

# CMS Vatavaran

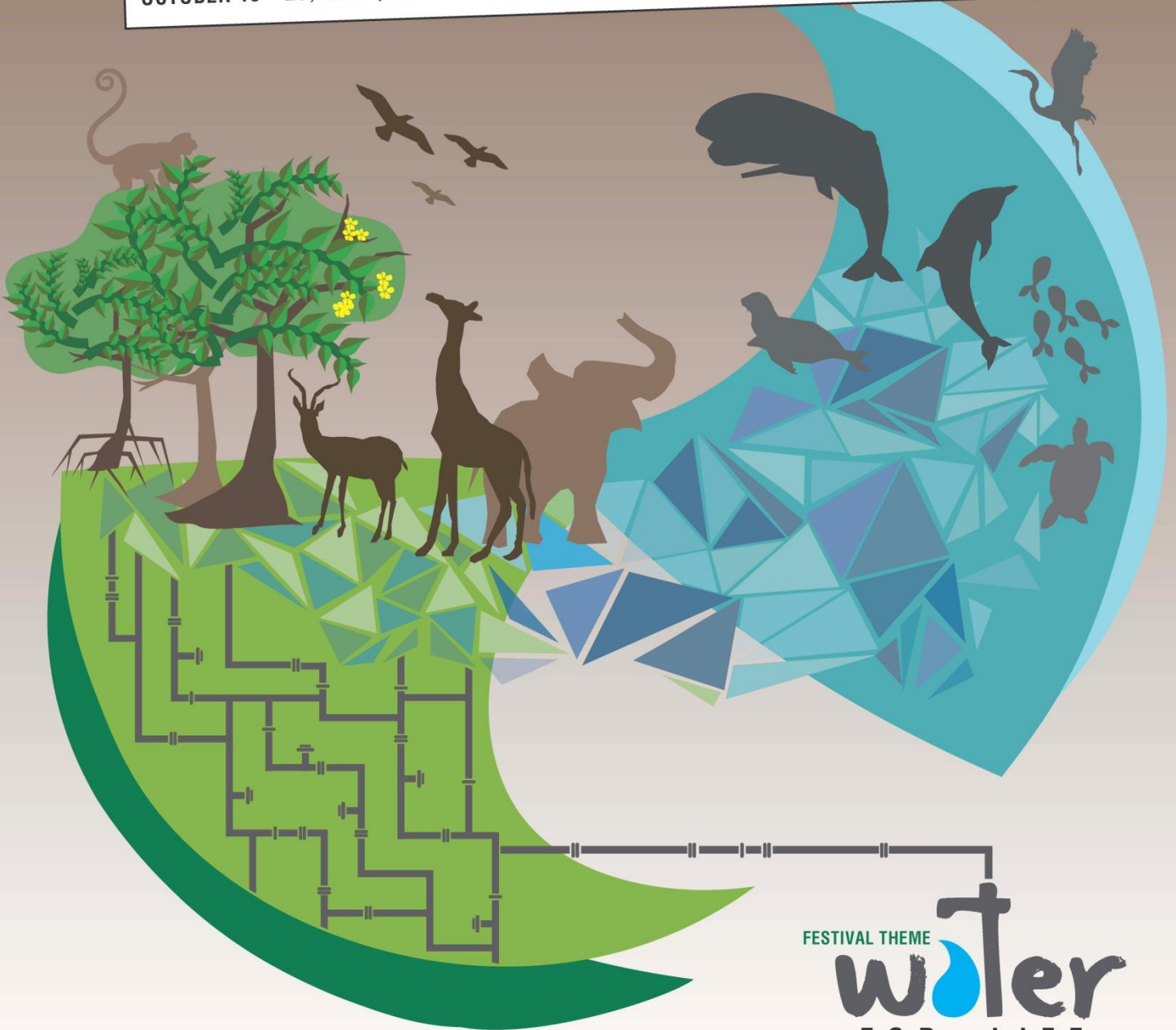
**SABARMATI** River International Festival

OCTOBER 19 – 23, 2016 (WED – SUN) | GANDHINAGAR & AHMEDABAD



2016

TRAVELLING



FESTIVAL THEME  
**water**  
FOR LIFE

An Initiative of



Organised by



Country Partner



Associate Partners



State Festival Partners



Chimant Patel Institute of Business Administration

State Knowledge Partner

CEE

Centre for Environment Education

Programme Partner

VIKSAT

વિકસત, નહેરુ કોમ્પ્લેક્સ કોર ડેવલપમેન્ટ સંસ્થા

Supported by



Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Environment Education Partners



Van Chetna Kendra Vastrapur



Film Screenings Partner

Sabarmati Central Jail

**A Report**  
*for*  
**giz | Deutsche Gesellschaft für**  
**Internationale Zusammenarbeit (giz) GmbH**  
**November 03, 2016**

