



# **NFDC FILM BAZAAR 2024**

## **VIEWING ROOM**

### **NOVEMBER 20-24, 2024**

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Following are the rules and regulations pertaining to the Viewing Room at NFDC Film Bazaar 2024

#### **COMMON GUIDELINES**

1. The Viewing Room will be held physically in Goa as part of NFDC Film Bazaar 2024.
2. The VR acronym stands for Viewing Room and WIP Lab refers to the Work-In-Progress Lab
3. This application form is only for submitting the film to VR. This form should not be confused with delegate registration for Film Bazaar. On successful completion of this application, you will be guided on how to register further as a delegate by the Film Bazaar team.
4. Only films from India and South Asia are eligible, i.e. a large part of the film photography should be based in India / South Asia. Else, the Director or at least one of the Co-Producers of the film should be from India / South Asia. In case of any confusion, please write to [films@filmbazaarindia.com](mailto:films@filmbazaarindia.com) for clarification.
5. For NFDC Film Bazaar 2024,
  - (a) Feature-length film is a film of duration 60 minutes or more.
  - (b) Mid-length film is a film of duration 30-60 minutes.
  - (c) Short film is a film of duration below 30 minutes.



\*Note - The duration of the film is calculated till the end of the last shot.

6. If you are not sure of which programme to apply for i.e the VR or WIP, kindly click [here](#) to refer to the guideline and benefits document.
7. The application fees are in Indian Rupees (INR) and non-refundable.

Regular Deadline	Section	Feature Length		Mid-Length Film		Short Film	
		Fiction	Documentary	Fiction	Documentary	Fiction	Documentary
15th September 2024							
	VR	8,000	7,000	7,000	6,000	6,000	5,000
(Latest by 11:59 PM IST)	WIP	9,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	VR + WIP	10,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Extended Deadline	Section	Feature Length		Mid-Length Film		Short Film	
		Fiction	Documentary	Fiction	Documentary	Fiction	Documentary
30th September 2024							
	VR	10,000	9,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	6,000
(Latest by 11:59 PM IST)	WIP	10,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	VR + WIP	11,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

8. The film to be submitted, whether complete or in the rough-cut, should contain hard-coded English subtitles, wherever applicable.
9. A filmmaker cannot use the logo of NFDC Film Bazaar in their film or promotional material without permission of NFDC. A film in NFDC Film Bazaar does not indicate that NFDC endorses the film in any way.
10. NFDC Film Bazaar is only a platform to present films. The programmer is not bound to give the filmmakers personal feedback on their submitted films. NFDC Film Bazaar also does not provide individual guidance regarding festival strategy.
11. Once the application procedure is complete, NFDC Film Bazaar may ask for additional project information, if needed. Kindly ensure that the Primary Contact Person is available to respond to emails promptly. Primary Contact Person is the person who fills the application form, i.e., the applicant and will be the one point of contact till the end of Film Bazaar.



## Viewing Room Guidelines

### What is a Viewing Room?

The Viewing Room was successfully introduced in the 2011 edition of Film Bazaar with the aim to present Indian and South Asian films that are recently completed or in the final stages of editing and post-production.

Films that are seeking finishing funds/ world sales/ distribution partners/ participation in film festivals can apply for VR. These films are viewed on individual computer terminals in private booths via the Viewing Room software that has been exclusively designed for this purpose. Film programmers, distributors, world sales agents and investors can watch complete films, access details of the films as well as contact the directors or producers. VR is **not** to be mistaken as an official selection or official screening. It is instead a platform to show your film to individuals pertaining to the above lists of professionals.

