mirza Ghalib; Halla Gulla; Bilwamangal; Mahatma Kabir; Lal Pari; Parichay; Tulsidas; Mangu;



A scenn from MALAIKKALLAM

Pensioner; Hamlet; Adhikar; Naukri; Samaj; Nagin; Khaiber; Jagriti; Chor Bazar; Meenar; Dakoo Ki Ladki; Gahrayi; Shobha; Chitrangada; Manohar; Bahut Din Huwe; Ladla; Pyase Nain; Chandni Chowk.

PUNJABI:

Ashtalli : Vanjaraa ; Shahji.

ENGLISH: Mahan Atma (A Great Soul); Prisoner of Golcanda; Monsoon,

MARATHI:

Kanchanganga; Taraka; Owalni; In Min Saade Teen; Sasar Maher; Sansar Karaychsy Mala; Teen Mulan; Oon Paus; Purusachi Jaat; Shashi; Zanzayat; Postatil Mulgi; Maharani Yesuhai; Reshmachya Ganthi; Khel Chalala Nashibacha; Baby; Shubha Mangal; Mahatma Phule.

TAMIL:

Chandraharam; Rajee E Kanmani; Karkettai; Panyayal; Viduthalai; Manohara; Panam Paduthum Padu; Illara Jyothi; Antha Nall; Kalyanam Panniyum Brahmachari; Vilayatu Bommai; Nallakalam; Manglyam; Sorgayasal; Puthuvyugam; Penn; Irulukkuppin; Malaikallan; Thuli Visham; Kanayu; Raktha Pasam; Thookku—Thookki; Koondukkili; Sugam Engey; Kudumbam; Mathiyum Mamathaiayum; Vairamalai; Ammaiappan; Ayan Yar; Nanbban; Manaivi; En Magal; Rathakkaneer; Ponamachan Thirumbiyandhan; Padmini; Ethirparathathu; Jyothi; Veerasundari.

TELUGU:

Anta Manavalle; Rajech-Na-Pranam; Pedda Manushulau;

Vaddante Dabbu; Nirupedalu; Chakrapani; Thodu Dongalu; Balanandam; Jyothi; Manohara; Rajoo Peda; Sangham; Aggi-Ramudu; Raja Guru; Pariyarthana; Prajarajyam; Iddaru Pellalu; Ma Gopi; Jathaka Palam; Menarikam; Rangaru Bhoomi; Amarasandesam; Kalahasthi Mahatyam; Palle Paduchu; Vipranarayana; Annadhatha; Sathi Sakkubai.

MALAYALAM:

Ayakasi; Ayan Varunnu; Sandehi or Gruhadeyatha; Manasakshi; Puthra Dharmam; Neelakuyil; Balyasakhi; Sneha Seema.

KANNADA:

Rajalakshmi; Jaladurga; Deva Kannika; Natasekhara; Bedara Kannappa; Adhikari; Kanyadana; Doddapa; Madiddunne Marayya; Muthidella Chinna or Golden Touch.

ASSAMESE:

Sati Beula

BENGALI:

Moner Moyur; Naramcdh—Yagna; Aj Sandhyay; Nagarik; Satir Dehatyag; Ankush; Ma. Annapurna; Subha Jatra; Bikram Urbashi; Nababidhan; Champadangar Bou; Na; Jagrihi; Sada Kalo; Nad-O-Nadi; Kalyani; Mahila Mahal; Panraksha; Prafulla; Sati; Dhooli; Sati Behula; Banglar Nari; Amar Prem; Ladies Seat; Nil Shari; Ei Satyee; Maraner Parey; Moni-Ar-Manik; Sadanander Mela; Jiban-O-Judha; Barbela; Annapurnar Mandir; Chheley Kaar; Agni-Pariksha; Soroshi; Bakul; Shiva Sakti; Han; Durlay-Janam; Griha Prabesh; Joydey; Jadu Bhatta; Bhanga-Guru; Mantrasakti; Dui Bon; Balay Gras.