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION ..... 1

2.0 FILM FESTIVAL AND FORUM PROGRAMMES ..... 1

    2.1 Inaugural Ceremony ..... 1

    2.2 Roundtable Discussion on River Sabarmati - Issues & Challenges ..... 3

        2.3 Panel Discussion on Coastal And Marine Biodiversity In Gujarat ..... 5

    2.4 Know Your Thol Lake ..... 8

    2.5 Other Initiatives organised During the Festival ..... 9

3.0 AWARD & CLOSING CEREMONY ..... 13

4.0 MEDIA ENGAGEMENT ..... 15

5.0 FESTIVAL IMPACT ..... 16

ANNEXURE

Annexure 1: MEDIA COVERAGE ..... 17

Annexure 2: COLLATERALS ..... 19

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Initiated in the year 2002, CMS VATAVARAN – India’s premier environment and wildlife film festival and forum is aimed towards enhancing understanding, appreciation and shift in attitudes towards the natural world and to increase space for environmental issues in mass media and evolve a nationwide environment outreach framework.

The festival reaches out to people from all walks of life including filmmakers, civil society groups, government organizations, environmentalists, researchers, conservationists, policy makers, activists, public and private sector organisations and students of all ages and is recognised as a calendar event amongst filmmakers, environment, wildlife and conservation sector.

Its unique twin track approach of organising competitive and travelling film festivals and environment forum has positioned it as one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe. Till date 40 festivals have been organised in 30 cities of India. The travelling festivals are organised in state capitals and other important towns and cities.

The 7<sup>th</sup> travelling edition of CMS VATAVARAN is scheduled in 7 cities across India (Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Pune, Mangalore, Allahabad, Tiruchirappalli, Hyderabad).

**Sabarmati River Film Festival** was held from October 19-23, 2016 (Wednesday - Sunday) in various venues across the twin cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in Gujarat. The festival comprised of inauguration, felicitation of green ambassadors, panel discussion, nature trail, slogan writing competition and film screenings. CMS VATAVARAN films touched the chords of the people with issues ranging from water conservation, environment awareness, wildlife conservation, marine biodiversity conservation and more.

## 2.0 FILM FESTIVAL AND FORUM PROGRAMMES

### 2.1 Inaugural Ceremony: October 19, 2016 (Wednesday) | 05:30 pm – 07:00 pm | Calorx Olive International School, Ahmedabad

CMS VATAVARAN Sabarmati River International Film Festival and Forum started with an inaugural ceremony at Calorx Olive International School, Ahmedabad. Col. Atul Bhandari, Director, Calorx Olive International School, declared the festival open. Other guests present at the event were, Ms. Mala Sharma, Director, Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration, Ahmedabad, Mr Kiran Desai, Senior Programme Director, Centre for Environment Education and Mr Ashwin Trivedi, Supreme Court lawyer. The festival began with a lamp lighting ceremony by all the eminent dignitaries present during the occasion followed by cultural performance by students of Calorx Olive International School. Ms P N Vasanti, Director General of Centre for Media Studies (CMS), New Delhi welcomed the august gathering. She urged all to participate in the various discussions, activities, competitions and film screenings in the next 4 days.



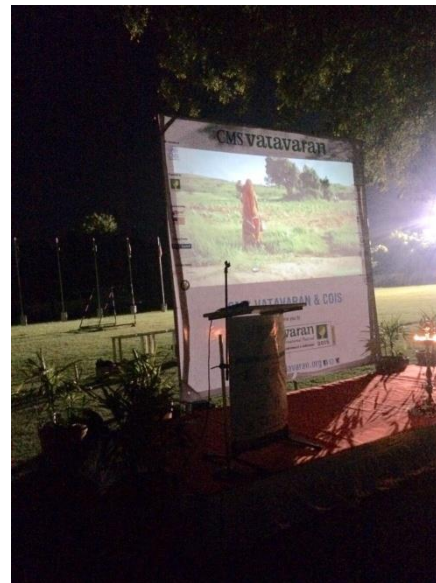
*Lighting of lamp during Inaugural Ceremony*



*Welcome Address by Ms P N Vasanti  
 Director General, CMS, New Delhi*



*Cultural Performance by students*



*Film Screening during Inaugural Ceremony*

On this occasion, ‘Locals Become Geohydrologists in Rapar’, a seven-minute film in Hindi and Gujarati by Usha Dewani and Nilutpal Das was screened. The film documents how local youth created ponds and wells in water-stressed villages of Rapar block, Kutch using geohydrological techniques.

The highlight of the inaugural ceremony included felicitation of Green Ambassadors from Gujarat. Out of the total nominations received, 2 individuals were felicitated for their remarkable contribution in the field of water conservation. The awardees include:

**Mr Bhanji bhai Mathukiya** - The innovator from Saurashtra, prone to water scarcity. He had built a semi-circular dam using local materials, labour, and at minimal cost. His path breaking innovation consists of a modular check dam built using the arch shaped bunds in sequence. He used locally available materials such as stones, river sand and deployed one mason and four labourers to build the dam. The low cost dam was built in 4 days and at a total cost of Rs 10,000

**Ms Manishaba J Jadeja**- She is working with an NGO, Arid Communities and Technologies (ACT) to support Water management programs of Urban area for underprivileged area of Bhuj, focusing on decentralize drinking water systems, accessible sanitation system, urban watershed improvements and management of local drinking water sources.



