



Nawazuddin Siddiqui

# NAWAZ'S SHORT FILM AT IFFM

**N**awazuddin Siddiqui's short film *Bebaak* is yet to be screened in India, but it has already done the rounds of international film festivals. The film throws light on day-to-day issues faced by Indian Muslim girls who are aspirational and work hard to grow above their current circumstances. The short will now be screened at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne. Says a source, "The word *Bebaak* means fearless, which truly matches up to the theme of soon to begin IFFM, from August 8 this year. The festival will be celebrating its 10th year with the central theme of 'courage'. The Nawazuddin-starrer has glimpses of that courage and explores the misogyny faced by a woman."

The film written and directed by Shazia Iqbal and

presented by Anurag Kashyap had faced trouble showcasing it at a film festival in India last year.

Talking about its screening at Melbourne, Shazia says, "IFFM is one of the best known Indian Film Festivals abroad and I am excited about *Bebaak*'s inclusion in the Documentary and Shorts program. For the last three months, *Bebaak*'s journey at the festivals has been satisfying as the film has got a phenomenal response, screening to packed, intrigued audiences full of questions about the issues of feminism, role of women in Religion and society as whole. I am glad the film has got opportunity to screen at so many festivals, managed to move people and even win a few awards. I am looking forward to presenting the film for IFFM audience."