ORITA:

Kodar Gouri

A scene from the GOLDEN RIVER



Documentaries Approved for Public Exhibition in 1954

Kaira Union Diary

Busy Hands Folk Dances of India Famine Reliefs 1952-53

Spiti Palms to Pines Hamara Pashu Dhan Roof Over the Head

Prime Minister at Aarey Milk Colony Dhan Kheti

Kalakaron Ki Gangotri

Taming the Sutlej Films Division
Portrait of a Policeman
Khet Ki Khurak Films Division
White Manure Films Division
Chawal Paida Karneka Ek Naya
Tarika
Versha Mangal Education Exp

Song of the South
Sawadhani Bartiye (stop rough
handling)
Modest Homes
Ganesh, God of Good Luck
Bhopal
Farmer on the Floating Field
Malaria Control
Fishing for Food
River Valley Project
How to Grow More
Paddy
Trip to South India
Social Education

Hulikeri Pilot Project

C.M. Patel, Government Milk Colony, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay M. Bhavnani, Bombay Films of India, Bombay Films of India, Bombay Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay Government of Bombay

Director of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division

Education Expansion Department U.P. Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay

Films Division, Bombay
Films of India, Bombay
Films Division, Bombay
Films of India, Bombay
Ama Ltd., Bombay
Ama Ltd., Bombay
Ama Ltd., Bombay
Ama Ltd., Bombay
Films of India, Bombay
Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay
Mysore Adult Education Council

People's Participation Training for Progress Our Cattle Wealth Your Contribution Mission of Peace Jan Swasthya Sudhar Kaidi Sudhar Milky Way

N.C.C. Marches on One Thousand Hands Under the Mango Tree

A Day in Kashmir Car Festival Adibasis of Orissa Manavata Ne Marge

Minor Irrigation Spirit of the Loom Vindhya Pradesh Road Sense Singing Punjabees

Golden Grain

Building from Below Story of Bombay Water Supply The Case of Mr. Critic Vallabh Vidyanagar Flying Sailors Invest in Your Future Accent on Youth Scale or Taraju

Darjeeling

Family Planning Harijan

Wall-less Prison

Hindi Devnagri Script

Planned Achievement Ganga Important People Towards the Rising Sun (I go East)

Films Division, Bombay Shorey Films, Simla Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Shorey Films, U.P. Shorey Films Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay Films Division, Bombay Ama Ltd., Bombay National Education and Infor-mation Films, Bombay Louis Mattle Government of Orissa Government of Orissa Saurashtra Gram Prachar Sahakari Sangh Ltd. Government of Orissa Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay National Education and Information Films Ltd., Bombay Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay Films Division, Bombay My Own Studio, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Robit Films, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay Films Division, Bombay

Films Division
Directorate of Publicity Govt. of
Bombay
Education Expansion Department,
U.P.
Education Expansion Department,
U.P.
Films Division, Bombay
Singh Bros., Bombay
Films Division, Bombay
Information Films & Ved Co.
India, Bombay

Pro

December 21

5 p.m. PRESENTATION National Phy

- 1. National Anthem
- 2. Introductory speech by Dr. B.
- 3. Presentation of report of the
- 4. The President's Address
- Presentation of Awards (2 go the President of India. Pres
- 6. Speech of thanks Film In-
- 7. Exhibition of State Award do

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8. Exhibition of State Award fea

December 22

10 a.m. SYMPOSIUM "BIOC Cons

Prof. N.K. Si

SPEAKERS:

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Dr.
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5-30 p.m. Reception by Min at

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GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS Laboratory Auditorium

skar of the Central Committee of Awards

dals; 6 silver medals and 14 Merit Certificates) by on of honorarium to Shri N. S. Thapa

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f Information & Broadcasting rapati Bhavan



A scene from DARJEELING

Sangeet Bharat (Part I) (Maharastra) Men of Letters Symphony of Life Realm of Sound Brij Bhoomi

Banarasi Bagh

The Magic Touch Bharat Men Dhan Ki Kheti Be Prepared Golden River Lotus and Lovers Elephants & Festivals Hindu America Merry-Go-Round Malaria Control In Defence of Freedom Save Our Soil Our Indian Earth The Re-union Delhi-the Capital of India The Magic of the Egg

Kora Kendra Improved Seeds Rajkamal Kala Mandir, Bombay

Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Education Expansion Department, U.P. Education Expansion Department Films Division, Bombay Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Bombay Vinay Productions, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films of India, Bombay Films of India Rajkamal Kala Mandir, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Directorate of Publicity, Bombay Community Development Projects Directorate of Publicity, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Films Division, Bombay Ama Ltd., Bombay Films Division, Bombay Eastern Movies, Delhi National Education and Information Films, Bombay Ama Ltd., Bombay Films Division, Bombay