**Mr Bhanjibhai Mathukiya**  
being presented citation and *Memento*



**Ms Manishaba J Jadeja**  
*with Citation and Memento*

**2.2 Roundtable Discussion on River Sabarmati - Issues & Challenges: October 20, 2016 | 02:30 pm - 04:30 pm | Conference Hall, Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration**

A Roundtable Discussion on Ecology and Environmental issues of Sabarmati River was organised at Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration. This discussion was organized in partnership with Centre for Environment Education and VIKSAT.

**Ms P N Vasanti**, Director General of Centre for Media Studies (CMS), New Delhi, chaired the roundtable session. **Ms Madhavi**, Director-Programmes of CEE welcomed all and emphasized on the need to create more dialogue and interconnection with our rivers.



### *Speakers at Panel Discussion*

The issues brought up in the discussion focused on concerns like restoring the river ecosystem with the help of city people to ensure water quality and stakeholder consultation for the same. The need for education and more proactive role of media was also stressed on.

**Mr Shyam Parekh**, Editor, DNA moderated the session. **Professor Rajiv Kadam**, Faculty, CEPT University spoke on the historical co-evolution of cities and rivers and development of cities / urban spaces around water fronts across the world. He shared the Hudson Estuary Program experience to demonstrate a program that can manage human impact on rivers.

**Mr Vinit Patel**, Managing Director, DNP Infra gave a presentation on reclamation of waste water of Sabarmati River. He explained how the Sabarmati Riverfront is a cosmetic beautification project for tourism purposes and not a river revival project. He also explained with facts and figures how waste flows into this non-perennial river from other rivers. He opined that even today 47% of untreated water is going into Sabarmati, emphasizing on the need for more standards and capacity for water treatment. The need for river to be treated on its whole and not in parts was underlined and emphasised the need for industrial affluent to be tapped before it goes into the river at any point across its stretch.

**Mr Raju Deepti**, Managing Trustee, Jeevantirth started with a Hindi song on river Sabarmati and explained different movements linked to the Sabarmati.

There were audience interactions with Speakers on the topics of aquatic animals, the impact of riverfront projects on the life of the river, the need to learn from lessons of reviving water bodies from Indian ecological contexts, including from our cultural practices and rural experiences, etc.

Audience (almost 60-65) included civil society organizations like CEE, SEWA, VIKSAT, MG Science Institute, WAY, ISRO, students from Chimanbhai Patel Institute, Officials from Central Ground Water Board, etc. participated in the discussion.

The discussion concluded with vote of thanks to all speakers, participants, and organizers.



*Participants at Panel Discussion*



*Speakers at Panel Discussion*

### 2.3 Panel Discussion on Coastal and Marine Biodiversity in Gujarat: October 22, 2016 | 10:30 am – 01:30 pm | Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration

In collaboration with GIZ, a special Panel Discussion was organised on Coastal and Marine Biodiversity of Gujarat on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Saturday at Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration from 10:30 am to 01:30 pm. It was followed by lunch and informal interactions among the panellists and audience. The audience (almost 50-55) who participated in this session included organizations like GIZ, Green Support Services, ISRO and students from Chimanbhai Patel Institute.



*Registration Desk during Panel discussion*

The discussion was a part of an Indo German Biodiversity Project '**Conservation and Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (CMPA)**'. The Project is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) with funds provided under the International Climate Initiative (IKI), in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India.

The project aims at contributing to conservation of biodiversity through participatory approaches in the management of existing and potential coastal and marine protected areas in India. Project

activities are implemented together with the Forest Departments of the project partner states - Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, as well as with premier national training institutions.

The discussion commenced with an introduction by **Ms Ritika Kapoor**, Executive, CMS VATAVARAN and the panel discussion was moderated by **Mr Rohan Thakker**, Senior Research Fellow, ISRO.

	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mr Abhinav Mehta, GIZ</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dr Bharat Jethwa, Green Support Services</i></p>
	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dr Dishant Parasharya, Green Support Services</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mr Rohan Thakker, ISRO</i></p>
	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mr Uday Vora, Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Gandhinagar</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Speakers at Panel Discussion</i></p>

**Mr Abhinav Mehta**, Junior Project Coordinator, GIZ explained their project is implementation in 4 coastal states in India namely Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Goa in close collaboration with respective State Governments and also gave a brief background on Ramsar site and talked about GIZ efforts to declare Gujarat as a Ramsar site with the support of Gujarat Government. He gave an introduction of their sites in Gujarat which are:

1. **Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary (Jamnagar)**- an existing wildlife sanctuary under the Wildlife Protection Act, and a long term management plan exists for this site.
2. **Gosa Bara Wetland complex and Madhavpur turtle conservation area (Porbandar)**-Gosabara wetland complex is a potential Ramsar site. It has also been proposed to be declared as a Biodiversity Heritage Site.
3. **Madhavpur Turtle Hatchery**- It is about 13 km from Gosabara and is planned to be used along with Gosabara to create awareness measures in this area.