1. Films submitted to Viewing Room can be of any duration and genre. Hence, fiction features/mid-length/shorts, documentary features/mid-length/shorts, animation features/mid-length/shorts, hybrid feature/mid-length/shorts are eligible for this section.
2. Films can be completed or in any stage of post-production. They should have either all or a large part of the principal photography complete. Films in pre-production are not eligible for this section.
3. This platform is most suitable for films seeking film festivals/ world sales/ distribution partners/ finishing funds.
4. All complete submissions that have paid the application fee by the due date will be a part of the Viewing Room. All films will be available in the Video Library of the Viewing Room. The programmer will curate a list of films under **Film Bazaar Recommends**. Film Bazaar Recommends, as the name suggests, is a specially curated section comprising films recommended by the Film Bazaar Team from amongst the film submissions.
5. Movies that have not yet premiered and were made after 2023, at any stage of post-production, are eligible for consideration in this section if they submit to the Viewing Room. The FBR section is curated for purposes of highlighting contemporary styles of filmmaking. This curation is made at the sole discretion of the programmer.
6. NFDC Film Bazaar has the right to reject the film if guidelines and regulations are not adhered to and/ or submissions are incomplete/ in the wrong format/ past due date, or any other reason specific to the film submitted. Decision of the NFDC Film Bazaar team is final.



7. The process of submission will be considered complete only after successful upload of the final film file. Without any film material, the film will not be showcased in the Viewing Room. The filmmakers need not submit their entire films to be showcased in the Viewing Room of NFDC Film Bazaar 2024, however they can choose to do so. At the time of application, filmmakers will have to provide a film link of their entire film for the programmer to view. However, for the event in Nov. 2024, they can choose to submit either their entire film or at least a film clip of minimum ten minute duration. This film clip could be an assembly of several complete scenes from the film. **Kindly avoid submitting a trailer.** The film file submission instructions are mentioned at the end of this document.
8. Please ensure that the rough-cut link provided in the application form is downloadable and preferably password protected. **If the link is not downloadable, your application will be considered incomplete.** This is required for the selection process and for viewing purposes only.
9. If the applicant has a newer film link post the application, kindly inform the team before October 5, 2024. Please note that the team will consider newer cuts only if the newer cut has sufficient changes in the edit. If the difference in duration is of and below 5 minutes, then it will not be considered.
10. All the applicants for the Viewing Room will have to sign an Undertaking at the time of submitting the application form. The Undertaking is available [HERE](#). Without the submission of this Undertaking, the application will not be considered complete.



## APPLICATION FORM

This is a form that can be filled in stages and kindly make sure that you click on the '?' icon in the application form wherever it appears for the specific instructions related to the field. The form need not be filled in one go. You can save the information by clicking the button 'Save Work and Finish Later' at the bottom of the application form.

1. The VR application form stands true only for VR. In case the applicant would like to put their film in WIP, kindly apply to the Work-In-Progress Lab for the same.
2. The email address and phone number provided by the Primary Contact Person in the first stage of the application form shall be regarded as the single-point contact address between NFDC Film Bazaar and the applicant. Kindly ensure that the Primary Contact Person is easily reachable until the end of NFDC Film Bazaar 2024.
3. The contact details of the first producer mentioned on the application form will be published in our catalogue. Hence, please ensure that this belongs to the Rights Holder of the film who would be able to respond to potential future queries by international film professionals.
4. Word limits are to be adhered to wherever mentioned in the application form. NFDC Film Bazaar reserves the right to shorten and/or edit the text for the purpose of publication of film information in the NFDC Film Bazaar Catalogue.
5. Completed applications need to be submitted by the prescribed deadline. NFDC Film Bazaar will not take responsibility for the exclusion of projects if complete information is not supplied by the above-mentioned date
6. The filmmakers are required to submit at least three film-stills and one director's photograph along with the application form. These should be three images from the film and not production/ working stills. NFDC Film Bazaar reserves the right to crop the images as per design requirements.
7. Application will be accepted only upon payment of the mandatory application fee.
8. By submitting the application form for Viewing Room the applicant hereby certifies, with regards to all third parties involved, that he/she has read and understood the rules and regulations listed, that he/she is legally authorized to submit the film for Viewing Room and that the information given by the applicant is true and correct. The applicant indemnifies Film Bazaar and NFDC against any claims to the contrary.

For any clarification, please write to [films@filmbazaarindia.com](mailto:films@filmbazaarindia.com).

