



Hyderabad CMS Vatavaran 2006
Environment and Wildlife Traveling Film Festival
7 – 9 December 2006, Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium, Hyderabad



Film Screenings

Many Faces of Madness, English, 19', Amar Kanwar

Summary: The film with its images of contemporary ecological destruction in India brings people face to face with the intensity and impact of globalization and industrialization, of commerce and greed, as it travels through images from different parts of India, revealing glimpses of traditional water harvesting systems, mining, chemical pollution, community forest protection, displacement, deforestation, biopiracy and ecosystems. In the present context of globalisation, many groups and individuals have used this film across audiences in schools, colleges and NGO's. It is also being used by groups to confront, initiate dialogue and sensitize representatives of governments, industry and those responsible for environmental destruction.

About The Director: Amar Kanwar is an independent documentary filmmaker working from New Delhi, India, for last twelve years. His documentaries have been widely screened and broadcast. His film 'King of Dream' was awarded the Juries award at Film South Asia 2001-Katmandu Documentary film festival. As earlier work - 'A Season Outside' was awarded the Golden Gate Award at the 1999, San Francisco, International Film Festival, the Golden Conch at the Mumbai International Film Festival and the Golden Orange at the 36th Antalya International Documentary Film Festival 1999. He is also a recipient of the Mac-Arthur Fellowship for 1998-2000 from the Mac-Arthur Foundation.

A Second Hand Life, Hindi and English (with subtitles), 26', Nutan Manmohan

Summary: This investigative film brings to light the grim, murkier side of information technology. Tonnes of electronic waste from obsolete computers and televisions are being exported to poor countries like India from the Western world. More than 1.38 million obsolete PCs have been dumped in India in the last five years. Asif, the film's central character, is a worker in the e-waste recycling business. His life reveals how this huge global e-waste business is engulfing us and shows how dangerous are the working conditions in these recycling ghettos. We see how blue chip MNC's sell e-waste as second hand computers to Indian traders and how unscrupulous agents import dangerous waste under the guise of 'charitable donations'. We get a peep into the sweat shops where thousands of labourers, including children, burn, smash and tear apart electronic waste to scavenge for heavy metals such as copper and iron, precious metal such as gold and platinum. The methods of disposal are rudimentary. It results in heavy metal poison affecting the entire food-chain.

Director: Nutan Manmohan began as an investigative journalist with TV Today in 1987. She scripted and directed several programmes for television, which includes a children's serial 'Zara Hat Ke'. She is a freelance journalist producing content for Discovery, National Geographic Channel, FOX News and the International Herald Tribune Television etc. Her film 'The last Flight' won the Oriental Bird Conservation's - Wild Wing Award (UK).

Spunky Monkey, English, 38', Romulus Earl Whitaker

Summary: This film documents the behaviour and adaptability of one of India's most charming primates-the bonnet macaque. From an educational and conservation standpoint, this film will enable people to see how some wild animals can and do adapt to changing environments, even an urban situation!

Director: Romulus Earl Whitaker was born in New York City on 23rd May 1943 and is Naturalized Indian. Schooling from Kodaikanal School, South India in the year 1960, has studied Wildlife Management from University of Wyoming in USA in 1962 and further he completed his Bachelors in Wildlife Management from Pacific Western University in the year 1986. He has directed many Documentaries on Wildlife. He also has received many awards for his commitment for saving the wildlife.

A Brush with Death, English, 16', Syed Fayaz

Summary: The common mongoose is a fairly widespread species and placed fairly low in the hierarchy of protected animals in India and is listed under schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act. It has always been considered a friend of the farmer. Though occasionally known to prey on poultry, it offsets such damage by hunting the farmer's enemies — rats, mice and snakes. The mongoose is not a creature of forests. It is found in the open lands, scrub forests and cultivated lands. It lives in the thickets, groves of trees and fields or in burrows in the ground. This film also documents illegal procurement and sale of mongoose hair on which thrives the paint brush-making industry. As a result of which the mongoose is brutally killed and is on the brink of being declared extinct. Yet it is placed fairly low in the hierarchy of protected animals in India being listed in the Schedule IV of the Wild Life Protection Act.