He also mentioned that GIZ is establishing interpretation centres for the tourists and local people and these will be inaugurated within this year. GIZ is working with Gujarat government in management planning for protected areas, facilitating capacity development and communication and awareness with several objectives.

**Dr Bharat Jethwa** from Green Support Services presented case study on 'Coastal Grassland Development by community organization of Veraval National Park'. He spoke about ecological succession which is important for ecological diversity. He explained about the objectives of the proposed project, which included developing grassland in saline land through vegetation succession that leads to multiple ecological benefits, generating a model grassland area that help control salinity and promote conservation of coastal grassland biodiversity, providing grassland resources to local community that can provide multiple economic and ecological benefits, grassland development through ecological succession that would attract other biodiversity including important birds and mammal species and to make efforts to stimulate vegetation succession that would increase productivity of the soil. He also explained how the Gulf of Cambay is an important area from the coastal biodiversity point of view.

**Dr Dishant Parasharya** from Green Support Service gave a presentation on different floral and faunal species found in the Gulf of Kutch and emphasized on the economic importance of Coral Reefs found in the region. He also showed visuals of marine biodiversity present at the coast of Gujarat. He also mentioned about the oil fields and industries present in Bharuch district in Gujarat that are threatening this biodiversity. Dr Parasharya gave emphasis on the need of proper research and documentation of natural resources like mangroves and natural flora and fauna. Also, he said real time monitoring of sea water quality and immediate response system for disasters like oil spill and chemical leakage needs to be paid attention to in order to conserve the biodiversity.

**Mr Rohan Thakker**, SRF at ISRO moderated the panel discussion and presented his work on Indus river course change. Using ten years of MODIS satellite data, he showed how the Indus is changing its

course back towards Kachchh i.e. Indian territory. The “Great Rann of Kachchh’ region had many ports including marine ports and river ports. On the banks of Indus there were river ports like Sindari and Busta-Bandar. The region was rich in terms of import-export activities and agriculture. But due to the climatic changes, tsunamis, and earthquakes the geography of the region completely changed. Same description was in the gazetteer of 1971. But, now, again since the year 2000, the Indus water has started flowing in its old channels/tributaries like “Dhoro-Puran”. The visible changes can be seen in the year 2009. The Indus broke the left bank near Ali-wahan in Pakistan and the water of Indus entered the Indian territory in Kachchh near Vighokot in a single flow. He also added, that he has recorded almost above fifty bird species which include tree-pie, mallard and pelicans. Mammals like chinkara and blue bull can be easily spotted in the region. He concluded by saying that, the region is continuously becoming biodiversity rich which had earlier almost “no-sign of life”.

**Mr Uday Vora, Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Gandhinagar** talked about the whale conservation achievements as one of the best examples of community based conservation and also shared that approximately 50 animals are rescued annually. He also talked about many wetlands of Gujarat and its importance by biodiversity point of view. Mr Uday Vora also suggested use of modern technologies for biodiversity conservation.

After the presentations from panellists, there was audience interaction. The audience included students, civil society and media who were interested in conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity in Gujarat. The outcomes and the suggestions of the panel discussion can be summarised as the following key points:

- The marine biodiversity at Gujarat’s coast harbours some rare species of corals and mammals, therefore the development should be in accordance, that minimum or no impact is created on these ecosystems.
- Conservation approaches should be implemented at the ground level and with involvement of the local communities. Also, efforts to bridge the gap between the local communities and scientific fraternity were emphasised.
- In addition, special efforts need to be made to educate local population – both urban and rural, on various issues associated with the conservation of the coastal and marine biodiversity in their area. Now with the Coastal Regulation Zone notification in place, there is an urgent need to create awareness among the native population.
- It was also opined that such discourse should be held regularly with various audiences and also in local language (Gujarati).
- In addition to creating such dialogues, it was felt that it is urgent to look into the human actions and the need to bring more stringent policy interventions to conserve the rich marine and coastal bio diversity of Gujarat.

#### **2.4 Know Your Thol Lake: October 23, 2016 (Sunday) | 08:00 am - 10:30 am | Thol Lake**

As part of Sabarmati River International Festival, a field visit on ‘Know your Thol Lake’ was organised at Thol Lake, Mehsana District. Students from Chimanhbai Patel Institute of Business Administration

(CPIBA) participated in the walk, led by Mr Kedar Champhekar, Programme Officer from Centre for Environment Education. Calorx Olive International School supported this visit to Thol Lake.

“Thol is a manmade lake that supports irrigation and biodiversity. Thus, Thol is a good example of dual purpose wetland that is crucial to biodiversity of Gujarat. People of Ahmedabad should come and observe birds at Thol and report any change in bird number or since citizens bear the onus of protecting their environment,” Mr Champhekar said as he conducted a 2-hour long session along the Thol Bird Sanctuary and helped students identify different bird & insect species. Some of the birds spotted at the bird sanctuary were: Ibis, Spoonbills, Egreta, Darters, Terns, Jungle Babblers and white eared Bulbul. There are around 150 species of birds usually spotted at Thol around the year.

