

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FTII LAUNCHES STILL PHOTOGRAPHY AND SCREENPLAY WRITING COURSES IN KASHMIR VALLEY; DIGITAL FILM PRODUCTION COURSE ENDS IN SRINAGAR.**

Taking forward the new collaboration with Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir in the field of Film education, Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) Pune today launched two new short courses---Still Photography and Screenplay Writing---- in Srinagar today even as the 30-day Foundation Course in Digital Film Production came to an end.

The inauguration of the courses in Still Photography and Screenplay Writing and valedictory of Digital Film Production course was held in the presence of Chief Guest Sh B P Singh (Cinematography, 1973, FTII) Producer-Director of one of India's most popular TV serial C.I.D; Sh Muneer-ul-Islam, Director, Dept. of Information and PR, Govt of Jammu & Kashmir; Bhupendra Kainthola, Director, FTII in the presence of Jayashree Kanal & A S Kanal (Cinematography, 1972, FTII), Course Directors for Digital Film Production and Ms Vaidehi Sancheti, Course Director for Screenplay Writing.

Completion Certificates were also presented to 15 participants of Foundation Course in Digital Film Production. Aged 19-41, the participants----including 2 women---- hail from Srinagar, Budgam and Kargil.

The objective of Foundation Course in Digital Film Production was take the participants through the entire process of film production through discussions and hands-on exercises as practicals. Participants wrote stories, developed scripts and shot exercises, while taking on, among themselves, the roles of Producer, Director, Asst. Director, Camera person, Sound person and Editor by turns.

The Course was designed into five different modules. The first four modules introduced the participants to aspects like language of cinema, screen writing, production techniques for fiction and non-fiction etc. The fifth module was a project where participants explored all their learning to make short films either in groups or individually.

The 20-day Foundation Courses in Still Photography and Screenplay Writing are being conducted in Jammu and Kashmir for the first time.

Bharat Kanhere, Course Director for Still Photography has worked for 28 years in FTII's Department of Cinematography as academic staff member of

still photography and basic cinematography. He assisted veteran cinematographer Radhu Karmakar in Raj Kapoor's SATYAM SHIVAM SUNDARAM before plunging into industrial, food and commercial photography.

Vaidehi Sancheti (Screenplay Writing, FTII, 2014) Course Director, is a screen writer for fiction and non-fiction films, TV and videos. She is also a script writer for theatre, street plays and children's content. A trained Civil and Water Management Engineer, Vaidehi worked for 8 years with Infosys Technologies before studying at FTII. She recently conducted a Screenplay Writing weekend Course in FTII.

Last October, a 20-day Foundation Course in Digital Cinematography was conducted in Leh, Ladakh for 15 local film makers, in association with Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC).

All courses in J&K are being conducted under FTII's popular film education outreach initiative SKIFT (Skilling India in Film and Television) under which over 70 short courses have been conducted in the last 12 months in 19 locations across the country, covering nearly 3000 learners.

A 5-day Film Appreciation course in Jammu, beginning 9th May 2018, has already been announced.



