



## INAUGURAL CEREMONY

**G. N. Bhawan Auditorium, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar**

**November 3, 2014 Monday**

Inaugural Ceremony of Amritsar CMS VATAVARAN International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum was held at Guru Nanak Bhawan Auditorium, Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar. The event commenced with a vibrant Inaugural Ceremony. Ceremony began with the brief introduction about the Amritsar CMS VATAVARAN International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum given by Mr. Sundeeep C Srivastav, Head Coordination – CMS VATAVARAN. Dr. Adarsh Pal Vig, Assistant Professor, Department of



**Chief Guest Shri Anil Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Medical Education and Research, Punjab is lighting the ceremonial lamp along with other dignitaries**



**Felicitation of Chief Guest Shri Anil Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Medical Education and Research, Punjab**



**Chief Guest Shri Anil Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Medical Education and Research, Punjab addressing the gathering at Inaugural Ceremony**



**Guest of Honour Shri Bakshi Ram Arora, Hon'ble Mayor of Amritsar addressing the gathering at Inaugural Ceremony**

Botanical and Environmental Sciences (DoBES), GNDU anchored the ceremony by inviting the Chief Guest Shri Anil Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Medical Education & Research, Punjab; Guest of Honour, Shri Bakshi Ram Arora, Mayor of Amritsar, Special Invitee, Dr. Satnam Singh Ladhar, Additional Director- Environment, Punjab State Council for Science and Technology, Chandigarh, Dr. Sharanjit Singh, Registrar, Dr. Satwinderjeet Kaur, Head, DoBES, GNDU, on the stage. Dr. N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman, CMS, New Delhi gave away the welcome address.

The ceremony was presided by Dr. Sharanjit Singh, Registrar, GNDU and Dr. Satwinderjeet Kaur, Head, DoBES, GNDU, gave the vote of thanks.

In the next chain of events, Ganesh Vandana was organized by students of G.D. Goenka School, which was followed by lightning of the lamp by dignitaries.



**Ganesh Vandana by G. D Goenka Public School**

While addressing the gathering Dr. N. Bhaskara Rao revealed that Amritsar CMS VATAVARAN International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum in Amritsar from November 03 – 05, 2014 is the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the much revered and internationally acclaimed festival. In this festival, 22 award winning best green films were screened in 10 locations of Amritsar including university, colleges, schools, Jail, and NGOs. In addition to this, other activities including a green filmmaking workshop, panel discussion, open forum on biodiversity theme were organized in collaboration with Department of Botanical & Environmental Sciences, GNDU Amritsar. The main aim of the Amritsar CMS VATAVARAN was to make environment a global agenda for common people of Amritsar through films. Dr. Rao also talked about irreversible climate change as reported in the 5<sup>th</sup> report of IPCC. He also introduced Green Ambassador award in which local people were awarded for their selfless work on environment and related issues.



**Welcome address by Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman,  
 CMS New Delhi during Inaugural Ceremony**



**Special Invitee Dr S S Ladhar, Additional  
 Director - Environment, PSCST, Chandigarh  
 addressing the gathering at Inaugural  
 Ceremony**

Guest of Honour, Mayor Amritsar, Shri Bakshi Ram Arora, congratulated CMS VATAVARAN and GNDU for organizing the festival. He talked about the serious issues related to climate change due to clearing of forests. Dr. Satnam Singh Ladhar, Additional Director- Environment, PSCST, Chandigarh talked about five burning global issues i.e. food security, water security, ecosystem maintainence, energy security and climate security. He also talked about the sudden changes in climate from last many years. He quoted example of floods in Uttrakhand and Jammu & Kashmir. He asked for participation of local level people to work in unity for the welfare of environment.



**Dr Adarsh Pal Vig, Associate Professor, DoBES,  
 GNDU anchoring the Inaugural Ceremony**



**Dr Sharanjit Singh, Registrar, GNDU presiding  
 over the Inaugural Ceremony**

Two people were awarded with green ambassador awards for their work in environment field. One of the ambassadors awarded was gave away to Shri Swaran Singh, a farmer who selflessly works on organic farming, while the other was Ms Manisha Thakur, a Government school teacher who prepared a vermi-compositing unit for solid waste management.



**Felicitatation of Green Ambassador Shri Swaran Singh**

Shri Anil Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Medical Education and Research, Punjab, talked about climate change and clearing of forests. He said that forests play an important role in environment stability. He talked about the much renowned programme "Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan" initiated by Mr. Modi and expressed concern over the water security in Punjab. He urged the involvement of local people, school children and government to deal with these burning issues.

Next, Registrar, GNDU, Dr. Sharanjit Singh, spoke about green revolution and green farming in Punjab and also congratulated the whole organizing committee of CMS VATAVARAN.

The final minutes of the ceremony saw the screening of the 25-minute film "Jalkhet", which tells how water crisis is affecting farmers. This film was made by Ms Anjali Nayar.



**Felicitatation of Green Ambassador Ms Manisha Thakur**



**August Gathering at Inaugural Ceremony**



**Spectators engrossed in witnessing the Inaugural Film JAL KHET**