



SPECIAL FILM SCREENINGS FOR JAIL INMATES AT CENTRAL JAIL AND DEFENCE PERSONNEL AT AGRA CANTONMENT

AGRA, MARCH 28, 2015: The third and final day of Agra CMS VATAVARAN had special film screenings at Central Jail and Agra Cantonment today. The films that were screened today at Central Jail were Jal Khet (Anjali Nayar), The Tiger, They're All Dead (Reema Sengupta) and Dammed (Kavita Bahl and Nandan Saxena). Jail inmates at the jail also interacted with the team of CMS VATAVARAN on the films that were screened. They also raised their concern on the various environmental issues that were depicted in these films.

Another film screening was held for defence personnel at the Agra Cantonment. Two films, Wild Scandinavia: The Adventure (Heiko De Groot) and Kosi: Injustice with Millions of Villagers and Revolt by Kosi River (Vishaal Nityanand). Major Manohar lauded the efforts that were done by CMS VATAVARAN in Agra. He said that the movement initiated by CMS is a unique effort to reach out to every cross section of the society. The film screening was attended by more than 100 jawans of various units of Para Brigade at the Army Auditorium.

The three day film festival, Agra CMS VATAVARAN was inaugurated at the J P Sabhagar, Dr B R Ambedkar University on March 26, 2015 by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the university, Professor Mohd. Muzammil. The film festival was organized in collaboration with the Department of Social Work, Institute of Social Sciences, Dr B R Ambedkar University. It showcased the best of green films in addition to cleaning drive and slogan writing competition on the theme of biodiversity over three days.

The main highlight of the Agra CMS VATAVARAN was the felicitation of Green Ambassador, Mr Ambar Vishal. He was awarded for his initiatives for promoting community-tourism, eco-friendly attitudes and practices among children and women, safe sanitation practices and waste re-use in UP.

The slogan writing competition that was held on March 27 had 36 participants in English and Hindi. The winners of the slogan writing competition in Hindi are Himanshu, Deeksha Agarwal and Mudita Sharma and in English are Shweta Anand and Garima Mishra.

Agra CMS VATAVARAN touched the chords of the people with a range of issues that were the depicted in more than 20 award winning and nominated films. The film screenings were attended by students of Queen Victoria Public School, various colleges, Dr B R Ambedkar University's Department of Social Work at the J P Sabhagar, Jubilee Hall (Paliwal Park Campus) and Queen Victoria Public School.

The CMS VATAVARAN also led a cleaning drive in the early hours on March 27, 2015 at the Shaheed Smarak, Sanjay Place. The students of Dr B R Ambedkar University participated in the activity. Mr Ambar Vishal was also present in the cleaning drive.

"I would like to thank all those who supported and participated in this unique festival that uses award winning films to create awareness about our nature and wildlife. We are successful in our mission if we are able to motivated any one person to take action to conserve and protect your beautiful, rich and yet fragile ecosystems." said Ms P N Vasanti, Director General CMS.

Agra CMS VATAVARAN was organised with active support from our partners. ICICI Bank is the India Principal Partner and has been supporting CMS VATAVARAN for organizing its 6th traveling edition in 5 cities across India in 2014 - 15 i.e. Puducherry, Amritsar, Raipur, Gangtok Agra. The festival was organized in collaboration with the Department of



Social Work, Institute of Social Institute, Dr B R Ambedkar University. Moon TV supported us during this film festival along with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Queen Victoria Public School, Agra Cantonment and Central Jail were our Environment Education Partners.

ABOUT CMS VATAVARAN : Initiated in the year 2002 by CMS, 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 traveling film festivals and environment forum has positioned it as one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe. Till date 39 festivals have been organised in 30 cities of India. The travelling festivals are organised in state capitals and other important towns and cities. www.cmsvatavaran.org

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