

Young Voices on Climate Change – follow the Copenhagen

BAL CMS VATAVARAN 2009

Theme: **Climate Change and Sustainable Technologies**

11 am – 12 pm, 10 December – 18 December 2009

S No.	Film Title	Running Times	Synopsis
10.12.09 (Thursday) SLOT-I			
1.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
2.	Badalti Jalvayu(Winds of Change)	22.4mins	Given the great distance of the Earth from the Sun, how is it that life can sustain on earth? What is climate and how is it different from weather? How and why does the Earth's climate change? Is it simply a natural cycle? What are the other factors that influence the Earth's climate? What is it that man can do to mitigate and adapt to changes in the climate? The film explores the scientific aspects of climate change and tries to understand the underlying causes of climate change. The film also analyzes the impacts on coastal regions, human health, agriculture and effects on birds and animals.
3.	In their Elements	17.26 mins	More than 1000 villages scattered along the highest fringes of the Himalayas go without electricity throughout winter, depending only on fossil fuel supplies — an environmental and health hazard; besides, it fails to sustain social and economic activities through months when the mountains are cut off from the rest of the country. Battling the difficult terrain and intermittent sun, villagers have turned around the elements, harnessing power from a solar-wind hybrid system. The film tells the story of hundreds of villagers who have changed their lives with a little “alternative” thinking. Lossar and Yoche — two villages in Lahaul-Spiti — are the stages of this simple technology innovation. The solar-wind hybrid system offers all-weather power supply, with simultaneous use of solar panels and a windmill. Settling in with the hardy villagers, the film narrates their emotional stories of empowerment and liberation, thanks to an energy solution. In villages high up in the mountains that slip out of the power grid during hostile winters for 4-6 months, such energy solutions can also be life saving. The film also looks into the potential of this cost-effective, low-maintenance, hybrid system to change the traditional mode of energy use in more than 1,000 such high-altitude, ecologically fragile villages. Capturing the spectacular landscape of the cold deserts and the colourful life of the mountain villages, the film is a visual treat.
11.12.09(Friday) SLOT -II			
4.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
5.	Melting Point	20.30mins	Glaciers are said to be the giant repositories of freshwater for planet earth. The Himalayas are also known as the third Pole because of its 5000 glaciers that flow into the rivers, replenishing them with fresh, sparkling water. In this film, the team treks up to the mouth of the Ganga, the Gangotri glacier with a group of scientists to witness, first hand, how the glacier is melting. The aim of the expedition is to separate the truth from the hype about climate change. Some of the main findings

			of the expedition are that the glacier is retreating fast at a rate of 17-20 metres every year. With glacial melt, the life and livelihoods of over 500 million people hangs in balance. The documentary also looks at the impact of over 100 dams being built on the Himalayas, which could severely damage the fragile ecosystem here. The film raises some pertinent questions — with the glaciers melting rapidly, will there be enough water to charge the turbines of the dams? What will happen to the local people and their livelihoods as the glaciers recede? Could they already be feeling the impact of climate change?
6.	The Final Tide	12.14 mins	The existential cry of Maldives - a small, relatively impoverished country whose greatest claim to fame, besides arguably the finest beaches in the world, is the fact that it is slowly sinking into the sea. This is the take off point for the film. Rising sea level could force human migration of almost unimaginable dimensions. The millions living on the vast coastline of India, which incorporates mega cities and poor fishing communities and breathtaking landscapes, are on the frontline of the battle for survival. according to IPCC reports, Southeast Asia is especially vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change. India has a vast coastline and the resulting change in sea level will affect over 7 million people. This film tries to understand the impacts of climate change on them. Lakshwadeep — an island less than 1 meter above the sea level and Mumbai — India's economic capital are the film's subjects to study the impact of climate change and the rising sea levels. Even though the drastic changes will take another 40 years or so, there is an urgent need for action. Most people seem either unoblivious or ignorant of this impending doom. The Final tide seeks to bring to viewers the realistic but scary scenario of the impact of climate change, should nothing be done, now.
14.12.09(Monday) SLOT-III			
7.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
8.	Sesh Asha (The Last Hope)	22.28 mins	The Kaziranga National Park, a world heritage site situated in Assam is a paradise for the Indian one-horned rhino and many other rare and endangered species. At present, this unique park covering 860 sq. kms is home to around 2000 rhinos. Another rhino habitat in Assam is the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, famous for the highest density of rhino population, numbering till date, at least 84 in just 38.8 sq. km. area, North of the Kaziranga National Park lies the mighty river Brahmaputra. Every year during the monsoons, torrential rain makes all its tributaries overflow and the flooding severely affects Kaziranga and Pobitora. The forest guards also have to engage themselves round the clock to rescue and protect the distressed animals. Kaziranga experienced its biggest flood in 1998 in which 651 animals died. Even today, many die every year in the flood. The land has experienced flooding since many years now. The natural devastation caused by it is now being aggravated by man-made hazards, placing Kaziranga, the primary one-horned rhino habitat in the world, at grave peril. The film, Sesh Asha, which means the last hope, attempts to highlight the problems arising due to the floods and the need to conserve the animals during such natural disasters. It also highlights the great effort and dedication of the forest guards to save these animals during such distressed times.
9.	Don't Rubbish It	14.15 mins	Every city generates thousands of tonnes of garbage each day. Around the globe, these vast quantities of waste reach dump sites and landfills, emitting harmful greenhouse gases such as methane, nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide. Garbage releases toxic hazards which seep into the soil and pollute the air, and these contribute hugely to global warming. Methane has a global warming potential 21 times that of carbon dioxide and is much more potent at trapping heat. There is a critical and urgent need to adopt sustainable measures. The film highlights the various ways in which methane emissions could be reduced and how this could be turned into an opportunity in the short term, having the most immediate impact on global