Kindly read the FAQs and the Undertaking before filling the form.



If the filmmaker has any specific query not covered in all the three documents, kindly send an email to [films@filmbazaarindia.com](mailto:films@filmbazaarindia.com) with the original title of the film as the subject of the email.

Thank you for your kind attention and all the best for your application!



## FILM FILE UPLOAD GUIDELINES FOR VIEWING ROOM

This is a set of guidelines for all applicants. There is a two-stage process for submitting your film file.

1. To be viewed by Programmer Only - At the time of application, the applicant has to provide a downloadable link (Password Protected/Downloadable - Vimeo Link preferred) in the application form for the film programmer to view. This has to be the link of the entire rough-cut of the film or the completed film. Only the film programmer will have access to this file. This file is not going to be uploaded to the Viewing Room at NFDC Film Bazaar 2024.
2. Please ensure that the rough-cut link provided in the application form is downloadable and preferably password protected. **If the link is not downloadable, your application will be considered incomplete.** This is required for the selection process and for viewing purposes only.
3. The filmmaker will be expected to submit at least a minimum of ten minutes of their film. However, we recommend that a filmmaker submits the entire film which will be shown in the highly restricted and safe environment of Viewing Room to the selected delegates who have access. The Viewing Room team will contact the filmmaker in October 2024 requesting them to upload the final film file/film clip onto the Viewing Room server. This uploaded film file will undergo the process of digitization and encryption, and will be stored in the server. This is the film file that will be viewed by the selected delegates of NFDC Film Bazaar 2024.

The upload process will only take place on receipt of the signed Undertaking from the filmmakers' end which can be sent to us via email as a signed and scanned document.

## DURATION OF THE FILM FILE

It is recommended that the entire film be uploaded. However, if the filmmaker chooses to upload a film clip, they have to ensure it is of minimum 10 minutes and maximum up to the entire length of the film for Viewing Room.

For e.g., if the film has a duration of 90 minutes, the filmmaker can choose to submit a film clip of nothing less than 10 minutes. The film clip can be of any duration between 10 minutes to 90 minutes.

Please do not upload a trailer. For the film clip, we recommend the filmmaker to choose a film scene or a collection of scenes from their film. They can also choose to submit the entire film that is equivalent to 90 minutes. If the filmmaker has a mid-length film between 30-60 minutes or



a short film under 30 minutes, we strongly recommend that they upload the entire duration of their film on the Viewing Room

### **VIEWING ROOM ACCESS - Who is going to watch my film?**

As mentioned on Film Bazaar website, the Viewing Room is going to be a restricted space. NFDC grants access to registered delegates according to their profiles (VR Access). Only if a delegate registers as a buyer, investor, film festival programmer, sales representative or distributor, they get access to view the films in the Viewing Room. However, the applicant will be able to filter this list even further by deciding for themselves who, from them, gets access to view their film. They can choose to revoke a delegate's access if they wish to. They will be able to access this list on their MyFilmBazaar Account before the Film Bazaar begins, which will enable them to do so. **Please note that even the filmmakers who have submitted their film to VR will not have access to the VR.**

For e.g. if 100 people register as delegates and NFDC gives VR Access to only 50 delegates based on their profile, the filmmaker will be able to view the names and profiles of these 50. They can then further decide to give VR Access only to 20 delegates from this list and revoke VR Access to the remaining 30. The 30 people who THEY do not give VR Access to, will not be able to watch their film / film clip that they have submitted in the Viewing Room, even if they have access to other films in the Viewing Room. If they wish to view the filmmaker's film, they will be able to contact them personally via the VR Software and the filmmaker can then choose to respond to them. They will, however, be able to read information on the film (synopsis, contact details and film stills) as that will be a part of the Viewing Room Catalogue that is available to every registered delegate of NFDC Film Bazaar 2024. (Please note: as an applicant of Viewing Room the filmmaker is not automatically a delegate to the Film Bazaar. If they wish to attend NFDC Film Bazaar 2024, they have to register as a delegate. As an applicant of Viewing Room, kindly refer to Registration Rules & Regulations to know more about it on [www.filmbazaarindia.com](http://www.filmbazaarindia.com)).

