



INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Main Conference Hall, Circuit House, Civil Lines, Raipur

January 15, 2015 Thursday

The Inaugural Ceremony of Raipur CMS VATAVARAN International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum was held at Main Conference Hall, Circuit House, Civil Lines, Raipur. The ceremony began with introduction about the Raipur CMS VATAVARAN by Ms Seema Bhatt, Independent Consultant - Climate Change, Conservation and Ecotourism. While introducing the Raipur CMS VATAVARAN she informed that Raipur CMS VATAVARAN



Ms Seema Bhatt, Independent Consultant - Climate Change, Conservation and Ecotourism, New Delhi



All the dignitaries alongwith Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, KTUJ&M, Raipur

scheduled from January 15 – 18, 2015 is part of the 6th travelling edition of the much revered and internationally acclaimed festival. He informed that in this festival, 24 award winning green films were being screened in 11 locations of Raipur including universities, college, schools, Jail, and NGOs. In addition to this he mentioned that other activities including a green filmmaking workshop, panel discussion, open forum on biodiversity theme and nature trail were being organized. The main aim of the Raipur CMS VATAVARAN was to make environment a global agenda for common people of Raipur through films.” She further said “This state boasts so much of its indigenous biodiversity and culture, I think, this perhaps is the best venue to have this festival.”

The ceremony was followed by lightning of the lamp by the Hon’ble Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur and all the dignitaries present.



Prof M M Hambarde, Director General, CGSCoS&T, Raipur



Dr Arvind Girolkar, Principal, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur

The eminent guests present during the ceremony were the Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur; Shri B N Diwedi, PCCF (Wildlife), Chhattisgarh State Forest Department; Shri Jaisingh Dhumal, Chief Manager, ICICI Bank, Mumbai; Prof M M Hambarde, Director General, Chhattisgarh State Council of Science Technology, Govt of Chhattisgarh; Dr Arvind Girolkar, Principal, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur. Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman, CMS, New Delhi gave the welcome address and Ms Shruti Sharma, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur, gave the vote of thanks.

In the welcome address Dr N Bhaskara Rao said "Our country has a natural ethos that very few countries have. We have in built customs, festivals which are good enough to take us forward to take of the environment and nature. But off-late with government taking more interest individual participation has gone down.



Dr N Bhaskar Rao, Addressing at Inaugural Ceremony

This is where CMS VATAVARAN comes into picture... In Raipur there are eminent people who are working on their own without depending upon government in terms of forestry, in terms of climate sensitive technologies, pollution in their own neighborhood, in their own society, in their schools. CMS VATAVARAN is India’s model of mass mobilization on issues like biodiversity and other environmental issues involving national policies and behavioural changes.” He also introduced Green Ambassador award in which local people were awarded for their selfless work on environment and related issues.



Shri B N Diwedi, PCCF (Wildlife), Raipur addressing the gathering



Prof M M Hambarde, Director General, CGSCoS&T, Raipur addressing the gathering

Shri B N Diwedi, PCCF (Wildlife), who represented Chhattisgarh State Forests Department as State Principal Partner said "Chhattisgarh is one of the finest states in terms of its biodiversity natural beauty and natural heritage. I would like you to encourage the filmmakers to expose the state before other states and rest of the world. About 50% of the total population is dependent directly or indirectly dependent on forests for their livelihoods."

Prof M M Hambarde, Director General, Chhattisgarh State Council of Science and Technology said "Science must be used only for the benefit of the people... This is an attempt to spread awareness on environmental issues. Things can only be materialized after spreading awareness. I also hope that the films not only show social awareness but also portray how science can help in tackling these environmental issues. Wastes should be recycled if possible and not only disposed... Think globally, act locally." Chhattisgarh State Council of Science and Technology is our State Associate Partner.



Shri Jai Singh Dhumal, Chief Manager, ICICI Bank, Mumbai addressing the gathering



Dr Arvind Girolkar, Principal, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur addressing the gathering

Shri Jaisingh Dhumal, Chief Manager, ICICI Bank, Mumbai said "Films make a great impact, if children are sensitized at this age to conserve resources, adopt cleaner practices and sustain our environment and ecology. Then that message is carried forward in whatever professions they remain in future.... If we do not sustain our environment, there is a huge amount of environmental risk associated with it. It is the time now that banks start assessing environmental risks also." ICICI Bank is our India Principal Partner.