There were 30 students present from Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration who were surprised to know about the wide variety of bird species at Thol. Speaking about the experience, one of the students said, “We found the visit very informative and would now try to undertake more visits like these.”



*Nature Trail ‘Know your Thol Lake’*

## 2.5 Other Initiatives organized during the Festival

Film screenings, biodiversity quiz, Hindi, English and Gujarati slogan writing competition and workshop on water footprint were organized at Chimanbhai Patel Institute and Calorx Olive International School. A quiz on coastal and marine biodiversity was also organized for the students. The questions presented dealt with environment, wildlife and other biodiversity related areas of

different states. Photography and drawing competitions were held on festival theme ‘WATER FOR LIFE’.

Film screenings were also organized at M G Institute of Sciences, Van Chetna Kendra, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University.



*Drawing Competition at Calorx Olive International School*



*Poster Designing Competition at CPIBA, Ahmedabad*



*Slogan Writing Competition at CPIBA, Ahmedabad*



*Photography Competition at CPIBA, Ahmedabad*

**Screening Schedule, Venue & Audience**

**Oct 19, 2016 (Wednesday)**

1. 05:30 pm – 07:00 pm | Film Screening at COIS, Ahmedabad

**Oct 20, 2016 (Thursday)**

2. 12:00 noon - 02:30 pm | Film Screenings at M G Institute of Sciences, Ahmedabad
3. 10:00 am – 04:15 pm | Film Screenings at CPIBA, Ahmedabad
4. 02:00 pm – 04:00 pm | Film Screenings at COIS, Ahmedabad

**Oct 21, 2016 (Friday)**

1. 12:00 noon - 02:30 pm | Film Screenings at M G Institute of Sciences, Ahmedabad
2. 03:00 pm - 05:00 pm | Film Screenings at Van Chetna Kendra, Vastrapur
3. 04:00 pm - 05:00 pm | Film Screenings at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University
4. 10:00 am - 1:30 pm | Film Screenings at CPIBA, Ahmedabad
5. 02:00 pm - 04:00 pm | Film Screenings at COIS, Ahmedabad

**Oct 22, 2016 (saturday)**

1. 02:00 pm – 04:00 pm | Film Screenings at COIS, Ahmedabad

**Films shown during the festival were:**

1. A Commons Sense | English | 00:07:49 | Chintan Gohil

2. An Elegy for the Traditional Way of Life | Khasi, Garo and English | 00:50:00 | Priyanjana Dutta
3. Birds of Narsinh Talav | English | 00:59:20 | Umesh Kathad, Naresh Gohel, Vijay Kathad
4. Climate Change Module | English | 00:06:47 | Ishani K Dutta
5. Dammed | English & Hindi | 00:49:30 | Kavita Bahl and Nandan Saxena
6. Earth Witness: Reflections on the Times and the Timeless | English and local languages | 01:00:31 | Akanksha Joshi
7. Flight To Freedom - The Amur Falcon Story | English and Hindi | 00:14:00 | Rita Banerji and Shilpi Sharma
8. g2G: From Grassroots to Global | English | 00:28:06 | Neela Venkatraman
9. God On The Edge | Bengali and English | 00:46:30 | Ashok Patel
10. Greeny the Great | Non-verbal | 00:06:00 | Dhananjay Bhopale
11. Harvesting The Seas (The Shell Story) | English | 00:26:43 | Himanshu Malhotra
12. How Can Conserving Mangroves Tide Over Climate Change | English | 00:22:23 | Rajendra Kondapalli
13. India's Disappearing Beaches - A Wake Up Call | English | 00:14:16 | Shekar Dattatri
14. India's Wandering Lions | English | 00:47:33 | Praveen Singh & Martin Dohrn
15. Kali Bein (The Black River) | English | 01:00:08 | Surendra Manan
16. La Casa Ausente (The Absent House) | English and Spanish | 00:55:29 | Ruben Abruna
17. Le Jardin d'Ewald | French | 01:00:06 | Alexandra Pille
18. Life Force 2: India's Western Ghats | English | 00:48:00 | Lorne Townend
19. Living With Elephants | English | 00:16:22 | S U Saravana Kumar
20. Locals Become Geohydrologists in Rapar | Hindi & Gujarati | 00:07:15 | Usha Dewani & Nilutpal Das
21. Losing Ground | English | 00:29:41 | Rishu Nigam
22. People Ke Peepal, Peepal Baba | Hindi | 00:16:51 | Gaurav Kumar
23. Phum Shang (Floating Life) | Manipuri | 00:52:00 | Haobam Paban Kumar
24. Post Climate Change | Odia | 00:20:55 | Snehasis Das
25. Save Tree | English | 00:04:27 | Ashwini N, Pooja T and Sneha S
26. Smarty Plants | English | 00:51:52 | JErna Buffie
27. The Attack of 1.5 Degrees, The Sea of Jeju | Korean | 01:01:13 | Jang-Won-Joon
28. The Battle Begins... | English | 00:28:50 | Sunrendra Manan
29. The Forgotten Tigers | English | 00:54:00 | Krishnendu Bose
30. The Miracle Water Village | Hindi & Marathi | 00:13:19 | Rintu Thomas & Sushmit Ghosh
31. The Vanguard of Angul | English | 00:26:17 | Ahona Datta Gupta
32. Tiger's Revenge | English | 00:44:17 | S Nallamuthu
33. Timbaktu | English | 00:31:38 | Rintu Thomas & Sushmit Ghosh
34. Turtle Diaries - Leatherback Turtle | English | 00:12:16 | Rita Banerji
35. When Every Drop counts | English and Hindi | 00:14:00 | Rishu Nigam