Towards Freedom

Tiger Shikar in India

The Voice of India Heritage of India

Vidyapeeta

Mysore

Miscellaneous Films

Ecra Beeri

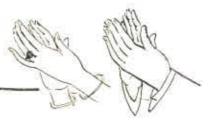
Cha Ki Kahani Darjeeling, the Home Town of Tensing (Revised)

Information Films & Ved Co., Bombay Frank Ferrin through Ellis Dungan Bombay Gandhi Films Committee, Bombay Projection of India Pictures. Madras. The Mysore Adult Education Council, Mysore The Mysore Adult Education Council. Mysore The Mysore Adult Education Council, Mysore The Mysore Adult Education Council, Myscre Central Tea Board, Calcutta

The Clarlon Productions,

Calcutta

award Films



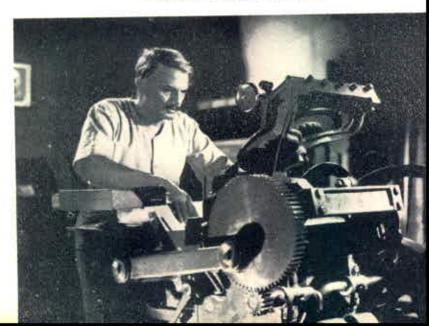
PRESIDENT'S GOLD MEDAL FOR THE ALL-INDIA BEST FEATURE FILM & PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Hindi):

MIRZA GHALIB (Hindi): Produced by Minerva Movietone, Bombay.

Set in a historical background, the film deals with the eternal psychological and social problems in the career of a genius.

This picture portrays one aspect of the life of Mirza Ghalib in which the conflict between love and loyalty had deeply affected a sensitive artist. Mirza Ghalib fails to make an impression at the Court Mushaira of Emperor Bahadur Shah but at the same time, unknowingly wins the heart of Moti, an accomplished domni. Though

A scine from PEDDAMANUSHULU



unswayed by trials and sufferings, Moti decides to go out of Mirza's life when chance makes her discover Mirza's faithful wife. But Mirza finally rushes to her from the prison where he was held; so great is the power of her love. It was selfless too, and Moti dies happy, Mirza by her side.

ALL INDIA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT & PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Malayalam)

NEELAKKUYIL (Malayalam): Produced by Chardrathara Productions, Madras.

The social conditions in Malabar form the central theme of this film of the love between a highcaste and a Pulaya (Harijan) girl. The story ends on this inspiring note; "let him not grow up as a Nair, or a Muslim, or a Pulaya or a Christian—! ring him up as a MAN."

ALL INDIA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

BIRAJ BAHU (Hindi): Produced by Hiten Chaudhury Productions, Bombay.

BASED on Sarat Chandra's book this is a story of completeness of love and faith. However, the drama takes a turn when bitterness creeps into their life as the result of privation and poverty spread over years. In keeping with the Indian conception of marriage, Biraj returns home, to die at the feet of a repentant husband.

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Bengali)

CHHELEY KAAR (Bengali): Produced by Charan Chitra, Calcutta.

This is a comedy of situations. A poor man, at the time of his death leaves his adopted child, Tomato, with a rich, irresponsible youngster, Kunal. Of course, the transaction is one-sided. The boy chases Kunal, calling him his father, and every attempt Kunal makes to shake him off leads to a fresh complication and so the merry-go-round goes on. The boy is good and lovable and so everybody is happy because he could be anybody's!

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Tamil)

MALAIKKALLAN (Tamil): Produced by Pakshiraja Studios, Coimbatore.

THE central character of this film is dreaded as a dacoit but in reality is the protector of the poor and the weak and is the terror to evil-doe:s.

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Marathi)

MAHATMA PHULE (Marathi) Produced by Aire Pictures, Bombay.

THIS is the inspiring story of Jyotiba Phule, born in 1827 in a poor, non-Brahmin family of Maharashtra, who finally was recognised and honoured as a Mahatma.

More than hundred years ago, this man working against powerful forces of religion, tradition and ignorance lived to bring home the message that in education lay the salvation of the country. From the plight of Brahmin widows to the hardships of the Harijans, there was not a single injustice against which he did not fight.

PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL (Telugu)

PEDDAMANUSHULU (Telugu): Produced by Vauhini Productions, Madras.

HOW nemesis always catches up with the evildoers is brought out in this film, which presents a character with a dual personality. Passing off as a pillar of piety, the central character hides, behind a soft facade, his relentless ambition—till he realises that a life of lies and deceit kills both body and soul.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

THODU DONGALU (Telugu): Produced by National Art Theatres, Madras.

