Behind the Scene

CMS VATAVARAN

Initiated in 2002, CMS VATAVARAN International Competitive and Travelling Festival of Environment and Wildlife Films and Forum is one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe. It works on a unique format of organising an international competitive film festival in New Delhi followed by a travelling film festival in different states of India, in the subsequent year. Till 2011, 34 festival has been organised in 26 cities of India.

6th CMS VATAVARAN Film Festival and Forum 2011 theme is Biodiversity Conservation. The theme concurs with UN Decade on Biodiversity (2011-20) and international year of forests. The theme is also especially significant as MoEF is hosting the eleventh Conference of the Parties (CoP-11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the sixth Conference of the Parties serving as Meeting of the Parties (CoP/MoP-6) to the Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety in October, 2012.

The Festival Aims…

- Towards setting up of a credible green forum for dialogue, discussion and deliberations to evolve a global environment outreach framework.
- Nurture a new breed of “alternate filmmakers”, and strengthen collaboration between filmmakers, broadcasters and commissioners from developing and developed countries to stimulate production of high quality films.
- To take on multi-faceted environmental issues, share available knowledge, highlight the deep interconnectedness between sectors and issues, encourage critical thinking, and help shift entrenched attitudes and practices.
- To galvanise civil society and evolve a platform for public opinion and decision making processes to influence policy making.

www.cmsvatavaran.org
CMS VATAVARAN Milestones…

2010: The fourth travelling film festival visited 8 cities across India, with film screenings at more than 70 venues and participation of more than 95,000 people. For the first time ‘green heroes’ were also felicitated.

2009: The fifth competitive film festival attracted 366 entries from 20 Indian states and 23 foreign countries. Mr Jahnu Baruah, eminent director was the chairperson of CMS VATAVARAN 2009 Award Jury.

2008: The third travelling film festival screened 304 films over a span of 24 days in 8 cities. Six national and 51 state partners lent support and approx. 80,000 participants attended.

2007: The festival drew 275 entries from 19 countries. Awards for technical excellence and the young environmental journalist award were initiated. Noted filmmaker Mr Shyam Benegal was the jury chairperson.

2006: The travelling film festival went overseas to Abu Dhabi and Sao Paulo apart from visiting Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kashmir, Kolkata, Pune, Ranchi and Sirmour.

2005: The third competitive film festival received 244 entries. The Steering Committee was chaired by Dr Karan Singh and the Award Jury was headed by Mr Shyam Benegal.

2004: The first travelling film festival went to Chennai, Coimbatore and Mumbai. People began recognising and supporting the CMS VATAVARAN environment awareness movement.

2003: The second competitive film festival became biennial. CMS and UNEP instituted an award ‘Prithvi Ratna’ for extraordinary contribution to wildlife filmmaking and natural history.

2002: India’s one and only environment and wildlife Film Festival – CMS VATAVARAN - began its maiden run. The initiative was supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, GoI.

Top to bottom
• Shri Ranjit Shekhar Mooshahary, Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya
• Shri Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon’ble Minister of Environment & Forests, Govt of Odisha
• Shri N Kiran Kumar Reddy, Hon’ble Chief Minister, Govt of AP
• Dr Karan Singh, MP (Rajya Sabha)
• Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Filmaker & Shri Amol Palekar, Filmaker & Actor
Every achievement is not an end, but the beginning of a new journey.

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