Director: Syed Fayaz, a British Chevening Scholar, is equipped with a master level programme in Broadcast Journalism from Thomson Foundation. He has worked with several news organisations and has been associated with various levels of production to make documentary films both for international channels like Channel 4, BBC, Discovery Europe and domestic channels.



Noise Pollution, Telugu, 15', Brahmanand Reddy and W.G Prasanna Reddy

Summary: Children think that they enjoy cacophonous sound, while they also resist noise if it disturbs their studies. It's a film about how noise is thought as enjoyment and work by some, while for others it is traumatic to experience it continuously. The film shows the need for zonation and avoidance of noise in residential areas. There is also a need to protest and seek stern action from authorities on the noise issue

Director: W G Prasanna Kumar is a social scientist by profession and takes keen interest in the matters of environmental awareness and environmental education. He is instrumental in conceiving and correcting the environmental message in the film. Brahmananda Reddy is a journalist by profession, having 10 years of professional experience in electronic and print media. He has done many films on health awareness.

Whose Forest, Telugu with English subtitles, 52', Shriprakash

Summary: This film looks at the implementation of participatory approaches to forest management in the state. And explores the ground reality.

Director: Shriprakash is an activist-filmmaker. His numerous documentary films captures the struggle for survival faced by the tribal communities of Jharkhand. His films have been screened and acclaimed at a number of international film festivals.

Mindless Mining - The Tragedy of Kudremukh, English, 12', Shekar Dattatri

Summary: In the Western Ghats of Karnataka, right in the heart of the Kudremukh National Park, a huge iron ore mining operation has been destroying the hills for over twenty years. Every year heavy monsoon rains wash the loose soil on the mined slopes into the Bhadra River, leading to erosion and siltation on a massive scale. Floods caused by this siltation and erosion leave a thick sludge of iron ore on the fields of farmers cultivating along the banks of the Bhadra, greatly reducing the fertility of the soil. While the hills have been stripped bare, a 100 metre deep valley has been filled to the brim with the tailings left over from iron ore extraction. This disastrous mining project is one of the worst examples of the rape of India's wild areas.

Director: Shekar Dattatri has been making wildlife and conservation films for over 20 years. His films have been aired on major channels worldwide and have received national and international acclaim. He has also contributed to several international productions as a wildlife cameraman. During the last few years he has worked closely with several conservation groups in the country to highlight pressing environmental problems through short video films. He was on the final Jury of Wildscreen, UK in 2004. Shekar was awarded the Rolex Award for Enterprise for his work in conservation filmmaking the same year.

The Jaws of Death, English, 18', Gautam Saikia

Summary: Plight of the wildlife of Kaziranga National Park who fell victims to the vehicular traffic on the 37NH during flood season

Director: Gautam Saikia has edited more than 25 fiction and non-fiction television serials and documentaries. He has made a film on Biodiversity, Wildlife, Environment and Nature.

Global Warning, English, 20', Ramesh Menon

Summary: Global Warning! Focuses on the dangers of climate change. This is one issue that is going to determine the future of mankind challenging the world and its people. The film underlines how countries like India whose economies are largely agricultural and heavily dependent on rainfall could be the worst affected. We need to work now to combat the effects of climate change. Tomorrow would be too late.

Producer: A unique developing-country institution, TERI is deeply committed to every aspect of sustainable development. From providing environment-friendly solutions to rural energy problems to helping shape the development of the Indian oil and gas sector; from tackling global climate change issues across many continents to enhancing forest conservation efforts among local communities;



from advancing solutions to growing urban transport and air pollution problems to promoting energy efficiency in the Indian industry, the emphasis has always been on finding innovative solutions to make the world a better place to live in.



