

Through women's eyes



(LtoR) Tan Ngaronga, Chief Operating Officer, Satyam Cinemas, V Raja, Regional Vice-President (Sales) South India and South East Asia, Kingfisher Airlines Limited, Vasanthi Sankaranarayanan, Festival Curator, 1st WFF 2008, Rathi Jafer, Director, InKo Centre P.P. Math, Regional Manager, NFDC Limited

THE first international Women's Film festival from March 1 to 8 will have *Maati Maay*- the film which has been meriting attention at various international film festivals as the opening movie. The movie's lead actor Nandita Das would declare the event open.

InKo Centre (Chennai) in association with the Women's International Film Festival (Seoul), the National Film Development Corporation, National Film Archives, the Directorate of Film Festivals of India and Sathyam Cinemas are organising the festival. Rathi Jafer, Director, InKo Centre, explained in detail the salient features at a media briefing on Monday. She said that the thrust will be on the Indian and Korean section of feature films by eminent directors.

There is a section on world cinema with a total of 82 films over seven days in three screens. Stressing on the factor of not looking from a woman's perspective alone, Rathi said the closing ceremony will feature the movie, *Meghe Dhaka Tara* directed by the odd man out in the whole

package- Ritwik Ghatak. It is a black and white movie made in 1960. Rathi added that it was her dream to have more Indian films represented in various film festivals, now that a hopeful start would be made. "It hit me hard finding a poor representation of Indian films at the Seoul fest not long ago. There is so that women directors can gain through this," she said.

Filmmakers, festival curators and film studies specialists will use the platform to introduce and interact with the audience. On March 8, coinciding with the International Women's Day, InKo Centre in association with the LV Prasad Film and TV Academy will host an one-day seminar at Ethiraj College. The event titled 'Looking through the lens from a woman's point of view' will have participants from Korea, UK, Senegal and Norway besides the hosts. Delegate passes are available at InKo Centre, Sixth Main Road, RA Puram, Wednesday onwards. Passes are priced Rs 200 for the general public, Rs 150 for members of Film Societies and Rs 100 for students.

—KV Vasudevan