



PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2024 | New Delhi

12th edition of CMSVATAVARAN International Film Festival & Forum on Environment & Wildlife commences with 'Green Fete' in NCR Schools & Colleges

Leveraging the power of films, CMSVATAVARAN is Asia's largest film festival and forum exclusively on environment and wildlife. For its 12th competitive edition, it received 800 films from 68 countries and 25 states in India. All films have gone thru multiple layers of scrutiny to short list nominated films and select awardee by eminent film and environment experts. All nominated films will be showcased in the 'Green Fete' starting September 9, 2024. **The grand finale of the 12th CMS VATAVARAN International Film festival and forum on Environment & Wildlife will be held at Ganga Auditorium, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, from October 3-5, 2024.**

The Birla Vidya Niketan School of Pushp Vihar, New Delhi will be the epicentre of environmental awareness as it hosts the 12th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum on September 10. The programme is part of a city-wide 'Green Fete' series running from September 10 to September 20, 2024, across New Delhi's following prestigious educational institutions:

*September 11, 2024 in Modern Public School, Shalimar Bagh,
September 12, 2024 in NGF College of Engineering and Technology, Faridabad-Palwal, Haryana,
September 13, 2024 in Sharda University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh,
September 16, 2024 in Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies (MRIIRS), Faridabad, Haryana,
September 17, 2024 in TERI, School of Advanced Studies, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi,
September 18, 2024 in Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, New Delhi,
September 19, 2024 in Bennet University, Noida,
September 20, 2024 in Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi.*

Festival Highlights at the Birla Vidya Niketan School:

Film Screenings: Starting at 10:00 AM, attendees will be treated to award-winning films and documentaries that highlight this year's festival theme, "Wetlands for LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)." These films aim to inspire viewers to adopt eco-friendly practices that support wetland conservation.

Painting Competition: Students will participate in a creative competition centered on the theme "Wetlands for LiFE." The best paintings will be exhibited during the grand finale of the festival.

Interactive Discussions: Experts will engage students and faculty in discussions about critical environmental topics such as Wetlands, Water Conservation, and Climate Change.

The CMS VATAVARAN Festival is an exceptional opportunity for students and educators to delve deep into environmental issues through the powerful medium of film and artistic expression. Attendees are encouraged to participate actively and contribute to the conversation on sustainable living.

Admission is free for all attendee. All are invited for any of the above mentioned venues to be part of this significant movement towards environmental conservation.

Dr. Vasanti Rao, Director General of CMS states, "*The CMS VATAVARAN festival is not just about raising awareness; it's about inspiring a movement. We're creating stimulating spaces that drive positive environmental change, one film, one conversation, and one action at a time.*"

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[Note to Editors: High-resolution images and interview opportunities with filmmakers and organizers are available upon request]

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. **Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)** is an India-led global mass movement to nudge individual and community action to protect and preserve the environment by adopting simple eco-friendly practices in daily life across seven key domains: saving energy and water, avoiding single-use plastics, reducing waste and e-waste, adopting sustainable food systems, and promoting healthy lifestyles. It aims to mobilize at least one billion Indians and other global citizens to become "Pro Planet People" committed to sustainable living by 2028.

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

Centre For Media Studies (CMS), Established in 1991, the Centre for Media Studies (CMS) 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. www.cmsindia.org

CMS VATAVARAN is a pioneering green movement harnessing the power of films, forums and other creative expressions for inspiring environmental conservation and sustainable lifestyles. This movement uses the interactive mode of film festivals to engage wide range of stakeholders to impact policy, reshape perceptions and encourage practices for preservation and conservation of nature. It creates innovative, curated spaces and programs to highlight and discuss contemporary environment and wildlife issues. www.cmsvatavaran.org

For more information, please contact

Mr Sabyesachi Bharti, Deputy Director, CMS VATAVARAN

sabyesachi@cmsvatavaran.org / Mob: +918826689218(WhatsApp) or +91 9818367459