Go 111, Telugu, 30', Prema Malini

Summary: The Go 111 that was drafted is leaving mis interpreted and hence misused and mismanayed by Govt. authorities as well as some investor. This it is leading to unrest and posing to be a environment at hazard.

Director: Prema Malini (directed script and voice) working since 3 years in TV 9. Started her career as reporter and is now the producer and director of 3 major programmes on TV 9. 1). Projaparshan 2). Spandinche Hrudayam. 3). Evaro okaru Epudo Apudu.

Point Calimere- Little Kingdom by the Coast, English, 25', Shekar Dattatri

Summary: Point Calimere is a unique sanctuary by the sea in Tamil Nadu, famous for its herds of blackbuck and flocks of flamingos. It is also known for its feral ponies, and an 18 sq.km. patch of dry evergreen forest full of medicinal plants. In 2002 the swamps around Point Calimere were declared a Ramsar Site, a designation given to wetlands of international significance. Over a hundred species of migratory water birds visit these swamps in winter, but over the years their populations have been declining. Point Calimere – Little Kingdom by the Coast offers a glimpse into this remarkable ecosystem and the problems that confront it.

Director: Shekar Dattatri has been making wildlife and conservation films for over 20 years. His films have been aired on major channels worldwide and have received national and international acclaim. He has also contributed to several international productions as a wildlife cameraman. During the last few years he has worked closely with several conservation groups in the country to highlight pressing environmental problems through short video films. He was on the final Jury of Wildscreen, UK in 2004. Shekar was awarded the Rolex Award for Enterprise for his work in conservation filmmaking the same year

Cute Bunny, (Non-verbal), 3' Dhimant Vyas

Summary: The film is about basic civic sense and responsibility. The character is Cute Bunny eats a banana and throws the peel to the road even though he sees a litterbin. Only after Cute Bunny himself falls down after stepping on it does Cute Bunny realize the mistake and corrects it by using the litterbin.

Director: Dhimant Vyas is the head of Developments (Animation) Toonz Animation India. Cute Bunny won him Gold Award for Children short film in the Kalamazoo Animation Film Festival, 2003 and Award for best Animated film for children in the Zevs Animation Film Festival-Bimini, Latvia 2003.

The Policing Langur, English, 30', Ajay & Vijay Bedi

Summary: In India, monkeys freely wander through cities, towns and villages. But in India's capital, Delhi, a considerable population of destructive macaque monkeys plagues the city threatening people, raiding houses, schools, offices, hospitals and even airports. Paradoxically the only remedy that has been found in dealing with the monkey menace is to engage the services of bigger, powerful langur- "Policing Langur". This film captures the colorful vista of man-monkey relationship in India that stretches from mythology to the modern and makes for a captivating tale of veneration, tolerance and co-existence.

Director: Ajay and Vijay Bedi after graduation in Commerce did a Diploma course in Camera, Lighting and Computer Aided Movie making. They also attended the short Wildlife/ Environment TV Programme Production Course at Media Works, Bristol. Their works include a film on Wild Asses 'Rider of the Storm and First Out of Africa' - about the Ongis Tribals of the Andaman Islands, 'Do's and Don'ts' for visitors to a National Park.

Water Conservation, Telugu, 16', Brahamanand Reddy and W.G, Prasanna Reddy

Summary: This short film on water conservation talks about human tendency of wasting water when available in plenty giving an example of a family. It shows various chores where water is wasted at home and how children with their small concern the films dwells on mall actions by children that go a long way in demonstrating how water can be conserved like turning off the taps.



Director: W G Prasanna Kumar is a social scientist by profession and takes keen interest in the matters of environmental awareness and environmental education. He is instrumental in conceiving and correcting the environmental message in the film. Brahmananda Reddy is a journalist by profession, having 10 years of professional experience in electronic and print media. He has done many films on health awareness.



