

FILM FESTIVAL

on

BIODIVERSITY & CLIMATE CHANGE



where  PSCSTCHANDIGARH



Ministry of Environment,
Forest & Climate Change



About the Film Festival

The visual representations can be effective channels to communicate important issues. Thus, Punjab State Council for Science & Technology, Punjab Biodiversity Board and CMS VATAVARAN have joined hands under Swachhta Action Plan for creating awareness to influence people's perception about biodiversity and climate change through an engrossing Film Festival which besides screening of films, also includes interaction with the film-makers as well as a workshop to encourage the specialized art of Green Film Making.



Punjab State Council for Science & Technology

Punjab State Council for Science & Technology has been functioning as technical arm of Department of Science Technology & Environment, Punjab as well as State Level Node of Department of Science & Technology, Government of India since more than past 30 years. It is the Nodal Agency for promotion of Science & Technology in the State and is a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization recognized by Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. The Council is championing 'Mission Innovate Punjab' for consolidation & augmentation of Science, Technology & Innovation Ecosystem in the state. It has spearheaded several initiatives for development of technical infrastructure and expertise in the areas of Environment & Climate Change, Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Science Communication. It has also developed innovative cost effective solutions for pollution control and energy efficiency which have been adopted by a large number of industries. PSCST is the nodal agency implementing key national programs for science & environment outreach like National Green Corps, Children Science Congress, National Science & Mathematics Day and hosts Punjab Climate Change Knowledge Centre as well as Environment Information Service Centre.



Punjab Biodiversity Board

Punjab Biodiversity Board (PBB) has been set-up as a statutory body by Govt. of Punjab u/s 22 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to implement various provisions of Act in the state. The Board takes initiatives for promoting conservation & sustainable utilization of biological resources; setting-up of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) & Preparation of Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) at Village, Block, District & Urban Local Body Levels; identification, conservation & management of Biodiversity Heritage Sites; rehabilitation of threatened flora & fauna of state with the involvement of concerned Departments & Agencies.

PPB also carries out comprehensive capacity building & awareness generation activities on various biodiversity related issues in the state.



CMS VATAVARAN

CMS VATAVARAN is a pioneer in international film festival and forum on environment and wildlife in India. Using films as a window to delve into nature, the festival showcases the best of Indian and International films and documentaries. The festival presents nature stories from all over the world, stories on critical ecological and developmental challenges faced today, some of the most compelling practices as well as enchanting snippets on the diversity of our planet.

CMS VATAVARAN is not just a film festival celebrating the cinematic art of films but focuses more on using the films as a tool and catalyst for creating impact. This unique initiative spearheaded by CMS was rare across the globe and completely non-existent in India. It came at a critical time when across the world, the destruction of the tapestry of life was being orchestrated. CMS VATAVARAN remains resolute to encourage films and forums based on environment, resulting change in perception, practice, policy and governance.

Programme

Inaugural

March 9, 2021 (10:30 am to 11:00 am)

Welcome by
CMS VATAVARAN

Guest of Honour



Dr. V B Mathur,
Chairman,
National Biodiversity Authority,
Govt. of India

Speakers



Dr. P N Vasanti,
Director General, CMS



Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora,
Executive Director,
PSCST and Member Secretary,
PBB, Govt. of Punjab



Screening of Films

March 9, 2021 | 11:00 am onwards

Panel Discussion

with Film Makers

March 9, 2021 | 02:30 pm onwards

Green Film Making Workshop

by Aarti Shrivastava

March 10, 2021 | 10:30 am onwards

Join us on



PSCSTCHANDIGARH

DAY 1 (March 9, 2021)

Film Screenings (10:30am-2:30pm)

Kalpriksh- The Wishing Tree

The film gives the message of nature conservation through a Kalpriksh (wishing tree). The tree is in search of that one special person to whom it will divulge the secret of infinite happiness - the secret of living in harmony with nature, the fountainhead of peace and joy. Intertwined with this story is the story of a girl who does not like her fat frame, two brothers, a boy who lives with his mother and longs for his absent father. These troubled children go to the Kalpriksh for love and solace. The tree punishes those who disrespect it and nurtures those who believe in its powers. One day when some people decide to cut down the tree, the children come together to save the tree.

