



FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY FILM FESTIVAL AND FORUM IN RAIPUR

January 15 – 18, 2015 (Thursday - Sunday)

1 platform, 15 venues, 15 partners, 25 films, 5,000 participants

Raipur, Jan 14, 2015: The 6th edition of the much revered and globally acclaimed CMS VATAVARAN - International environment and wildlife film festival and forum, is being organized at Raipur from January 15, 2015.

“Raipur CMS VATAVARAN is a people’s festival on biodiversity to enhance understanding and appreciation about the natural world and its conservation through films and forums. We are enthused by the interest and support of government, civil society and educational institutes in Raipur for participating in this important forum.” says P N Vasanti, Director General, CMS.

This biodiversity film festival and forum will showcase best of green films in addition to a host of activities including a green filmmaking workshop, panel discussion, nature trail, open forums on biodiversity theme. The festival will be held across 15 venues with Universities, Colleges, Schools, Prison & Correctional Services, and NGOs being the prominent locations where the programmes will be held. The theme of the Raipur CMS VATAVARAN is mainstreaming biodiversity at different levels to promote living in harmony with nature.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

06:00 pm onwards, Thursday, January 15, 2015 at Circuit House, Raipur

The 04 day long festival is all set to open with a glittering inaugural ceremony at the Circuit House Campus, Raipur on January 15 evening. Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur, Shri Jaisingh Dhumal, Chief Manager, ICICI Bank, Shri Ram Prakash, IFS, PCCF – HoFF, Chhattisgarh State Forests Department, Shri Rakesh Chaturvedi, IFS, Director, Culture & Archaeology, Chhattisgarh, Professor M M Hambarde, Director General, Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology, Dr Sandeep Vansutre, Registrar, Dr Arvind Girokar, Principal, Govt D B Girls’ P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur will declare the film festival open. The main highlights of the first ever biodiversity film festival and forum in Raipur are:

- **Felicitation of Green Ambassadors:** Green Ambassadors of Chhattisgarh will be facilitated in the inaugural ceremony. Two Green Ambassadors from Chhattisgarh will be felicitated for their selfless services for creating and conserving environment in their respective areas.
- **Screening of inaugural film:** The film “Jalkhet”, a 25 minutes film by Anjali Nayyar will be shown as the opening film of the festival. The film brings into focus on the water crisis. And how this crisis is affecting the farmers. The film is also nominated in the Water for Life Category of CMS VATAVARAN 2013.

INDIAN AND INTERNATIONAL FILMS

It's going to be an eventful journey during the course of these fun filled four days that would take the people into the diverse geographical realms of our planet, through the lens of some of the finest environment and wildlife filmmakers. A total of 25 films will be screened across 15 venues during the festival i.e. 2 Universities, 1 College, 4 Schools, 1 Jail, and 2 NGOs and Police Academy.

VENUES:

- Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication | Pt Ravishankar Shukla University | Govt D B Girls’ PG (Autonomous) College | Rajkumar College | Gyan Ganga Educational Academy | Kaanger Valley Academy | J R Dani Govt Girls Higher Secondary School | Vivekanand Vidyapeeth | Chhattisgarh State Police Academy | Prison & Correctional Services | Grihini.



OTHER PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS!

- **January 15, 2015, Thursday:** Film screenings of national and internationally acclaimed films will be screened at Rajkumar College, Gyan Ganga Educational Academy, Kaanger Valley Academy and J R Dani Govt Girls Higher Secondary School from 09:00 am to 01:45 pm.
- **January 16, 2015, Friday:** Film screenings will be held at Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Pt Ravishankar Shukla University, Govt D B Girls' PG (Autonomous) College, Chhattisgarh State Police Academy, Rajkumar College, Gyan Ganga Educational Academy, Kaanger Valley Academy, J R Dani Govt Girls Higher Secondary School and Grihini from 09:00 am to 04:00 pm.
- **Panel Discussion on People and Forest of Chhattisgarh (Jan 16):** 03.00 - 05.00 pm at Conference Hall, Chhattisgarh State Forests Department, Arayan Bhawan, Medical College Road, Raipur.
- **January 17, 2015, Saturday: Green Filmmaking Workshop:** 08.30 am – 05:30 pm | Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication. Apart from this workshop film screenings will be held at Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Pt Ravishankar Shukla University, Govt D B Girls' PG (Autonomous) College, Rajkumar College, Gyan Ganga Educational Academy, Kaanger Valley Academy, J R Dani Govt Girls Higher Secondary School and Vivekanand Vidyapeeth.
- **January 18, 2015, Sunday: Nature Trail:** 08:00 am – 05:30 pm | 50 Delegates will be taken for a Nature Trail at Sirpur Archaeology Site, Raipur. Exclusive film screenings will be held at Prison and Correctional Services, Raipur for more than 1000 male and female Jail inmates from 11:00 am to 04:30 pm in 04 slots of 01 hour each.
- **January 19, 2015, Monday:** On the special request, **film screenings will be organized for male jail inmates** from 11:00 am to 04:30 pm in 04 slots of 01 hour each. Around another 1000 inmates will witness the screenings.

PARTNERS

Raipur CMS VATAVARAN is being organised with active support from our partners. **ICICI Bank** is the India Principal Partner and supporting CMS VATAVARAN for organizing its 6th traveling edition in 5 cities across India in 2014 i.e. Puducherry, Amritsar, Agra, Raipur and Gangtok. **Chhattisgarh Forest Department** is State Principal Partner, Department of Culture & Archaeology, Government of Chhattisgarh is State Theme Partner, Chhattisgarh State Council of Science and Technology is State Associate Partner, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication is the Knowledge Partner. The festival is supported by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi and Govt D B Girls' PG (Autonomous) College, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

The following organizations and academic institutes are supporting us as the Environmental Education Partners:

Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication | Pt Ravishankar Shukla University | Govt D B Girls' PG (Autonomous) College | Rajkumar College | Gyan Ganga Educational Academy | Kaanger Valley Academy | J R Dani Govt Girls Higher Secondary School | Vivekanand Vidyapeeth | Chhattisgarh State Police Academy | Prison & Correctional Services | Grihini.

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. It 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.cmsvatavarana.org

For more information, please contact:

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