Spandan, Hindi, 75", Vinay Rai and Meenakshi Rai

Summary: The subject focus of this animation film is 'Don't pollute rivers'.

Director: Vinay Rai & Meenakshi Rai, Leoarts Communication

Birds Through My Window, English, 18', Rudransh Mathur

Summary: The month of May- the time just before the monsoons break in, is the month of nesting and a month in which all the birds suddenly came to life, for me. Making this film during my summer vacations opened my eyes to a whole new world of feathery creatures and I realized that just by being a little more observant and attentive to our surroundings, we can have so much company and fun. It was a thrilling experience to find that ours was not the only home in this compound. The film documents this experience of finding such homes, which were near my house, many of which I could see right through my window. My brother and I, we built many birds' trays and installed them all around our house. We put food on it every day and observed each and every bird that came and sat on it. We found many nests, and we also found out how difficult life is in the wild, how every thing is inter related- the birds, the animals and the seasons. There is a delicate web of life and we human beings should not disturb it.

Director: Rudransh Mathur is a Std.VIII student at Sanjeevan Vidyalaya, Panchgani. Being a computer buff, he is particularly interested in the technology end of film making. This new found passion has also made him a keen observer of his environment. He and his brother Devansh now dream of making a feature film with lots of fantasy and action.

River Taming Mantras, Hindi / English, 30', Sanjay Barnela and Vasant Saberwal

Summary: River Taming Mantras explores the technological, economic and political rationale that underlies the adoption of flood control measures. The film argues that because the rivers carry an enormous silt load, they have enormous power. Attempts to control these rivers are unlikely to succeed. On the other hand, the vast sums spent on the building and maintenance of these embankments provides endless opportunities for the siphoning of funds. Flood relief is a milk cow no one wants to see go dry. Ultimately, it is the poor people who suffer -migrating to other states, towns and cities in search of food and shelter.

Director: Sanjay Barnela and Vasant Saberwal are founder members of a Delhi-based production team Moving Images. Their films have been screened at various national and international film festivals and have won several awards. 'Hunting Down Water' won the award for Best Documentary at Festival du film de Strasbourg 2004, and was awarded Best Direction at the Festival du Cinema de Paris 2004. It also won the award for Best Editing at Miami International Short Film Festival 2004.

Shores of Silence - Whale Sharks in India, English, 24', Mike H Pandey

Summary: Shores Of Silence recipient of Green Oscar/Panda Awards at Wildscreen Festival Bristol, U.K., in the year 2000-01 questions the rationale behind the mindless slaughter of a special marine species already at stake because of its slow regeneration. The aim is to eventually help create policies to ban whale shark trade in India and find sustainable alternatives for the local fishing community. This is the first ever documentation of the massacre of whale sharks on the Indian coast.

Director: Mike H Pandey is an internationally renowned wildlife filmmaker and conservationist. Born in Kenya, Mike trained in UK and USA before returning to India to work in the country of his origin. Committed and dedicated to the protection of Indian wildlife and environment, Mike's films have always reflected his passion. In 1994 he won the Wild Screen Panda Award, better known as Green Oscars, for his film The Last Migration. Six years later his film Shores of Silence - Whale Sharks in India won him the Green Oscars for the second time.

In God's Own Country, English, 28', Nina Subramani and Rajni Mani

Summary: This is the story of Kasaragode, Kerala known as 'God's Own Country' and tells the story of a community that refuses to leave its ancestral home but instead stays to fight for it's basic right to pure air and water.



Director: Nina Subramani along with her partner Rajni makes independent films under the banner 'ELEPHANT CORRIDOR'. Their main focus is on the links between environment and human health. Her films have featured in festivals in both India and abroad.



Living With Giants, English, 50', Ashish Chandola

Summary: Relationship between man and elephant, the enormous challenges faced by both in coexisting, in a changing world and the efforts of project elephant in conserving this flagship species.

