

Report

Delhi Marathi Film Festival (DMFF) 2026

The **Delhi Marathi Film Festival (DMFF) 2026** was organised from **7th to 9th August 2026** in collaboration with the **Maharashtra Chitrapat, Rangbhumi and Sanskrutik Vikas Mahamandal, Government of Maharashtra and Delhi Marathi Pratishthan** at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) that served as the venue partner for the three-day festival and collaborated with the organisers in facilitating the conduct of the event.

The festival provided a platform for showcasing the richness of Marathi cinema through award-winning films, compelling narratives and engaging performances, while also promoting greater appreciation of Marathi language, culture and cinema among audiences in Delhi and the National Capital Region.

The festival featured a curated selection of Marathi films representing diverse themes and cinematic expressions. The screenings were open to audiences free of cost, with prior registration being mandatory, and subtitles were provided to facilitate wider participation beyond Marathi-speaking audiences. The festival brought together film enthusiasts, students, cultural practitioners and members of the public, providing them with opportunities to engage with contemporary Marathi cinema and explore the social, cultural and artistic themes reflected through it. In addition to film screenings, the festival featured interactive sessions with eminent directors, actors, producers and film critics, providing audiences with insights into the creative and technical aspects of filmmaking. Seminars on Marathi literary adaptations and the global distribution of regional cinema through OTT platforms offered discussions on the evolving landscape and reach of regional cinema. The festival also included workshops on screenwriting, sound design and micro-budget filmmaking, providing students and aspiring filmmakers with practical knowledge and exposure to various aspects of film production.

A significant highlight of the festival was the screening of **Satyashodhak**, a 2024 Marathi biographical historical drama directed by **Nilesh Jalamkar**. The film was screened on **Saturday, 8 August 2026**, at **Bhim Hall**, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM, followed by a 30-minute interaction session. With a runtime of approximately 2 hours and 25 minutes, the film presented a biographical account of **Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Savitribai Phule**, highlighting their pioneering contribution towards social reform, education, equality and the struggle against caste-based discrimination.

The film explored important themes including social justice and equality, women's education, anti-caste reform, courage and resistance, and the enduring legacy of social change. The screening provided an important opportunity for audiences to engage with the life, work and ideals of Phule through the medium of cinema.

The screening of Satyashodhak was particularly significant in the context of the Government of India's initiative to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule. As part of the programme, the **Director, DAIC felicitated Shri Nilesh Jalamkar, Director of Satyashodhak**, in recognition of his contribution to bringing the life and social reform legacy of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Savitribai Phule to a wider audience through cinema. The interaction following the screening further enabled audiences to engage with the making of the film and its historical and social context.

The festival witnessed good footfall and enthusiastic participation across all three days, with a diverse audience comprising film enthusiasts, students, cultural practitioners and members of the public. The engaging screenings and interactive sessions received an encouraging response, reflecting the growing interest in cinema and regional storytelling among audiences in Delhi.

Photographs:-





