

Pics: Samik Sen



Director Govind Nihalani, who has worked with Om Puri in movies like *Tamas*, *Aghaat* and *Droh Kaal*, among others, paid a tribute to the actor at the Habitat Film Festival

'Om Puri never showed the hard work he put into a role'

ONCE, SOMEONE ASKED ME, 'OM, ACTOR KAISE THAY?'... I TOOK TIME TO EXPLAIN, AND THEN SAID, 'WOH ROLE KE LIYE MEHNAT BHI KARTA THA, TAYARI BHI KARTA THA, BUT USKA EFFORT DIKHTA NAHIN THA, AISA THA OM PURI'

— Govind Nihalani

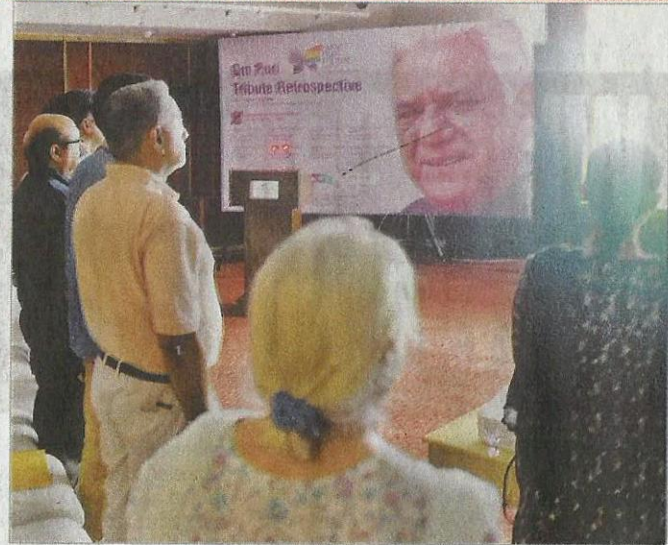
The 12th edition of Habitat Film Festival was inaugurated recently with a retrospective segment dedicated to Om Puri by director Govind Nihalani. The festival, which will screen around 60 movies, was inaugurated by paying a tribute to the actor who passed away in April this year.

Nihalani, who has worked with Om Puri in movies like *Tamas*, *Aghaat*, *Droh Kaal* and many more, paid tribute to the actor. The first movie to be screened at

the fest was *Tamas*. The director not only spoke about the relationship he had with Om Puri, but also gave insights into his life.

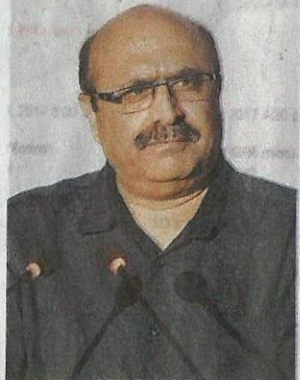
"*Ek tarah ka relationship nahin tha Om Puri ke saath*. It was a relationship of a friend, director-actor, a critic, and a creator, for both sides. We were very open on commenting on each other's work and the most important part was when we used to just hang out to-

The festival started with a screening of Om Puri's movie *Tamas*, which was directed by Govind Nihalani



gether. I can't describe the relationship in these terms because these terms are not enough. He has recently departed and his memories are all around, it has not been reduced to small memories yet," he told us.

While addressing the audience, the director told everyone that since Om Puri was born in the 1950s, three years after the Partition, nothing came easy to him and that struggle was evident in his work as well. "A lot went into the making of Om as a human being. I was speaking at some other event when someone asked me, 'Om, actor *kaise thay?*' I took some time to explain that, and then said, 'Any good actor prepares for any role very sincerely - he works on the body language, spoken language, but a very good actor does not let you know the preparation that he has done for the role. That was Om Puri, he wouldn't let you know - *woh mehnat bhi karta tha, tayyari bhi karta tha, but uska effort dikhta nahin tha, aisa tha Om Puri*.' This is the quality of a very good actor who lets you forget the hard work that has gone in preparing for the role."



Rajeev Kamal, vice president, GraFTII North (alumni body of FTII Pune) and Om Puri's batchmate

He added that Om Puri actually was the face of the times in which he lived. "Om came to be known as the face of the times in which he lived. He played many characters in which the characters had to struggle to achieve something. These characters, like the character (Nathu) that he played in *Tamas*, actually struggled to achieve something. These showed the times in which he lived," he said.

— Riya.Sharma@timesgroup.com

School Buzz

handling the camera. The students wrote scripts for special events such as Father's Day, Bahubali- The Conclusion, Indian Premier



Ryan International School, Vasant Kunj

League- Celebrating 10 years and editing the stories captured. It is a perfect self confidence course to boost one's speaking skills by going beyond the four walls of classrooms. The training was organised by Ryan TV, an initiative of Ryan International Group of Institutions.

The students of Ryan International School, Vasant Kunj underwent a professional training course of journalism titled Beyond Breaking News (BBN) at Mumbai. Students were exposed to the professional world of journalism. They were taught the nuances of intelligent journalism, both script writing and

Greenfields Public School, Dilshad Garden, organised a two day Capacity Building Programme for teachers entitled 'Classroom Management' in collaboration with CBSE. The session commenced with the lamp lighting ceremony by school principal Dr SK Sharma, vice principals, incharges along with the resource persons, Seema Jerath, Principal of DLF Public School and freelancer and former PG



Greenfields Public School Dilshad Garden

(Political Science) ML Sawhney. The keynote address was deliberated upon by Mr.Sawhney who focused on the fact that effective classroom management requires teachers to have skills and clear ideas of what exactly is needed to create an effective teaching and learning environment in the classroom. Right teaching style would enhance learning. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by vice principal Pooja V Barsaley. The resource persons were given a planter, memento and school magazine 'Ratan.'

OPG World School, Dwarka organised an inter-house music competition 'Unison 2017.' The event saw students of classes IV to XII competing in various categories like 'Sufiana' group song competition, solo performances, western



OPG World School, Dwarka

group song, band performances etc. The *Sufiana* category meant for classes IV - VII had students singing beautiful sufi numbers. The contestants enthralled the parents with their melodious songs. The young budding artists also showcased their musical prowess on piano, tabla and flute. The highlight of the day was the junior band 'Ocean Glass' that gave a riveting performance. The middle level student band 'Drawbridge' almost had everyone shake a leg. The school introduced two new categories this year- Indie mash-up and stand-up comedy. The programme ended with the western group song with students of classes VIII-XII

singing numbers like sing, staying alive etc. In Sufiana category, Green House was adjudged the winner whereas in the western singing category Blue House bagged the first position.



GTB 3rd Centenary Public School

GTB 3rd Centenary Public School, Mansarover Garden held its investiture ceremony. The programme commenced with a soulful rendition of the *shabad* by the divinity choir of the school. The anchors acquainted the gathering with the duties of the student council. Thereafter the principal administered the oath to the nominated council members and presented sashes, badges and scarves to them. The principal, headmistress, junior school principal and senior council members lighted the lamp. Gunveet Singh was honoured with the Principal's Award for the topper of class XII CBSE for the batch 2015-16. Students were then awarded for cent percent attendance and academic excellence.