Director: Ashish Chandola is one of India's accomplished wildlife cameramen. He began his career under the late, legendary wildlife cameraman Dieter Plage in the late 1970s and since then has filmed leopards, wild dogs, rhinos, great Indian bustards, pheasant tailed jacanas, Kashmir stags and elephants in a range of challenging wilderness habitats from Sagarmatha National Park in the Mount Everest of Nepal to Dachigam in Kashmir. He has also shot footage for a number of International TV producers, besides producing a couple of wildlife films for the Government of India and State Forest Department.

People's Agenda for Biodiversity Mobile Festivals of the DDS, English, 26', P.V.Sateesh and Vijendra Patil

Summary: The film chronicles the journey of the Mobile Biodiversity Festival of the Deccan Development Society

Director: P. V. Sateesh, one of the founder members of DDS, is currently the General Secretary of the Society. He is an internationally renowned developmental communication specialist who has specialised on participatory methodologies.

Vijendra Patil has graduated in Software Techniques of educational Television Production, University of Pune. His special interests are in making natural history, ecology, conservation and wildlife films. Many of the films directed and filmed by him are 'The Changing Nature of a Wetland', 'Sacred Groves', 'Frog Aestivation', 'Monsoon Plants' etc have received national and international recognition.

Miles to Go, English, 58', Nina Subramani

Summary: This is the story of India's forgotten backyards, of people brushed under the carpet of indifference and apathy; a story of individuals fighting all odds for their basic rights – a story of a thousand revolutions in a thousand Bhopal.

Director: Nina Subramani along with her partner Rajni makes independent films under the banner 'ELEPHANT CORRIDOR'. Their main focus is on the links between environment and human health. Her films have featured in festivals in both India and abroad.

The Last Flight, English, 24', Nutan Manmohan

Summary: Vultures are dying. Almost 95 per cent of their population has been wiped out in the last ten years. For four years, the film covered every investigation, travelling to all parts of India, following the trail of the mystery deaths. The culprit was finally nailed. It was Diclofenac a veterinary drug. Diclofenac enters the vulture body as it consumes the carcass and causes death by kidney failure. This was a case of a species being wiped out by a pharmaceutical drug. The film starkly showed that vulture decline threatened the very existence of the rural farmer and made a strong case to phase out the drug.

Director: Nutan Manmohan began as an investigative journalist with TV Today in 1987. She scripted and directed several programmes for television, which includes a children's serial 'Zara Hat Ke'. She was the Vice President, News & Current Affairs, Star TV from 1996 to 2000 and was associated with more several Current Affairs programs. She was the India Bureau Chief for Focus Asia, Star World. She is now a freelance journalist producing content for Discovery, National Geographic Channel, FOX News and the International Herald Tribune Television etc. Her film 'The last Flight' won the Oriental Bird Conservation's - Wild Wing Award (UK).

Chasing Butterflies, English, 24', Gurmeet Sapal, Husain Akbar and Pervaiz Alam

Summary: The film is an introduction to the dazzling beauty of butterflies in the region of Doon valley at the foothills of Himalayas.

Director: Gurmeet Sapal has worked as a Director, Producer, Cameraperson and Reporter. He was the s a Producer of 'Namaste from London' for 'Newswallahs Ltd.', apart from working as a Reporter with Zee India Television for English News, Editor for DD Sports Channel, & 'Sports Classic'.

His 'Chasing Butterflies' is an award winning film of 'Vatavaran 2002' the First National Environment & Wildlife Film Festival.

Ozzy Ozone, English, 10', TVE/UNEP



Summary: In this animated video, Ozzy Ozone and Alberta the Albatross take a voyage of discovery to find out exactly who and what is attacking the ozone layer and how children can play an important role in making a difference.