			green house effects. For instance, in South Korea and Brazil, methane emissions are harnessed to produce energy. The film looks at the possibility of employing such waste-to-energy methods in India. It showcases alternate methods being carried out to capture methane emissions, such as in Matheran, near Mumbai. At the individual and community level, it offers solutions — reducing, reusing and recycling waste as the first step to mitigating climate change. For eg, carrying out composting at home and thus, reducing the waste that goes out of the house. The film shows the way ahead to fighting global warming.
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15.12.09(Tuesday) SLOT -IV

10.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
11.	Just Wheels	30 mins	Just Wheels is a documentary film that visits 12 cities across 3 continents to examine how intelligent and sustainable public transport solutions can be successfully integrated with the help of simple, non-carbon modes of mobility like cycling and walking. These modes, besides yielding health benefits to those who adopt them, have multiple benefits. They contribute greatly in the reversal of climate change (global Warming) which is aggravated by the hazardous vehicular emissions, the 2nd biggest contributor to global warming. They also help to improve the quality of life in cities and its citizens by providing opportunities for planners to create safer, healthier and more enjoyable habitats for all. Adopting such modes on a large scale also creates socially-just, inclusive and equitable environments by shifting focus from the current “car-centric” development to “people-centric” development. The film shows how such non-carbon modes allow the financial resources and savings which are created from the adoption of such cost-effective and flexible transportation solutions to be invested in people rather than on machines.
12.	A Degree of Concern	12.25 mins	A Degree of Concern"- is about melting glaciers in Ladakh. The film takes a very close look at how climate change has hit Ladakh. The in-depth research, scientific inputs and the climate related data from resources like FRL - DRDO makes this film very unique. The film also shot another human tragedy that unfolded on the Zaskar river this year (2006), adding a new dimension to an already grave problem. 95 people were stranded as Zaskar river melted ahead of its normal schedule in February.

16.12.09(Wednesday) SLOT-V

13.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
14.	Lighter Burden Brighter Future	31.41 mins	The film tells the story of self-reliance, the achievement of which has changed the way thousands of people live their lives everyday. It's the story of people who recognised that burning fossil fuels was hugely damaging the atmosphere by releasing toxic gases such as methane and nitrous oxide. The crisis was precipitating global warming and hence climate change, the biggest challenge the world confronts today. The film shows how small scale sustainable renewable energy programs can make a big difference. The projects need not be too huge or ambitious to bring about a perceptible change. In fact small scale programs which are more easily executable, the film says, are more effective in harnessing renewable energy and blowing in the winds of change. Such programs are not a recent phenomena. In fact, as the film shows, such programs and technologies have been in existence for decades or years. The director captures the inspiring stories of people and communities in the Pacific Islands, and elsewhere in the world, who have harnessed nature's immense, constantly renewable capacity for electricity generation.