THE story revolves round two characters, Paramesam, the manager of a factory, and Ramudu, a labourer in that factory. The suffering of the labourer is equalled only by the callousness of the manager. However the character of the manager undergoes complete reformation.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

VIPRANARAYNA (Telugu): Produced by Bharani Pictures, Madras.

THIS story deals with a well known devotee of God, Sri Ranganatha, known as 'Vipranarayana', who lived in the Chola Kingdom during the 8th century A.D. The main purpose of the story is to show how in spite of odds and evil temptations the devotee attained 'Moksha'.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

ANDHA NAAL (Tamil): Produced by A.V.M. Productions, Madras.

THIS story is built round the investigation of a murder by two police officers—one a conscientious and serious officer and the other brilliant, eccentric but not so serious.

The whole story happens within one day.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

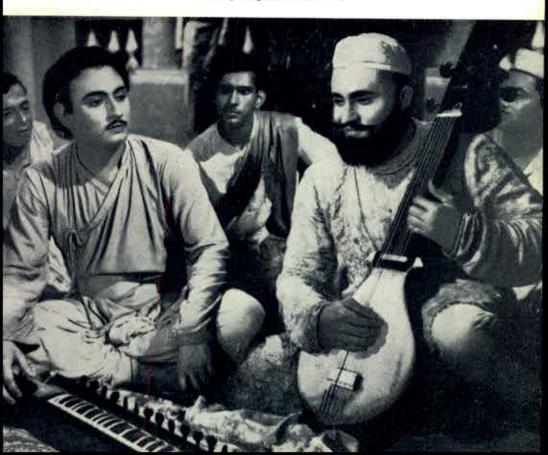
ETHIRPARATHATHU (Tamil): Produced by Saravanabhava and Unity Pictures, Madras.

This story is based on a situation where a father marries his son's intended, after he is reported dead in an air crash.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

SNEHA SEEMA (Malayalam): Produced by Associated Pictures, Madras.

A scene from JADU BHATTA



How the love of youngsters for one another comes into conflict with forces of social tradition is depicted in this story of three playmates who grow up in different social environments.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

BEDARA KANNAPPA (Kannada): Produced by Gubbi Karnataka Productions, Madras,

THIS is the story of a simple hunter who has absolute faith in God. After various experiences, Dinnah, who, due to a curse was born a hunter, devotes himself to God Shiva.

Based on a well-known traditional story, Dinnah as a result of his final act becomes immortal under the name of Kannappa.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

JAGRITI (Hindi): Produced by Filmistan Ltd. Bombay.

The theme of the film is the influence of a good teacher canalising the ebullient spirits of school boys into constructive and creative endeayour.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

JADU BHATTA (Bengali): Produced by Sunrise Film Distributors, Calcutta,

BASED on the life of Jadu Bhatta, who was born with an intense urge for music, the film shows how after many reverses he achieved perfection as a singer.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

ANNAPURNAR MANDIR (Bengali): Produced by Chitra Mandir, Calcutta.

THE central theme of this story is the marriage arranged between a young girl and an octogenarian and the hardships which follow such a match.

PRESIDENT'S GOLD MEDAL FOR THE BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM

SPIRIT OF THE LOOM; Produced by Films Division; Directed by V.R. Sarma.

FROM its early beginnings, the story of the handloom in India, one of the oldest symbols of civilisation and today the second largest cottage industry, is recaptured in this documentary.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (Documentary)

DARJEELING: Produced by Films Division; Directed by K.L. Khandpur.

THE queen of hill-stations, Darjeeling in the eastern Himalayas, is the theme of this fascinating documentary.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (Documentary)

THE GOLDEN RIVER: Produced by Films Division: Directed by P.V. Pathy.

This documentary traces the course of the river Kaveri, traditionally revered as sacred and the life-stream of the country through which it flows.

A scene from JAGRITI



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Bombay

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(Chairman) Smt. Kushmayati Deshpande

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Prof. R. Subbarao Sri. Bhagwaticharan Verma

Sri B. Ramakrishna Raju Prof. V.K. Gokak
Dr. Aiyapan Sri Vijay Bhat
Sri A. Ramaiah Sri Kishore Sahu
Sri K. Ramnoth Sri Jagdish Sethi

Calcutta

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