**Approximately a total of 1500 people participated in all the film screenings.**



Film Screenings at CPIBA, Ahmedabad

**3.0 AWARD & CLOSING CEREMONY | Oct 22, 2016 (Saturday) | Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration**

Sabarmati River International Festival concluded at Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration with an award ceremony. Appreciating the outcome of the festival, Dr Mala Sharma, Principal of the college concluded by saying that, “I am happy to see an initiative like this and would always be supportive for the cause of environment.”



Prize Distribution Ceremony

The students who won prizes under different categories for photography, poster designing and slogan writing and drawing competition were felicitated by Mr Sundeep C Srivastav & Mr Anand Jha.

- In Hindi Slogan Writing Competition, 7 students participated out of which best Award was bagged by Karan Shah and second position by Bhumi Ramani of Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration.
- In English Slogan Writing Competition, 22 students participated out of which first award was bagged by Priyanshi Rathod, Mahima Thakker secured second position and first consolation prizes were given to Purvin Pandya of Chimanbhai Patel Institute of Business Administration.
- In Gujarati slogan writing competition, 5 students participated out of which best award was given to Shweta Gariya of CPIBA.
- In poster designing competition, 15 students participated out of which first and second position were secured by Qurjav Sharma and Kriya Jain of Delhi Public School. First and Second Consolation award were given to Lavina Rego and Kena Shah of CPIBA.
- In drawing competition, 35 students participated out of which first and second position was given to Kevin Binoy and Stuti Kotwal of Anand Niketan School followed by consolation prizes to Shreya Singh and Aanshi Mehta.
- In Photography Competition, 17 students participated out of which Pankaj Mehta secured first position, Vipul Sumara came second. First and second consolation prizes for photography competition were given to Purvin Pandya and Yash Parmar of CPIBA.

#### 4.0 MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

To announce the festival, Curtain Raiser - a Press Conference was held two days before the festival i.e. on October 17, 2016 at Conference hall of Chimanbhai Patel Institute. The press conference was attended by 12 representatives from print and electronic media. Among the prominent ones were Capital Kranti Daily, DNA Newspaper, Western Times, Mid-day, V TV News, Gujarat Samachar, DD News, City Line, Doordarshan Kendra, GS TV.



Press Conference at CPIBA, Ahmedabad

Media also participated and covered all other activities, including the two panel discussions. The Sabarmati River International Film festival was covered widely by newspapers and social media sites.

## 5.0 FESTIVAL IMPACT

### Films and Interactive Sessions

- Highlighted environmental problems, local and global concerns through film screenings and Interactive sessions.
- Created awareness & understanding of the natural world among youngsters through film screenings, competitions, nature trail and the panel discussions.

### Awards and Felicitations

- Honoured individuals from Gujarat for their remarkable contribution in water conservation by felicitating them as Green Ambassadors during the Inaugural Ceremony.
- Inspired students to engage on various environment issues, including marine and coastal biodiversity in various competitions, quiz and games.

### Knowledge Sharing

- Created a space and a network of civil society to discuss issues concerning river Sabarmati and on coastal & marine biodiversity conservation. This network includes experts, academicians, civil society, media, government officials, students, youth and general public.
- Created a network of local experts, institutions, organisations and media for future collaborative programmes.
- In addition, the wide range of media coverage on the festival and issues raised, also put these issues to forefront.

Annexure 1: MEDIA COVERAGE

MEDIA COVERAGE

Divya Bhaskar - October 20, 2016



Gujarat Samachar – October 20, 2016



Times of India – October 20, 2016



Divya Bhaskar – October 21, 2016



Gujarat Samachar – October 21, 2016



Divya Bhaskar – October 22, 2016





TRAVELLING

**MEDIA COVERAGE**

**Divya Bhaskar – October 23, 2016**

**‘કોસ્ટલ એન્ડ મારિન બાયોડાયવર્સિટી ઈસ્ચુઝ’ વિષય પર પેનલિસ્ટે કહ્યું સિંધુનું વહેણ કચ્છના રણ તરફ વળતા 1500 ચો.કિમી ઘાસના મેદાનો બન્યા**