Director: TVE, UNEP

Timeless Traveller - The Horseshoe Crab, English, 12', Gautam Pandey

Summary: The Horseshoe Crab is one of the most unique animals that the earth has ever witnessed. It emerged from the oceans 562 million years ago and has survived unchanged. If the situation is not carefully managed, the risk of adversely affecting the horseshoe crab population becomes a certainty. It has to be ensured that the crabs used in the making of valuable and life-saving medicines are handled with care and respect. A stable horseshoe crab population is vitally important not only to the biomedical community, but also to the survival of mankind

Director: Gautam Pandey is a young filmmaker who has Directed 'Kurumbas – Children of the Blue Mountains' which won the Mayor of Prague Award at IFAAF. Has done some animation work. Has also worked in Tehelka dot com as an Illustrator & Graphics Designer.

Cute Bunny, (Non-verbal), 3', Dhimant Vyas

Summary: The film is about basic civic sense and responsibility. The character is Cute Bunny eats a banana and throws the peel to the road even though he sees a litterbin. Only after Cute Bunny himself falls down after stepping on it does Cute Bunny realize the mistake and corrects it by using the litterbin.

Director: Dhimant Vyas is the head of Developments (Animation) Toonz Animation India. Cute Bunny won him Gold Award for Children short film in the Kalamazoo Animation Film Festival, 2003 and Award for best Animated film for children in the Zevs Animation Film Festival-Bimini, Latvia 2003.

Experiment With Truth, Hindi & English, 6', Amish Srivastava

Summary: The film focuses on pollution that forces us to confront ourselves and shakes our complacency. It mirrors life through a ruthless experiment conducted on an 18 month old child. But is the experiment so contrived? Is it really an experiment at all? The questions remain long after the last frame has dissolved into nothingness. What remains is the truth. Just as the director intended.

Director: Amish Srivastava, a television journalist who has done news journalism, television programming, documentaries and fiction during his nine years in the media. He has reported from the thick of Gulf war II, being the first Indian journalist to report from Turkey, Iraq and Kuwait.

Rain Water Harvesting (Non-verbal), 1', Nanditha Das and Saumya Sen

Summary: This public service advertisement is to promote rainwater harvesting as the lesson from the past, which provides us the solution for the future. The spot revolves around the concept of catching rain in a neighbourhood, creating a cascading effect.

Director: Saumya Sen & Nandita Das, Saumya was Creative Director at Ogilvy & Mather, New Delhi, India's second largest advertising agency, and a member of the worldwide WPP Group. Apart from winning acclaim at numerous Indian Advertising Award Shows, Saumya has to his credit two Silvers at the Asia Ad Fest, and finalist status at the One Show Awards in New York. The New York Festivals and the Clio Awards. His work on the Pulse Polio programme remains his favourite and most awarded. Saumya has recently set up an organization called LEAPFROG – a platform for creative artistes and communication professionals.

Fuel Adulteration, Telugu, 10', Brahamanand Reddy and W.G. Prasanna Reddy

Summary: Children can be always conscious and cautious. When any thing is suspicious they can keep a watch. they can not only find out more about some issues, but also help in addressing the issues. It is a short film on clandestine fuel adulteration, telling how people for the sake of making small financial gains involve themselves in adulterating high cost fuels with low cost fuels. Petrol/diesel is adulterated with kerosene for running the vehicles and this becomes a major health risk on the roads. The citizens, especially children, can play an important role in preventing the fuel adulteration problem says the film



Director: W G Prasanna Kumar is a social scientist by profession and takes keen interest in the matters of environmental awareness and environmental education. He is instrumental in conceiving and correcting the environmental message in the film. Brahmananda Reddy is a journalist by profession, having 10 years of professional experience in electronic and print media. He has done many films on health awareness.



