

Kannada films ignored

Sir: In the recently held 'Cinema-Cinema 100' function at Bombay to commemorate the 100 years of Indian cinema, Kannada was completely ignored. Kannada cinema was given the least importance and not even a single dignitary from the Kannada film industry was honoured on the occasion. Anybody who saw this programme live on DD-1 must have felt that Kannada cinema should have been given a better treatment than this. But the sad part is that the Kannada film lovers and Kannada organizations alike were insensitive to this issue. Kannada film chamber issued a press statement in protest against this neglect of Kannada cinema and that was the end of it. Nobody bothered to pursue the case further.

It is a fact that the Kannada cinema is slowly but definitely ignored at the national level. Even foreign television channels, which showed an interest in Kannada cinema previously, have ignored it now. For example the popular satellite channel Zee TV used to telecast a 1 hour weekly programme about Kannada films. Maybe due to the inability of the Kannada producers to provide proper programmes or due to the neglect of Kannada programmes by Zee TV, this programme was scrapped without notice. This neglect of Kannada films in particular and Kannada culture in general should be seriously considered by all Kannadigas. The government and also the Kannada Film Chamber should oppose such moves to ignore Kannada and provide its due place in the national film industry.

28th Feb 1995

Deccan Herald

Kannada films ignored