સિટી સિમેટર @ahm\_cb

**સાબરમતી રીવર ફેસ્ટિવલ પેનલ ડિસ્કશન ચોખ્ખા**

અમદાવાદના સુકુર એરેન્જની આયોજનાર રેકાર્ડો થાનાના કારણે પાકિસ્તાનની અલ્લી સિંધુ નદીનો કેટલો પ્રવાહ ઊભા 16 વર્ષથી કચ્છના રણ તરફ વળ્યો છે. જેના કારણે રણના મેદાનો ખાલવાથી વિશાક્રેટ સુધીમાં ઘાસના મેદાનોમાં પર્યાય છે. આ મેદાનો 7,500 ચોરસ કિલોમીટરમાં ફેલાયે છે. જે સ્પોરોબુસ એરોબિસ તરીકે ઓળખાય છે. જેથી ત્યાં પશુઓ અને કાષિયાર અને નિશાચ જેવા પ્રાણીઓ પણ જોવા મળી રહ્યા છે. આપણા માટે આ સારી વાત છે જ્યારે થીજી તરફ પોરબંદર મુનિસિપલ કોર્પોરેશન દ્વારા ગેઝેટિંગ કરીને રીને મેડુના જંગલોમાં આવી વિસ્તારમાં કાટમાળ ઉભા કરાઈ રહ્યો છે. ખાડીમાં જ વેરના જંગલો વધારે છે. જો આ ચાલુ જ રહેશે તો વેરને મોટા પ્રમાણમાં નુકસાન થશે. જેના માટે ગવર્નમેન્ટ અને મુનિસિપલ જવાબદાર છે. આ રાજ્યો છે ગુજરાત મુનિસિપલ કોર્પોરેશન બેન્ચ ઈન્ડરનેશનલ ફેસ્ટિવલમાં ‘કોસ્ટલ એન્ડ મારિન બાયોડાયવર્સિટી ઈસ્ચુઝ ઈન ગુજરાત’ વિષય પર પેનલિસ્ટ તરીકે આ વાત કહી હતી. વિષયમાં પટેલ ઈન્સ્ટિટ્યુટમાં ચોખ્ખા આ પ્રોગ્રામમાં પેનલિસ્ટ તરીકે ઉદ્દય વોરા, અખિલ મેદાની, બલદેશ, દિવાલ પરાશકમ પણ જોવાયા હતા. જેમણે મહત્વની વાતો ગોર કરી હતી.

પેનલમાં સામેલ પેનલિસ્ટોમાં બે લાખ કરોડમાંથી આગે છે પરંતુ આપણે ત્યાં જાણની જગ્યાએ બેલાઈ કરવાની જરૂર છે. સાબર-બુચા ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રી એરિયાનું ઈથિલ પાણી સ્વચ્છતા રીવાજો ઠરાવવાથી પ્રાણી જીવિતો પણ સુરક્ષિત થઈ શકે છે. જે માટે પબ્લિક સેક્ટર વડે તૈયારી કરવી.

● ઉદય વોરા, જીઓલોજીકલ સોસાયટી, વાલસાડ

● અખિલ મેદાની, કોસ્ટલ એરિસ્ટ, ગુલામીસ

**DNA – October 23, 2016**

**Marine & coastal species need to be conserved**

**Going the extra mile for marine life**

**Several eminent environmentalists gathered in the city to discuss marine bio-diversity**

**Ahmedabad:** Renowned environmental scholars came together on Saturday to discuss issues of deteriorating coastal and marine biodiversity in Gujarat at Chairman's Panel Institute of Business Administration.

As part of the Sabarmati River International Festival, a panel discussion was organized by non-profit firm - CMS Vatavaran and GIZ - which work towards environmental solutions.

Saltinity of land and how to preserve and convert it into grassland was discussed in depth. Dr Bharat Jetliya, a professional of Green Support Service said, "There was a really high salinity in the land near coastal belt of Gujarat, rich in flora and fauna. In a 2005 project, after proper treatment and cultivation, we were able to develop it into grassland."

Like Jetliya, there were several other environmentalists from ISRO and official from Forests and Wildlife department. All panelists spoke on issues like conservation and management of coastal resources, salinity, cutting of mangroves tree for fuel and cattle grazing and more.

Panelists and attendees also delved into several heated discussions over the best means of raising awareness among people about the coastal biodiversity.

"Such a discussion is great for the sake of discussion, but what can the lay person do to contribute towards marine biodiversity and sustainability?" asked Anur Shuk, a student of Gujarat University.

"There are more than 10,000 species in coastal and marine ecosystems. In India, there are coastal and marine protected areas (CM PAs). Awareness and incentives are needed to conserve these," said Uday Vora, Conservator of Forests, Wildlife at Gandhinagar.

Change in the use of land and urbanization, which has become a major concern, was also discussed. "There are various acts that protect the ecosystems in the coastal area but they are not enough," said Rohan Thakkar, senior research fellow at Oceanography division, ISRO.

**For awareness**  
 Panelists and attendees also discussed possible means of raising awareness among people about the coastal biodiversity.

