

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4071
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.04.2022)

BIRTH CENTENARY OF SATYAJIT RAY

4071: SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the Government's plans to commemorate the birth centenary of India's greatest film maker, Satyajit Ray; and
- (b) whether there are plans to extend the reach of Ray's iconic films to a wider audience through other Indian languages?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):

- (a) The birth centenary celebrations of film maestro Shri Satyajit Ray are being commemorated since 2nd May, 2021. An Implementation Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (I&B) has been set up for coordinating the Satyajit Ray centenary celebrations. The birth centenary encompasses a wide variety of activities. An illustrative list of the activities undertaken as part of birth centenary celebrations of Shri Satyajit Ray is given below:**

- (i) A curtain raiser video was launched through Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata on 2nd May, 2021, the birth anniversary of Shri Satyajit Ray. “Ray Today” logo was created and “Ray Today” website was launched showcasing the news/programs/activities happening across India as part of the centenary celebrations. The website has also links of important articles published on occasion of Ray centenary.**
- (ii) A short film competition on the theme of Realism was held by SRFTI. An activity e-book titled “Magician called Ray” for giving exposure to school children has been launched.**
- (iii) “A Tribute to the Cine Maestro” was organized through Film & Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, in association with National Film Archive of India (NFAI), Pune. In the programme, esteemed panelists discussed Ray’s work and their experiences and memories related to him.**
- (iv) A week long masterclass series were conducted by FTII faculty members at International Film Festival of India, Goa from 21st to 27th November, 2021 on various aspects of Ray’s films and his personality.**
- (v) A selection of ten films of Shri Ray was screened at 52nd International Film Festival of India. Physical screening of the restored prints of the films Jalsaghar, Aparajito and Seemabaddha was held at the Festival venue.**
- (vi) A Satyajit Ray Film Festival 2021 was organized through National Film Development Corporation and six films including three of his directorial classics were screened. The link of the festival was also shared with Embassy of India, France and**

Films Division for streaming on their respective sites. Satyajit Ray Centennial was also held during Berlinale 2022 (European Film Market) and films viz. Ghare Baire, Agantuk, Ganashatru and documentaries viz. Music of Satyajit Ray & Nemai Ghosh – A Ray of light were streamed at India Pavilion at Berlinale – 2022, from 10th to 17th February, 2022.

(vii) Two (2) films have been submitted for Restored Classics Section of Cannes International Film Festival, 2022.

(viii) The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has sanctioned restoration of 10 Satyajit Ray films through National Film Archive of India.

(ix) Iconic films of Shri Satyajit Ray have been screened in Shanghai International Film Festival, International Film Festival of South Asia at Toronto, International Film Festival Mannheim- Heidelberg at Germany and Hong Kong International Film Festival etc. A documentary on Shri Satyajit Ray titled “Music of Satyajit Ray” was also screened at 21st New York Indian Film Festival at New York.

(b) As part of the celebration of birth centenary of the film maestro Shri Satyajit Ray, the iconic films of Shri Ray have reached wider Indian and global audience through screenings in India and abroad.
