



## **PRESS RELEASE: Young Eco-Warriors Take the Lead in Wetland Conservation at CMS VATAVARAN Event in Modern Public School, Shalimar Bagh**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**11 September 2024 | New Delhi**

The 12th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife continued its successful journey today with an inspiring event at *Modern Public School, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi*. More than 360 students from classes 4 and 5 gathered to engage in thought-provoking film screenings, creative art competitions, and lively discussions on the critical importance of *wetland conservation*.

### **Inspiring Film Screenings:**

Students were captivated by a selection of powerful environmental films on *wetlands, wildlife, and water conservation*. Aligned with the festival's theme "*Wetlands for LiFE*," these films emphasized the vital role wetlands play in maintaining ecological balance and underscored the urgent need for their protection. The films left a lasting impression on the young audience, fostering a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

### **Creative Expression Through Art:**

The painting competition saw enthusiastic participation, as students expressed their interpretation of "*Wetlands for LiFE*" through vibrant artwork. The top ten paintings from today's event will be showcased during the festival's grand finale at the *Ganga Auditorium, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan*, from *October 3-5, 2024*.

### **Engaging Discussions:**

Expert-led discussions on key environmental topics, including *Wetlands, Water Conservation, and Climate Change*, engaged the young students in thoughtful dialogue. The students actively participated, answering questions and sharing their stories and poems on water and wetlands. These conversations inspired the children to take meaningful steps towards environmental stewardship and highlighted the power of youth in driving positive change.

### **Commitment to Change:**

The event concluded with students pledging to adopt eco-friendly practices and spread awareness about wetland conservation within their communities. The day at *Modern Public School* was a resounding success, furthering the mission of the CMS VATAVARAN Festival to inspire collective action for a sustainable future.

*"It is heartening to see the passion and commitment these young students have towards protecting our planet,"* said **Ms. P N Vasanti, Director General of CMS**. *"Through initiatives like CMS VATAVARAN, we aim to empower the next generation to take charge of our environment and create a future where nature and humans can thrive together."*

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**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India**, The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Central Government for the planning, promotion, co-ordination and overseeing the implementation of India's environmental and forestry policies and programmes.

Website: <https://moef.gov.in>

**[About the Educational Institution:**

**GIZ**, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, often simply shortened to GIZ, is the main German development agency. It is headquartered in Bonn and Eschborn and provides services in the field of international development cooperation and international education work. GIZ has been working jointly with partners in India for sustainable economic, ecological, and social development for over 60 years.

Website: <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/368.html>

**Centre For Media Studies (CMS)**, Established in 1991, the Centre for Media Studies (CMS) ([www.cmsindia.org](http://www.cmsindia.org)) is an independent, not-for-profit multi-disciplinary organization. CMS endeavors to conduct path-breaking Research, Capacity Building and Advocacy in Social Development, Environment, Communication, Media and Transparency issues to work towards a vision of Responsive Governance & Equitable Development.

CMS VATAVARAN ([www.cmsvatavaran.org](http://www.cmsvatavaran.org)) is an outcome of CMS's core commitment to go "beyond research." The rich experience of CMS in environmental issues & developmental communication and the urge for "Beyond Research" – a commitment to perform the role of a practitioner of its own research, sowed the seeds of CMS VATAVARAN – India's only International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum.

***For more information, please contact***

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