Earth Witness: Reflections on the Times and the Timeless

Four people - a teacher, a farmer, a shepherd and a father - find themselves on the frontline of Earth's biggest, most complex crisis: climate change. Belonging to India's ancient tribes, they bear witness to the science behind the changes that affects their day-to-day life. Living in diverse climatic regions - the mountains of Nagaland, the grasslands of Kutch, the Gangetic delta and the forests of central India - they use this challenge to battle courageously, making weapons of wisdom and compassion, and the strategy deployed in any respected battlefield - flexibility to adapt to changing situations. Their lives journey through the dark labyrinths of the multi-dimensional crisis, reflecting stories of our times: of trees, mining, monkeys, logging, rivers, seeds, waterfalls, flowers, and the spirit of the timeless.

Gharat : Revival of Watermills

Watermills have existed since a long time and were used specifically for grinding wheat in different rural areas, especially in Himalayan region. The usage of watermills was highly limited and almost became extinct with the emerging use of diesel and electricity for grinding. The film shows how the synergy of traditional aspects and new technological advancement can have a deep impact in the important field of power related work and electricity production in rural areas.

Bunty's Tree

This animation short is a touching and warm story of the bond that exists between a little boy, living in a picturesque valley and a tree that grows in the courtyard of his house. The film traces the journey of little boy into adulthood under the love and care of the tree's motherly instincts. So fond is the lad of the tree that he tenderly carves out his name on the bark of the tree for posterity. When he grows up, he is employed with a timber merchant. One day something happens that makes him tremble from head to toe. Something that happens to his tree; something that changes his life forever! Though non-verbal, the film excels in conveying a million words about saving the environment!.

Dado

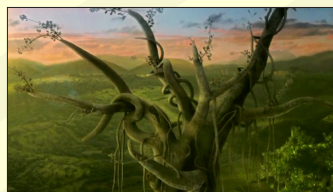
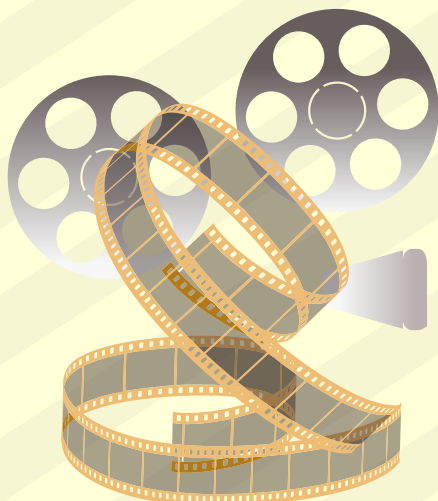
Dado is a small girl living in Coorg with her family. She is a dreamer, lost in her own world of fantasies. She loves nature and keeps getting lost in its beauty. This film is an attempt to bring back childhood memories, different feelings and a reminder of the beauty of Coorg, which is now on the verge of getting destroyed. The film shows different activities she does in the span of a day, from morning till evening. She keeps track of a bird's nest that is in front of her house and waits to see the hatchlings.

Carry Your Own Bag

A short film that aims to encourage people to ditch plastic bags in favour of cloth/jute bags.

Chewing Gum

Chewing gum thrown on the ground looks like food to birds, which try to eat it. It fouls their entire system, leading them to die a slow death.