Victims of Garbage Dump, Hindi (English subtitles), 10', Plan India

Summary: Through Rabia, an eight year old girl from the Bhalaswar slum of Delhi, the story focuses on the cycle of poverty, illness and deprivation that mars a population that makes a living out of sorting garbage at Delhi's largest garbage dump. Barefoot the children who search for things they can sell like iron, glass, plastic, rubber, copper, packaged food face a lot of health hazard. They are often cut and bruised by sharp pieces of broken glass, or hospital waste. They eat the packaged food thrown away by homes and companies. Most of the people in this slum suffer from various kinds of illness from TB to gastroenteritis, skin diseases or cholera. Apart from this life on the garbage dump is dangerous for children since they are often run over by the trucks and get injured. It depicts the life of people in this garbage dump slum area.

Leaving No Trace...Cyclists in the City, English / Hindi, 15', Prayas and Manjushree Abhinav

Summary: We should all switch to riding bicycle this is the mantra of the film. Seen through the eyes the septuagenarian Gandhian Dasharath Shah, the film emphasizes the advantage of using cycles to commute with in the city instead of the poison spewing motor vehicles. Making a fashion statement, both college student and officer goes in cities are gradually waking up to the beauty of this "2-wheeler" ride. Bicycling is the most healthy and safe mode of transport, provided the road rules are adhered to and is also being adopted by the army at AFMC, Pune.

Director: Prayas and Manjushree Abhinav

Bitter Drink, Malyalam (English subtitles) 24', P.Baburaj

Summary: For the past one year, Plachimada village, located in Palakkad, of Kerala, India has been in the thick of controversy. People from about 1,000 households, including several women belonging to Eravalar and Malasar tribal communities, have been holding demonstrations and staging sit-ins in front of the Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages factory complex. The film chronicles the struggle of the most marginalised section of the Indian Society, the Tribal Community, it also discusses, the issue of the ownership of natural resources mainly water.

Director: P Baburaj has been associated since 1982 with Alternative Communications Forum (ALCOM), a filmmakers' collective involved in producing videos and films on various issues. His film 'Chaliyar-The Final Struggle' co-directed with C Saratchandran, received a Special Mention in the MIFF 2000 and a Bronze Tree Award in Vatavaran 2002. He started video documentation of environmental struggles, campaigns, and actions from 1982. Other documentaries include 'Kanavu' (Dream).

Healing The Coast, English, 28', Nina Subramani

Summary: Healing the Coast is a journey that explores the environmental restoration along Tamil Nadu's coastline in the post-tsunami context. Many groups have been working doggedly for decades – trying to protect and conserve coastal eco-systems; it was only after the tsunami of 2004 that their work gathered momentum and importance. The film looks at the re-plantation of coastal forests in Auroville, the restoration of fields in Nagapattinam and the slow healing of people in Nagapattinam. The film ends with an ode to the beauty of mangroves and their importance in our ecosystem.

Director: Nina Subramani along with her partner Rajni makes independent films under the banner 'ELEPHANT CORRIDOR'. Their main focus is on the links between environment and human health. Her films have featured in festivals in both India and abroad.

Lions of Gir, English, 52', Niret Alva and Nikhil Alva

Summary: The film also showcases the intricate ecosystem of Gir and the drama that is played out as seasons change and the cycle of life unfolds.

Directors: Niret Alva is the series director and anchor for the Panda Award winning environment show Living on the Edge, The Great Escape and the Asian Television Award winning automotive show Wheels. He is also the Series Director of Hospital, India's first reality show that looks at life as it unfolds in one of India's largest hospitals. Niret is also Series Director of Commando a reality show



that follows the making of the Indian Commando. Recently, In 2002, he won the award for ‘Best Current Affairs or Infotainment Presenter’ at the Asian Television Awards, Singapore.



Nikhil J Alva has directed and scripted *The Lions of Gir* a 52 minute film on the last surviving Asiatic lions in the forests of Gir. He also directed India’s first adventure reality game show *R.A.A.A.H.* Recently, Nikhil executive produced ‘*The Great Descent*’, a 52 minutes film on an international white water expedition down the Brahmaputra River. In 2002, Nikhil won a commission from NGC-EDB under the ‘Reel Talent’ category to produce *Operation Hot Pursuit*, a half hour film that traces the illegal trade in ivory across Asia.