**A major concern** discussed was the change in the use of land, urbanisation.

**Divya Bhaskar – October 24, 2016**

**કેદાર ચંદ્રેકરે થોળ વિશે માહિતી આપતા કહ્યું ‘વર્ષ દરમિયાન 150 પ્રકારના પક્ષીઓ થોળમાં આવે છે’**

વિદ્યાર્થીઓ માટે ‘નો ચોર થોળ લેક’ વિઝિટ યોજાઈ

● આ વિઝિટ માં વિનયભાઈ પટેલ, ઈન્સ્ટિટ્યુટ ઓફ ઈન્વિરોનમેન્ટલ સ્ટડીઝના આગેવાનો હાજર રહ્યા હતા.

સિટી સિમેટર @ahm\_cb

અમદાવાદ શહેરની થોડે જ દુર આવેલા થોળ લેક શહેરના લોકો માટે એક સૌન્દર્યની એટીયા જેવું છે. થોળ માટે આજની નવી જનરેશનમાં આવેલો આથો તે ઉદ્દેશ્યથી સાબરમતી રીવર ઈન્ડરનેશનલ ફેસ્ટિવલ અંતર્ગત ‘નો ચોર થોળ લેક’ નામના ફિલ્મ વિઝિટ કામ્પેનનું આયોજન કરાયું હતું. જેમાં વિનયભાઈ પટેલ ઈન્સ્ટિટ્યુટના 30 વિદ્યાર્થીઓ આગેવાનો હતા. આ વિઝિટમાં પ્રોફેસર આંકિતર કેદાર ચંદ્રેકરે વિદ્યાર્થીઓને થોળ વિશે થોળમાં 150 પ્રકારના પક્ષીઓ વર્ષ દરમિયાન આવારથી આવે છે. જેમાં અભ્યાસની સિદ્ધાંતમાં આડેખાંડવા, અનામિલ, વ્હાઈટ ઈન્ડિયન બુલબુલ, ઈન્ડિયન વોગેર જેવા પક્ષીઓ અહીં છે. થોળ લેક પક્ષીઓ અને માછલાંના બેનિફિટ માટે બનાવવાયું છે. ઈન્ડિયનથી આજુ-બાજુની ખેતીલાયક જમીનને થયેલો કાપડો થયો છે. અમદાવાદીઓને પણ આ થોળ લેકને સાચવવું જોઈએ. અહીંના પક્ષીઓને જાણવા જોઈએ. જો દોડ પક્ષીઓ ત્રણે વખતે રસ લખવતું થોળ તો અહીં ઓછી યતી કે વખતી પક્ષીઓની તવી જાત વિરો પણ કોરેસ્ટ આ ઉપરાંત અહીંના વિસ્તારને પ્રદુષણમુક્ત તેમજ ક્લિન રાખવો એ સિટિઝન તરીકે આપણી મોટી જવાબદારી છે.

**October 24, 2016**

**થોળ સરોવર બાયોડાયવર્સિટીનું ઉત્તમ ઉદાહરણ ગણાવી શકાય**

● નો ચોર થોળ લેક અમદાવાદમાં સાબરમતી રીવર ઈન્ડરનેશનલ ફેસ્ટિવલનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેના અંતર્ગત વિઝિટ (ફિલ્મ વિઝિટ) અને સાબરમતી રીવર ઈન્સ્ટિટ્યુટ અને અખિલ મેદાની દ્વારા આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. ફેસ્ટિવલના અંતર્ગત ‘નો ચોર થોળ લેક’ વિઝિટ કામ્પેનનું આયોજન કરાયું હતું. આ વિઝિટમાં પ્રોફેસર આંકિતર કેદાર ચંદ્રેકરે વિદ્યાર્થીઓને થોળ વિશે થોળમાં 150 પ્રકારના પક્ષીઓ વર્ષ દરમિયાન આવારથી આવે છે. જેમાં અભ્યાસની સિદ્ધાંતમાં આડેખાંડવા, અનામિલ, વ્હાઈટ ઈન્ડિયન બુલબુલ, ઈન્ડિયન વોગેર જેવા પક્ષીઓ અહીં છે. થોળ લેક પક્ષીઓ અને માછલાંના બેનિફિટ માટે બનાવવાયું છે. ઈન્ડિયનથી આજુ-બાજુની ખેતીલાયક જમીનને થયેલો કાપડો થયો છે. અમદાવાદીઓને પણ આ થોળ લેકને સાચવવું જોઈએ. અહીંના પક્ષીઓને જાણવા જોઈએ. જો દોડ પક્ષીઓ ત્રણે વખતે રસ લખવતું થોળ તો અહીં ઓછી યતી કે વખતી પક્ષીઓની તવી જાત વિરો પણ કોરેસ્ટ આ ઉપરાંત અહીંના વિસ્તારને પ્રદુષણમુક્ત તેમજ ક્લિન રાખવો એ સિટિઝન તરીકે આપણી મોટી જવાબદારી છે.

The festival had 10 print media coverages and the festival’s inaugural ceremony was also covered by DD Girnar.



TRAVELLING

Annexure 2: COLLATERALS