DAY 1 (March 9, 2021)

Panel Discussion with Filmmakers (2:30 pm onwards)

Moderated by Sabyesachi Bharati



Raajash Chetwal is a filmmaker with many causes - environment, wildlife, human rights, social justice, gender issues, children, education. He is Promoter/MD - Shilpali Film City, Rajasthan's first ever film city coming up near Jawai Dam and Director - Cheetahgarh Resorts. Mr. Chetwal is also Executive Member of Management Committee of L&M Public School, Ajmer. Mr. Chetwal Produced the highly acclaimed feature film "The Wishing Tree" which gently nudges children to fall in love with trees and forests. An award winner at LIFFT World Cine Fest 2018, a finalist at NNF Festival (Israel) and official selection at the San Diego International Kids Film Festival 2018 (California, USA), SEFF Film Festival 2019 (Croatia), and PIFF 2018. Now on Netflix. Next film project is titled "Paani Re Paani" wherein a poignant saga unfolds against the backdrop of a giant dam whose foundation is being laid over thousands of human lives and innumerable lies. A keen photographer, an intense writer and an avid overland traveller... with passion for music.



Akanksha Damini Joshi is an independent film-maker. Her work ranges from short films made for television to long documentaries. "Passengers", a critically-acclaimed film made during and after the 2002 Gujarat carnage was one of her first films. Her short film on the river Ganga addressing the global issue of climate change is regularly featured on national television. Joshi's film on India's largest coastal lake, "Chilika Bank" has been appreciated and awarded in many festivals, including the Livelihood Award in the 5th CMS Vatavaran festival. For highlighting the issues in Chilika, Joshi has been honoured with the Karmveer Puruskar, National People's Award for Social Justice and Citizen Action.



Shriniwas Oli currently works as an Assistant Teacher with Department of Elementary Education (Govt. of Uttarakhand). He has worked in both Print and Electronic Media (Newspapers and TV channels).



Jasraj Singh Bhatti's work as a cartoonist has been appearing in national dailies for the last ten years and has won him several awards. His first short film "Ladla Driver" on the menace of underage driving was purchased by the traffic department of the state governments of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh. He has also directed an animation film "Nanhi Chidiya" which received national and international acclaim and was included in the New York Children's International Film Festival also. He made a documentary "Jezu and Nature" while representing India at the Cultural Olympics in South Korea and won a bronze medal for the country. His film "Bunty's Tree" has won the Award of Merit in Animation at the California-based Best Shorts Competition.



Donna Partha is final year Animation Film Design Graduate from The National Institute of Design, NID, Ahmedabad. She was born and brought up in Coorg, Karnataka and did her schooling in Coorg and Mangalore. She often writes poems and composes music. She is an avid reader, singer and painter.



Sunil Bhondge aims to spread the message of environmental awareness through his lens. In 1999, he established Shardiya Systems Pvt Ltd. Taken over by the strong passion for the environment and with the character 'Greeny', in 2009 he started the firm Greeny the Great.



DAY 2 (March 10, 2021)

Green Filmmaking Workshop (10:30 am onwards)

by Aarti Shrivastava

Aarti Shrivastava born in Nagpur, Maharashtra, is a national award-winning documentary filmmaker and Asia 21 leader based in Chennai. She has been an executive producer on films like 'Serious Men' (Netflix), Kick and was also associated with films like My Name Is Khan, Kambakkht Ishq to name a few. She is currently busy directing west indies cricketer Dwayne Bravo in her upcoming film 'Men Take Lead' and is simultaneously writing her first commercial film on women empowerment to be played by a leading female artist from south.



She started her journey as a bollywood show anchor and producer with CNBC TV 18 and has been a jury member on various national and international film festivals including the Prestigious National Film Awards, International Film Festival of India (Goa). Besides managing her media production company, she has produced and directed many environmental films which has brought grassroots level change in the society. These films not only did well in the international and national film festival circuit but also pushed the policy & decision makers to make policies which benefitted Indian forests and biodiversity. She has studied social entrepreneurship from Stanford University in the USA. Passionate about environmental filmmaking and cinema which brings social change in the society.



where



ZOOM

Live at



PSCSTCHANDIGARH

All participants will get digital certificate



Ministry of Environment,
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for more information:

www.pscst.punjab.gov.in

www.cmsvatavaran.org