### **Viewing Room Safety Measures**

To ensure non-piracy of the films, NFDC is taking the following safety measures. We had 193 films/ film clips playing in the online Viewing Room at NFDC Film Bazaar November 2023. We ensured a 100% safety record for all the films by executing the measures mentioned below :

- **Restricted Access** - The Viewing Room was a highly restricted zone, where the first level of filter was via NFDC granting access to a delegate. The filmmakers were further invited to decide who, from this list, would be given access to watch their individual films / film-clips. This was the second level of filter. In case a filmmaker revoked access for a delegate, the film file did not play





in the Viewing Room software for that delegate. In such a case, the delegate could email the filmmaker directly via the Viewing Room software, requesting access to the film. Though all the filmmakers were informed of this, only 9 films used this option, which shows that almost all the filmmakers were comfortable with the VR Access list decided by the Film Bazaar team. The VR Access list was also approved by the artistic director of Film Bazaar.

- **Duration of film uploaded** - This edition, like in the last edition, filmmakers were given the choice to upload the duration of their film they were most comfortable with. Some filmmakers uploaded their entire films and some uploaded film excerpts. Out of the total 250 submissions, 19 filmmakers chose to upload an excerpt of the film. The remaining 231 uploaded the full films. The numbers show that the filmmakers were satisfied with the security measures which were in place. They felt comfortable and secure enough to upload their full films for the Viewing Room.
- **Watermark** - The email address of the viewer appeared as a watermark on the film image. This is an international practice followed by online film festivals and is a proven deterrent to piracy via screengrab.
- **Screening Time** - Each film could be screened only once by the user. The viewing could be paused. Films that started but were not completely screened in the first session could be viewed and rewound for a total amount of 120% of the length of the film. This allowed the user to replay some parts of the film.
- **Encryption** - The film-file was non-downloadable and in an encrypted format. Even if a plug-in was used to download the film it would not be viewable on any player available online.
- **Report of viewers** - All applicants received a cumulative report of every viewer of their film so that they know who viewed their film via the Viewing Room software. Registered delegates who had their film in the Viewing Room received these reports daily during Film Bazaar Online. Those who were not registered were able to download the cumulative report for their film on the MyFilmBazaar Account from December 1, 2022 onwards.
- **Warning** - All delegates with VR access were made aware that any kind of download is a legal offense and have to acknowledge the legal repercussions of misuse of the system, before logging into the Viewing Room software.

They were also informed that each screening is strictly personal to the user and can be used for personal use only. In no event can the screening occur on a terminal or in conditions permitting a collective viewing of the film. NFDC Film Bazaar reserves its discretionary right to suspend or dismiss and cancel any User who is believed to give their personal access to the Viewing Room software to an unauthorized person.



All delegates with VR Access received an email mentioning the above points before the Film Bazaar and were also requested to bear in mind that - NFDC Film Bazaar Online is a B2B platform only for film professionals. Information about the films presented here should remain restricted to this platform only. Kindly do not share any information about these films on any type of public platform which includes all social media platforms. These are unreleased films and are not up for public discussion. Your opinion about these films are not to be made available on any public domain. NFDC Film Bazaar and the filmmakers appeal to your professional discretion.

Apart from the email received, the delegates could access the Disclaimer while logging into their MyFilmBazaar Account. It was also a part of the terms and conditions that each delegate had to agree to before accessing Viewing Room Online.

These were the security measures which were taken to ensure that filmmakers felt safe about submitting their films online for the both online and hybrid editions of the Bazaar 2022.

In a physical Viewing Room in Goa, we collect mobile phones before the VR Access delegates enter the room. This is to ensure that there is no possibility of screen recording. Encouraged by the 100% safety record of our previous online edition, we are confident that filmmakers who submitted their entire films got good visibility in a safe environment and without any incidents of piracy. Keeping these safety measures in mind, we hope that all will choose to upload their entire film for the benefit of film programmers, sales agents, distributors and buyers who sometimes prefer watching an entire film rather than film-clips.

