

CMS VATAVARAN to participate in 1st International Forum of Environmental Film Festivals in Serra da Estrela at Portugal

New Delhi, October 9th, 2018: CMS VATAVARAN – India's only International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum, an initiative of Centre for Media Studies (CMS) will be participating at the 24th CineEco – the International Environmental Film Festival of Serra da Estrela to be held in Seia, Portugal, from October 13 – 15, 2018.

The key highlight of the festival will be the first International Forum of Environmental Film Festivals where more than 40 personalities including 36 film festival directors from 30 different countries will discuss the importance of film and festivals on environmental issues and the significance of audio-visual platforms that stimulate social and sustainability changes.

Along with the festivals directors' representative from organizations such as the United Nations, World Bank, UNESCO, National Geographic, and indigenous community will also participate in the first of its kind Forum.

"We are delighted to be a part of this 1st International Forum of Environmental Film Festivals in Portugal. In the current global scenario these forums are more important than ever. The presence of international speakers and festival directors from around the globe will certainly help the forum to come up with a world view on environmental and sustainability issues focused on cinema, communication and art." P N Vasanti, DG, CMS.

The Forum will be inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on Saturday, October 13th 2018 at 09:30 am. President of Seia City Hall Carlos Filipe Camelo, President of the Central Portugal Tourism Board Pedro Machado, President of GFN Gaetano Capizzi and the Director of CineEco, Mário Branquinho will also grace the occasion by their presence.

CMS Vatavaran is aimed at sensitising people about their rich environmental heritage and the need to conserve it. It remains resolute to encourage environment films and forums resulting change in perception, practice and policy.

For further information, kindly contact: - **Sabyesachi Bharti** Festival Manager <u>www.cmsvatavaran.org</u> Saket Community Centre, New Delhi- 110 017, INDIA Cell: 91-8826689218/9818367459 For all Festival related query or information, please write to: <u>info@cmsvatavaran.org</u>