**Green Filmmaking Workshop and Film Screenings Held on 2nd Day of Puducherry – Auroville CMS VATAVARAN**

**Puducherry, October 08, 2014:** CMS VATAVARAN on the second day of its festival organized a Filmmaking Workshop at Pondicherry University from 9.30 am – 5.30 pm. The workshop was conducted by Accessible Horizon Films led by Filmmaker Raghu and Mohandass.

The filmmaking workshop taught the intricacies of filming wildlife to the participating students. Encouraging students to participate in such endeavours Dr Devi Prasad, Professor and Head, Department of Ecology and Environmental Science, Pondicherry University appreciated the efforts of CMS VATAVARAN.

Raghu began the workshop with the presentation of a short film, an introductory and overview session wherein he asked the participants about their expectations from this workshop. He also showed the video animation of the filmmaking process. In the first session the pre-production process was explained to the participants, the components of the workshop was how to develop an idea, outline story/script/ scenes, storyboarding, casting, location and budgeting. The next session was conducted by Mohandass who taught cinematography and lighting techniques, basic visual concept, camera operation and lighting. The session also focused on how to write a script. The participants were divided into 6 teams who brainstormed ideas and shortlisted some 6 ideas and executed the same by taking picturesque environs of Pondicherry University campus. At the end of the workshop, the films shot by each group were edited and made into a final film.

A total of 56 students from renowned institutions namely Pondicherry University, IHM, Dr Ambedkar Law College, Puduvai Vani and Delhi University student participated in the workshop.

During the day, parallel film screenings were held for 400 class X & XII students of Immaculate Heart of Mary's Girls Higher Secondary School, Mission Street, Puducherry at their campus. 60 students of class VI – IX from Uddavai School, Auroville participated at Multi Media Centre/ Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall, Auroville. For college students films were screened at Puducherry, Earth Science Auditorium, Pondicherry University, Puducherry. At Auroville, discussions by were held on organic farming and problems associated with it and solutions identified by farmers. Besides this discussions were also held on Pulicat Lake in Tamil Nadu which was changing due to pollution, development of the city, etc.

Another highlight of the day was film screenings for police officials at Police Community Hall, Puducherry Armed Police Complex, Gorimedu, Puducherry. “Mattram” film on solid waste management directed by Puducherrry based filmmaker Yatra Srinivasan was also screened during the programme followed by an interaction with the filmmaker and participants.

Award-winning films screened on biodiversity theme were *Smarty Plants*, *Gaur in my Garden*, *Tiger Dynasty* and *Point Calimere - Little Kingdom by the Coast.* The film screened for police officials was *Maatram* on solid waste management. The screening in every venue was followed by open forum discussion and biodiversity quiz in schools which was much enjoyed by the school students. The short films dealt with several environmental issues and tell remarkable stories from different walks of life.

**The highlights of tomorrow’s programme (October 09, 2014):**

* **Green Film Screening and Open Forum Discussions**

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| **Time** | **Venue** | **Audience** |
| 09:30 am – 12:30 pm | Multi Media Centre, Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall, Auroville | Schools students |
| 09:30 am – 11:00 am | Immaculate Heart of Mary's Girls Higher Secondary School, Ariyankuppam, Puducherry | Schools students |
| 06:00 pm – 07:30 pm | Earth Science Auditorium, Pondicherry University, Puducherry | College students |
| 06:00 pm – 07:30 pm | Police Community Hall, Puducherry Armed Police Complex, Gorimedu, Puducherry | Police Officials |
| 07:45 pm – 09:15 pm | Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Auroville | General Public |
| 8:00 pm | La Plancha | General Public |

* **Panel Discussion: Oct 09 (Thur) | 03:00 – 05:00 pm | Earth Science Auditorium, Pondicherry University, Puducherry**

**Theme:** Climate Change and Human -Wildlife Interaction

* **Welcome & Chair:** Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman, CMS
* **Moderator**: Dr Devi K Prasad, Professor, Department of Ecology & Environmental Science, Pondicherry University
* **Panellists:** Dr (Ms) Nanditha Krishna, Hony Director, CPREEC, Chennai | Lata Iyer, Regional Planner, Auroville | Sunaina Mandeen, PondyCAN! | Tim Wrey, Naturalist & Author

*For more information, please contact:*

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