15.	Where is my Home?	8.43 mins	Sea levels have been constantly rising in the Sunderbans for the past 15 years, but the intensity has risen in the past few years. Lohachaura and Suparibhanga, two islands in the delta, have been permanently lost to these rising waves. Scientists predict 100,000 people in these parts will be affected over the past 15 years. The film tells the story through Anjona, a 13-year-old girl, who defines the human face of this environmental disaster in the making. She is another environmental migrant, like thousands before her, vulnerable and powerless against the fury of the sea.
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17.12.09(Thursday) SLOT-VI

16.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
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17.	Negotiating Justice - The Indian Story on Climate Change	30.16 mins	The earth's atmosphere belongs equally to all human beings, wherever they live. The film reminds us of this universal truth, endorsed by all nations of the world at the earth Summit, Rio. Today, several rich nations of the world blatantly deny this reality and despite their own remarkable legacy in polluting the planet, they pressurise developing nations to cut down greenhouse gas emissions. Ahead of December 2009, when the world meets in Copenhagen to fix a new climate agreement, the film explains India's negotiating position on climate change and highlights initiatives India has taken to work towards a clean, energy-efficient economy.
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18.	Fable from Himala...	8 mins	The film is a magical tale about a young boy who finds the solution to global warming. From a monk in the mountains. The film was shot in the remote ice desert region of spiti Valley, himachal Pradesh, india (bordering Tibet). The entire cast was from Kaaza, a small town in spiti Valley. The film was made possible by spitiecosphere, an NGO based out of spiti. The UN environment program picked up this film for their Billion Tree campaign. The main objective of this film is to spread the message of how fast global warming is impacting fragile ecosystems. Instead of choosing to spread the message in the form of a documentary, which has a limited audience, the director chose to present the story as a fairy tale — to highlight the problem and suggest a possible solution in the form of a fable which would appeal to people across age groups and countries.
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18.12.09(Friday)SLOT-VII

19.	Payenge Aisa Ek Jahaan(A Music Video on Climate Change)	5.21 mins	The video deals with the most pressing issue today - climate change. Climate change is precipitating a crisis in our world, changing weather patterns and thus, severely affecting livelihood concerns and lifestyles. Much of the problem is man made and caused due to irresponsible actions such as indiscriminate burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, pollution from vehicles and non-conservation of natural resources. What kind of a world are we creating?
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20.	Living With Change: voice from Ladakh	19 mins	Living with Change is a gripping walk through turbulent valleys of once peaceful Ladakh, now battling environmental disasters for the past one decade. In the midst of these disturbances and crumbling livelihoods, DIRECTOR: Stanzin Dorjai-gya, brings forth the voices of the people who live in this melting paradise and are desperately searching for ways to adapt and survive. Affecting biodiversity, soil, glaciers, people, livestock and basic needs like water, these changes are fast spiralling out of control. While some communities are learning to adapt and evolve, others can't keep pace up. They eventually perish or are forced to move to towns, dissatisfied, confused and angry. Even migratory birds and mammals are struggling to alter their behaviour to deal with the changes. Local people, mostly aged, express their bewilderment at erratic climatic trends; farmers bemoan the loss of home and land; nomads worry about crossing frozen lakes melting before their time. Floods, storms, early melting, shortage of freshwater and groundwater, the coming of crop-destroying locusts and receding glaciers — the only storehouses for freshwater — are all playing havoc with agriculture, settlements and livestock in Ladakh, while people watch helplessly. As if the weather wasn't extreme enough for these hardened people, they are now left to reconcile and face
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			the brunt of climate change in various ugly facets.
21.	Where is my Home?	8.43 mins	Sea levels have been constantly rising in the Sunderbans for the past 15 years, but the intensity has risen in the past few years. Lohachaura and Suparibhanga, two islands in the delta, have been permanently lost to these rising waves. Scientists predict 100,000 people in these parts will be affected over the past 15 years. The film tells the story through Anjona, a 13-year-old girl, who defines the human face of this environmental disaster in the making. She is another environmental migrant, like thousands before her, vulnerable and powerless against the fury of the sea.