Dr Arvind Girolkar, Principal, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, who was present at the ceremony said "I am very happy that somewhere people are talking about environmental issues.. We need to realize that we are directly linked with the environment and whatever we do affect the environment. Therefore it becomes our responsibility to conserve it." D B

Girls' P G (Autonomous) College has supported the festival as one of the important festival partner.

Three people were awarded with green ambassador awards for their remarkable contribution in the environment field:

1. Shri Lalit Kumar Singhania an environmentalist and Editor – Paryavaran Urjaa Times, Raipur, who works towards conservation of environment, energy and sustainable development by experimenting and implementing various green technologies is commendable. During his felicitation he said "Today major global issue is climate change and increment of concentration of Greenhouse Gases. If we are not able to bring the index of Greenhouse gases to Zero by 2050, then our civilization shall not survive."



Felicitaton of 3rd Green Ambassador Shri Lalit Kumar Singhania



Felicitaton of 2nd Green Ambassador Ms Suniti Yadav

2. Second green ambassador award was given to Ms Suniti Yadav, Founder of Eco-feminist Movement in Central India and Humane Forestry in our country. Her Green Environment initiatives in Central India are commendable and her innovative wide-ranging environmental conservation and social engineering efforts are unique, exemplary and can be easily replicated successfully anywhere in the world.
3. Last but not the least third award was given to Shri O P Agrawal an environmentalist from Surguja District, Chhattisgarh. His initiatives in the field of Agro-Forestry are commendable. Through the Agro-Forestry project you have planted more than 10 lakh trees and motivated more than 10,000 farmers towards this project.



Felicitation of Green Ambassador Shri O P Agrawal



All 03 Green Ambassadors with the Chief Guest and other dignitaries

Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Hon'ble Chief Guest of the ceremony addressed the august gathering.



Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, Vice Chancellor, KTUJ&M, Raipur is addressing the gatehering



Chief Guest Dr Sachchidanand Joshi addressing at Inaugural Ceremony

In his address he said "Since I am a student of communications, I can share about retention capacity with you. When we read something the retention capacity remains 10 to 15%, when we hear something 20 to 25% is retained in our mind but the audio-visual impact is 40 to 45%, therefore films are the best medium if one has to tell something to create an impact.... I am really happy that you are going to various academic institutions with such festival, if this would have been limited to an elite audience and this festival would have been organized to a Five Star Hotel, it would have been a waste of time of most of the people, give something to the new generation, they have flair, zeal they have dedication

and desire to do something the only point is they require proper direction. I'm sure that this festival will provide the proper direction and motivation.

Dr N Bhaskara Rao, Chairman, CMS felicitated the all the distinguished partners present during the inaugural ceremony.



Dr N Bhaskar Rao felicitating the Chief Guest



Felicitation of IICI Bank



Felicitation of D B Girls' College



August gathering during Inaugural Ceremony



Felicitation of CGSCoS&T

The inaugural ceremony concluded with the screening of a 25 minute film “Jalkhet” directed by Anjali Nayar which tells how water crisis is affecting farmers.

Minute to Minute Programme

Time	Programme
06:00 pm	Introduction by Ms Seema Bhatt , Independent Consultant - Climate Change, Conservation and Ecotourism, New Delhi
06:05 pm	Lamp Lighting by Dr Sachidanand Joshi , Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur and all the dignitaries
06:10 pm	Welcome Address by CMS Dr N Bhaskara Rao , Chairman, CMS
06:15 pm	Address by Shri B N Diwedi , PCCF (Wildlife), Chhattisgarh State Forest Department
06:20 pm	Address by Shri Jaisingh Dhumal , Chief Manager, ICICI Bank, Mumbai
06:25 pm	Address by Prof M M Humbarde , Director General, Chhattisgarh State

	Council of Science Technology, Govt of Chhattisgarh
06:30 pm	Address by Dr Arvind Girolkar , Principal, D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur
06:40 pm	Green Ambassadors Award Presentation by Dr Sachchidanand Joshi , Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur
06:50 pm	Address by Dr Sachchidanand Joshi , Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication, Raipur
06:55 pm	Vote of Thanks by Ms Shruti Sharma , D B Girls' P G (Autonomous) College, Raipur
07:00 pm	Screening of Inaugural Film Jal Khet: English and Hindi 00:25:00 Anjali Nayar
07:25 pm	Followed by High Tea