Please be aware that if the filmmaker chooses not to upload any film clip, their film will not be showcased in the Viewing Room and will only be available in the Catalogue. This will make it more difficult for the filmmaker to engage with film professionals as they would prefer meetings with filmmakers whose films/ film clips have made an impact.

Keeping this in mind, the filmmakers are advised to make an informed decision on how much of their film they would want to make available at the Viewing Room and communicate it precisely to the Viewing Room team. We advise the filmmaker to choose the content of the film clip they wish to display wisely to avoid being easy prey to potential mischief makers. NFDC has indemnified itself against any content in the Viewing Room. However, if the filmmaker feels that their film clip can be misunderstood and exploited to create unnecessary controversy, we would advise them to share their entire film only via email to the film professional of their choice from the market guide. This will help them maintain the needed discretion for their film.

We encourage the filmmakers to send their entire film so that the viewer can engage with it well. However if they are sending a film clip, we would suggest the following -



1. Please try to NOT send a film trailer. Film Trailers are for audiences and are also a specialized edit that requires professional guidance and usually communicates a different rhythm than the actual rhythm of the film. It's better to send a complete scene or two complete scenes of the film which the filmmaker feels represents your film well and the film programmer will get the feel of the real rhythm of the film. Or, they can send us a continuous portion of minimum ten minutes.
2. We advise the filmmaker to send us their file named 'Original title\_VR'. For eg: If the Original Title of their film is '*Uski Roti*' they need to send us the film file as '*Uski Roti\_VR*'. If their Original Title and English Title are the same, they can send us the English Title. For eg: '*Gandhi\_VR*'
3. Once the filmmaker has decided on the duration of the film clip, they should upload the clip for that exact duration. Also they should send us an email mentioning what that duration is, so that we are aware of it during tech-checks of the film files. Once the film clip has been sent it cannot be changed for another film clip. This involves too much coordination by the team and we would be unable to allow changes. If the filmmaker asks for changes in the film file submitted we might have to charge them extra for that. So filmmakers are advised to upload only one file onto the Viewing Room server.
4. All emails should be 'Reply All' and include everyone cc'd in the email chain for the team to coordinate different aspects. Filmmakers should not send a reply to only one of us.
5. Please note that mid-length films between 30-60 minutes and short films under 30 minutes are requested to upload the entire duration of the film on the Viewing Room.
6. All the producers of the film should be kept in the loop. Any complaint by an unknown person claiming to be a producer on the film will lead to the film being removed from the Viewing Room. We will not have the time to gauge the authenticity of any complaint, nor resolve it. Only undisputed films are allowed to play in the Viewing Room.
7. At the second stage of uploading film file (Refer to 'Film File Upload Guidelines for Viewing Room'), the filmmaker can upload the film/film clip directly on to our server by clicking on the 'Upload' button on the Viewing Room page, after logging into My Film Bazaar Account. Please refer to the technical specifications on the website and send the film file in the 12 correct format. Our team will get in touch with the filmmaker in October regarding this process.

**Deadline - Please upload all the films before the date specified by the team in the official communication.**

Please note – The technical specifications are standard guidelines for the filmmakers' easy reference. All the films will be viewed on computer terminals. So kindly take an informed decision on what the filmmaker feels will be optimum. Please adhere to file size and do not



exceed it. Do let the Viewing Room team know in case the filmmaker faces any issue in the process of film uploads.

For any clarification, please write to [films@filmbazaarindia.com](mailto:films@filmbazaarindia.com).

Kindly read the FAQs and the Undertaking before filling the form. If the filmmaker has any specific query not covered in all the three documents, kindly send an email to [films@filmbazaarindia.com](mailto:films@filmbazaarindia.com) with the original title of the film as the subject of the email.

Thank you for your kind attention and all the best for your application!