**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New Delhi to witness a global event on water through 8th CMS VATAVARAN**

*A five day film festival on environment and wildlife issues, with the theme “water for life”, is all set to take place in October in New Delhi.*

**HIGHLIGHTS of 8TH CMS VATAVARAN FILM FESTIVAL AND FORUM:**

* 74 Thematic Films from 16 States and 11 Countries to be screened
* Panorama of award winning films on Water
* Screening of Bollywood Films
  + Kaun Kitne Paani Mein by Nila Madhab Panda
  + Aisa Yeh Jahaan by Biswajeet Bora
* Media and Filmmaking Workshop
* Gala Award Ceremony on October 11, 2015 (6:30 pm onwards). Chief Guests:
  + Shri Prakash Javdekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment & Forests and Climate Change GoI
  + Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways GoI
  + Shri Arvind Kejriwal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi
* Talk on River Rejuvenation by Ms Uma Bharati, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources, GoI
* Green Haat by MoEF GEF UNDP SGP CEE
* Exhibitions by New Delhi Nature Society, Anthony Acciavatti and more
* Food Court

**September 10th 2015, New Delhi:** India’s longest standing and largest Environment and Wildlife based film festival, CMS VATAVARAN is celebrating its **8th competitive edition** with screening of **74 Indian and International films**. The festival is scheduled to be screened across 5 days from **October 9 to 13, 2015 (Friday to Tuesday)** at the Convention Centre, in New Delhi. CMS VATAVARAN 2015 will be an **amalgamation of celebration and discourse** with film screenings, forums on critical water issues, panorama of international film festivals, workshops on filmmaking, exhibitions, green haat and much more.

The **theme for the 8th competitive edition is ‘Water for Life’** with a special focus on **“Conserving our Water Bodies”**. It seeks to mark the **interconnectedness of water and life** and raise concern over the rapidly **deteriorating condition of our water bodies**. The fact that India has just **4% of the world’s fresh water but 16% of the global population** is reason enough to begin a serious discussion on proper and effective water **management and conservation**. CMS VATAVARAN 2015 with its theme ‘Water for Life’ aims to do just that.

Several interesting endeavors on the theme 'Water for Life' apart from film screenings like **seminars, workshops, exhibition, cultural performances and award ceremony** focusing on the environmental, social and economic aspects of water conservation will be part of the film festival and forum. Contemporary issues related to water and conservation will be deliberated upon by eminent conservationists, policy makers, environment journalists and the concerned communities in the forum. Water for life being a cross cutting theme necessitates a **multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder participation** in discussions to address the issues in a holistic manner. This impressive lineup of programs and screening schedule has been announced and is now available online.

**CMS VATAVARAN aims to create awareness and sensitize people through films and discussions regarding water conservation, water management and water rights**.

**Festival Theme:** Water for life

**Date:** 9 to 13 October,2015

**Venue:** Convention Centre, Opp Jantar Mantar, Jai Singh road, ND

**ENTRY FREE**

“CMS Vatarvaran is doing a magnificent job, making people aware by taking arranging these festivals and taking them to different cities and involving more and more younger generation. CMS Vatavaran is a great platform to inform people about issues like wildlife conservation, sustainable technology and climate change.” - **Amol Palekar*, Veteran actor-director*, Head of the jury of 8th CMS Vatavaran.**

“In the 8th competitive festival, we are focusing on water and problems in water management systems around the world to show the disturbing effects these choices have on human beings. The theme has been chosen keeping in mind the fact that the way water scarcity issues are addressed, impacts upon the successful achievement of most of the development goals.” - **Ms P N Vasanti, Director General of CMS.**

The American Centre is the Country Partner of the 8th CMS VATAVARAN. A special curtain raiser programme will also be organized on evening on October 8, 2015 in the presence of American filmmakers, guests and delegates. Seminars, workshops, book launches and talks will be organized in partnership with The Asia Foundation, GIZ, Arghyam, CSE, CEE, RSTV, WWF to name a few.

**About CMS VATAVARAN:** CMS VATAVARAN is not just a film festival celebrating the cinematic art of films but is a platform that enables **film as a tool and catalyst for creating impact**. CMS VATAVARAN remains resolute to encourage environment films and forums resulting **change in perception, practice and policy**. Since its inception in 2002, **7 competitive and 41 travelling festivals in 36 cities of 25 Indian states** have been organised. It has reached more than 500000 people directly. CMS VATAVARAN has now become a movement and inspired many organizations and individuals to use **films and film festivals as a medium to catalyse change.**

**For More Information log in at:** [**www.cmsvatavaran.org**](http://www.cmsvatavaran.org)

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