Lakes - Protecting & Preserving a Rich Natural Resource, English, 9' 12", Hyderabad Urban Development Authority (HUDA)

Summary: The objective of the film was to showcase the various proactive initiatives undertaken by HUDA in the state of Andhra Pradesh as a part of the ‘Clean and Green Environment’ Programme. The film highlights the problems created by unplanned urbanization and how it has affected the environment adversely. This film opens up with idyllic setting - children playing, enjoying nature’s bounty complete with all the elements that make up paradise in this concrete jungle. This intro is kind of flashback – a scene from the past, of the rich heritage that was once ours, but is no more so.

Director: ‘The HUDA- LAKES MISSION’ film has been produced by DC INTERACTIVE (P) LTD., an associate of the Hyderabad based Deccan Chronicle Group. The company is a fully equipped multimedia and internet solutions provider with clients in Hyderabad (AP/India), UAE, Australia and the USA. The documentary has been directed by Vijay Marur, the CEO, a communications professional with over 25 years of film making experience. Neela Sarvotham has written the script.

The Tidal Life of Krishna, English, 18', D.N. Reddy

Summary: The film, ‘The Tidal Life of Krishna’ endeavors to bring out the importance of conserving the highly endangered and threatened mangrove forest Eco-system. This film also highlights how the mangroves form nurseries and breeding ground for large number of fish and prawn species. The film brings out the role played by mangroves forests in sheltering the villages and human settlements along the coasts from the fury of nature like Cyclones, Tornadoes. It appeals to the people to join hands in protecting and preserving this highly fragile Eco-system which if destroyed can never be brought back.

Director: Mr D.N. Reddy has been involved in documentary film making for quite sometimes now. He also conducted workshops and training programs on Photography and filmmaking.

Indian Leopards - The Killing Fields, English, 53', Praveen Singh

Summary: In a beauty pageant of the animal world, the leopard would find a spot right at the top. Its fiendish cunning is the stuff of legend. Feared and admired, the leopard leaves no one untouched. But a lack of knowledge about the life of this elusive cat adds to the threat of its survival. And many more people are regularly killed by leopards than by tigers. This film presents a family who lost a child, a scientist trying to understand the leopard and conservationists trying to balance between the need to conserve wildlife and the need to protect people.

Director: Praveen Singh has been working in wildlife related television programming. He had studied MFA in Science and Natural History Filmmaking at Montana State University. He was the reporter of Panda Award winning series, ‘Living on The Edge’ and worked as a production co-ordinator for the reality wildlife series called, ‘Wild Things’. This is his first independent documentary. It was a finalist in two categories at IWFF, Missoula, 2004. Praveen won a ‘Student Emmy’ - the first prize in documentary category in the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation College TV Awards, USA. The film was a finalist at the Wild South Festival, New Zealand, 2005 in Best Newcomer category.

Life Goes on, English, 6', Suparna Gangal

Summary: ‘Life goes on...’ is a simple documentation of what goes on in broad daylight when it comes to disposing hazardous bio-medical waste. It depicts how indifferent Indian society is towards environmental issues. What comes through in this documentary is the shocking fact that even the citizens of an up-market urban locality in a progressive metro like Pune are totally oblivious to blatant negligence by a local hospital.

The narrative is centered on a rag-picker couple who have been picking trash from the local dustbin for years. They narrate how the hospital authorities dump bio-medical waste day in and day out. There is no municipal corporation or police authority to check this clear violation of environmental laws. The rag pickers endure this hazard simply because they have no other means of survival but to scavenge the dirty dustbins. What is shocking is the matter-of-fact narrative of the rag picker woman about how she braves the danger of harming her own health and that of her husband’s. While they do so the life goes on for those living in favourable conditions.