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9th livelihood documentary festival kicks off

PRATHAM DWIVEDI | New Delhi, September 1, 2012 11:48

The Ninth Asia livelihood documentary festival, Jeevika, started here at India Habitat Centre on Friday.

Eighteen documentaries selected out of 68 entries, from India and abroad, will be screened during the three-day festival.

Inaugurating the festival, Raj Liberhan Director of IHC said the documentaries shown here have been shot in different parts of the country to get the policy makers see how much more we really need to do make livelihood happier.

Two professional documentary makers Supriyo Sen and Amlan Datta shared their experiences of documentary making during the introductory session. Sen's documentary "WAGAH" based on Wagah border parade was also shown to the audience.

Formally, the festival started with a Cambodian documentary "Who Killed Chea Vichea" directed by Bradley Cox. The documentary is about murder of Cambodian Labour Union president Chea Vichea, which shows how the government convicted two innocent men for Vichea's murder, corruption in the government and its influence over military, police and judiciary.

Four other documentaries All Rise for Your Honour, Bicycle Journey, We are Foot Soldiers and Sacred Space will be also shown on the first day of the festival.

This film festival is a part of Livelihood Freedom Campaign, Jeevika, of Centre for Civil Society to help develop public policy measures to clear the path for livelihood freedom.

During the panel discussion in the evening on Law, Liberty & Livelihood, Parth J Shah Director of CCS said the poor don't need charity but they need dignity. We are able to earn with dignity but they are not, if they earn with dignity like us they will not need anything else.

Upcoming Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill was also discussed during the panel discussion.

Out of the 18 documentaries to be screened this year include 13 documentaries produced by professional filmmakers and five by students.

A prize of Rs 60,000, Rs 40,000, Rs 30,000 to professional winners and 20,000 to best student documentary will be given at the end of the festival.