

## **Bengalis in Hyderabad society is all set to present the third edition of the Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival (HBFF) at Prasad Preview Theatre**

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**Hyderabad, June 26:** Bengalis in Hyderabad, a not for profit cultural organization registered under AP Society Act, is all set to present the third edition of the Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival from the 1st



to the 3rd of July, 2016. This year marks a series of firsts for this popular showcase of critically acclaimed Bengali cinema in the twin cities as, apart from the usual screenings, interactions with the film fraternity and nonstop entertainment, the festival is introducing viewers' choice awards across six categories and organizing a tribute to Nabendu Ghosh, one of the legendary screenwriters and litterateurs of India, as a curtain raiser.

The festivities will get under way this Thursday, the 30th, as homage is paid to Nabendu Ghosh. A famed screenwriter and author, Mr. Ghosh's pen was the life force of Bollywood classics such as Sujata, Bandini, Devdas, Majhli Didi, Abhimaan and Teesri Kasam. Later in his career, he also directed a few movies and was identified as a progressive writer of Bengali Literature. The event will be held in Kalakriti Art Gallery and will feature the screening of "Mukul", a short film and the launch of "Kadam Kadam"— Ghosh's last novel inspired by actor Nazir Hussain's experiences in INA.

This year, like always, eight Bengali movies have been carefully handpicked for the festival, keeping quality and diversity in mind. Out of the eight, we are proud to be hosting the premier shows of two movies—"Kolkatar King" and "Bridge". The other six movies to be screened are, "Anubrata Bhalo Acho?", "Babar Naam Gandhiji", "Onyo Apala", "Cinemawalla", "Natoker Moto" and "Asa Jaowar Majhe."

Mrs. Ratnottama Sengupta, renowned for her writings on art, culture, cinema, will be curating the event like she did for the last 2 years.

As always, we are extremely privileged to have several luminaries from the Bengali film industry joining us. Our guests include such names as Dr. Shatarupa Sanyal, director of "Onyo Apala", Paramita Banerjee, producer of "Bridge", Debesh Chatterjee, director of "Natoker Moto", Pavel, director of "Babar Naam Gandhiji", Judhajit Sarkar, director of "Kolkatar King", Partha Sen, director of "Anubrata Bhalo Acho?" and Dr. Amit Ranjan Biswas, director of "Bridge".

Apart from the screenings, a panel discussion on "*What makes movies successful-money, talent or networking*" will be held on July 1. This year, we are excited with the Film Critics Circle of India (FCCI) participating on the panel discussion apart from our curator and guests from the film fraternity. FCCI will also partner with HBFF to select viewers' choice award winners across six categories. These awards will be given away on July 3 at a gala award ceremony at Prasad Preview Theater.

This mega event is being presented by Bengalis in Hyderabad society (popularly BiH), a not-for-profit organization run by young people coming from various career backgrounds. Apart from HBFF, the organization boasts of various activities run by its philanthropic, cultural, travel and ladies wings. No matter what one's interest is, BiH has something for everyone. Currently with more than 15000 virtual members, BiH is the largest regional language based community in South East Asia. Founded

in 2006, BiH has recently completed a decade and throughout its journey, been blessed with support and help from numerous patrons.