




Doc_Commune

2021-22



Doc_Commune aims to foster a process of creative engagement with selected filmmakers.

The duration of the program is **6 months**, but we hope that the space will exist beyond the program for filmmakers to interact with, learn from and help each other.



We see a space that encourages an enriching flow of feedback, discussions and conversations about projects with seasoned mentors.

We invite filmmakers under the age of 35 to **submit** their projects that are:

- 1) at the initial stages** of research and recce,
- or
- 2) in production**, with the filmmaker working towards a first / second rough cut.





We seek
projects that represent a diversity of
experiences, perspectives and creative processes
and
welcome young filmmakers who are open to having their ideas challenged and to incorporating
new creative feedback.

Please read and review the **Guidelines** carefully before making your submission.
Submissions that do not meet the requirements of this Call or do not reach us in time will be disqualified.



**What
Doc_Commune
will offer**

The Projects



We will **select 5 projects at the initial stages** of research and recce.



The other **5** will be **projects** that have been **in production** and the filmmaker is working towards a first / second rough cut.



PSBT may, at its discretion, give a **small grant** to the selected filmmakers during the course of the program. This will be no more than **Rs 35,000** for projects at the research stage, and no more than **Rs 50,000** for those in the production / post-production stage.



At the end of the program, PSBT will **award the 2 best projects** with a small grant of **Rs 2.5 lakhs each**.

The Process



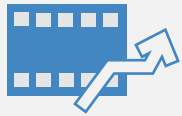
Introduction session- the selected filmmakers, mentors and the PSBT team will **meet (online)** and spend 2 days getting familiar with the projects and with each other. Mentors and mentees will be introduced to each other. They will decide on their next meeting, and set goals.



Mentors and mentees will be required to have at least **1 meeting every month.** They can meet more as per mutual agreement.



In the spirit of creating a space for the mentees, we will invite them to plan at least **4 sessions** throughout the program where mentees will set the contours of the discussion. They could either **discuss** their own projects, or **invite experts** they would like to engage with.



Our aspiration for **all projects** is that they be **taken to the next level** through the course of the program.



5 to 6 online sessions will be organized **with experts** from the documentary world. This will help the mentees get a sense of pertinent aspects of the **filmmaking process**—whether fund raising, pitching, research, production or distribution of their films.



The **duration** of the program will be **6 months**.



Our Expectations of the mentees

We expect mentees to **attend all sessions**.

We expect them to **adhere to timelines**, as per mutual discussion and agreement with their mentors and PSBT team.

We expect mentees to **work on their projects** during the course of the program, in order to take them to the next step of production.

We expect mentees to prepare for the final step of **pitching their projects** to receive the final grant.



Criteria for application

We encourage all filmmakers **under the age of 35** who are **Indian citizens** to apply for PSBT Doc_Commune 2021-22.

We are looking for people from **diverse backgrounds**, and encourage filmmakers from **marginalised communities** to apply.





Selection Process

To apply, please click the link below
<https://forms.gle/ecVAa5gnCq8Pm5f49>



A jury will
shortlist
the first set
of projects.



Shortlisted
applicants will
go through an
online interview.



The final selected projects
will be **announced** on the
PSBT website and social
media handles.

Important Dates

Last date for application:
Tuesday, 30th November 2021

Tentative starting date of the PSBT Doc_Commune 2021-22:
Second week of January 2022



is a unique success story in **mentoring, funding** and **empowering** the production of independent documentaries, to critical acclaim around the world.

All queries will be addressed through email only at doc_commune@psbt.org

We request you to not call the PSBT office.

Established through a tripartite partnership between PSBT, the Ford Foundation and Prasar Bharati in 2000, it has been a significant stakeholder in the independent documentary movement in India.

The Public Service Broadcasting Trust has been creating and sustaining a credible space for story telling through the moving image, which is independent, participatory, pluralistic and democratic, distanced from commercial imperatives and state / political pressures.

Given the already challenging circumstances of non-fiction filmmaking in India, made worse by the pandemic, PSBT felt the necessity to talk to documentary filmmakers and understand the gaps that exist in the non-fiction space. While interacting with multiple stakeholders (including young filmmakers) during a scoping exercise, we found the need for a space that acts as a community which young filmmakers can turn to for guidance and help in their journeys with their projects.

Through Doc_Commune, we hope to give a space to young filmmakers that helps them to grow not just their projects, but also themselves as documentary filmmakers.