

Keep Making Films, Success Will Follow" – Director Dan Wolman's Advice to New Directors

Pune, January 19, 2026:

"Continue the work of filmmaking, do not stop, and success will follow", this was the advice given today by Israeli director Dan Wolman to new independent directors.

Dan Wolman was speaking at the Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) on the topic, 'From Constraints to Creativity: Thriving as an Independent Filmmaker.' The festival's president, Dr. Jabbar Patel, was present on the occasion.

On Continuous Creation, Wolman said, "Keep working and keep making films. Do not sit and wait, thinking you will make a film only when the situation is exactly as you want it. Choose low-cost stories. Select stories where locations and actors won't cost much, and consider the duration before making the film."

He added, "War, violence, and hatred are ongoing in the world, which can lead to despair. However, for me, to stay alive without falling into despair, it is necessary to constantly keep making films."

On managing constraints addressing those who have limited resources but want to make films, he cited the example of two hunters from the Bible, Wolman said, "Do not stop. Work with fewer people. I do not hire assistants. This makes the work faster and reduces costs. I choose good actors rather than famous stars."

On distribution and movements he mentioned that he learned filmmaking in New York in the 1960s when the underground film movement was active. He suggested that independent film directors should attempt efforts similar to the New York underground film movement. Through this, films can be screened in smaller venues rather than large theaters.

On Artificial Intelligence (AI) responding to a question about AI, he stated that one must consider carefully how to utilize it. Its rampant use has many disadvantages. He noted that using AI in films diminishes the tangible human experience.