



Gleeful school children get a trip on the toy train at Kamatibaug garden in the city on Friday

Sci-fi flick on shoestring budget

Film Is On Unidentified Flying Objects And Aliens

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Vadodara: It may not provide you the thrill that Ridley Scott's *Alien* or Steven Spielberg's *Extra Terrestrial* did. But try not to miss the latest sci-fi movie on unidentified flying Objects (UFOs) and aliens, if not for the thrills, then simply because it is an ingenious cinematic debut of a motley group of youngsters, who have produced it on a shoestring budget of Rs 5,000, funded by their pocket money.

The 72-minute film 'Project Fear', will now be screened during a one-day film festival organised by the city's first exclusive movie club, 'Feelms - The Reel People'. The club, which is being supported by another group of youngsters, will organise the film festival on November 26.

The film has been made by former and present students of the city's premier institute Maharaja Sayajirao University.

"It is actually a zero budget movie. My

father bought a handycam, when I was in standard XII. Consecutive interactions with a few people inspired us to make a film using the handycam," says Deep Panjwani, who has written and directed the movie.

While Panjwani is a first year MSc student at MSU's science faculty, assistant directors Rahul Bhole and Parikshit Marathe are students of science and Faculty of Technology and Engineering.

The only other professional help they received was from Vinit Kanojiya, who is a computer instructor with a private centre. Even the cast is of present and former students of MSU, with a third year commerce student Ravi rajput, in the lead.

"We could not use a trolley for zoom in or zoom out as it was expensive. So we used a skateboard for the purpose," says Kanojiya, adding that the film was made in 14 months without affecting the studies.

Kanojiya adds that after getting views of the film, the group has decided to go ahead with professional work making two other parts of the same, which will be titled as 'Missing time' and 'The Link'.

"It was an exciting experience, using a handycam, which is otherwise used to shoot marriage functions and picnics," says Bhole. He adds, "Professional shooting charges were around Rs 400 per hour, so we used our mike and completed the film."

The group also received support from former students of MSU's performing arts faculty. "It was because of them that we could find actors for the movie and we did not have to spend a single penny," says Bhole. "Most of the shooting was under natural light, to avoid expensive artificial lights." Students add that they wanted to make the film to create a portfolio for themselves.