**Day 2 of 8th CMS VATAVARAN: Visit to local water body, film screenings , filmmaking workshops**

*The second day of the 8th CMS VATAVARAN hosted film screenings, filmmaking workshops, and a session on Reviving Local Water Bodies.*

**October 10th, 2015, New Delhi:** The second day of the 8th CMS VATAVARAN included screenings of nominated films, filmmaking workshops by Rajiv Mehrotra of PSBT and Nandan Saxena and Kavita Bahl.

Eleven nominated films were screened today in the two halls. Ring the Changes (Rishu Nigam and Kanishka Singh), An Elegy for the Traditional Way of Life (Priyanjana Dutta), Carry Your Own Bag (Sunil Bhodge), Missing (Krishnendu Bose), The Pad Piper (Akanksha Sood Singh), India’s Disappearing Beaches- A Wake Up Call (Shekhar Dattatri), Phum Shang (Haobam Paban Kumar), Life Force 2: India’s Western Ghats, Rescuing the Stolen River (Kristina Danka) and Le Semeur (Julie Perron).

CMS VATAVARAN’s top awards- Prithvi Awards were also announced at a press meet today.

The coveted CMS VATAVARAN Prithvi Ratna Award has been given since 2003 by CMS VATAVARAN to eminent filmmakers for their outstanding contribution to nature and conservation filming throughout their career which has resulted in bringing change in perception, practice and policy with regards to environment. Previous Awardees of Prithvi Ratna have been Mike Pandey, Naresh Bedi, Shekha Dattatri, Krishnendu Bose and Ashish Chandola.

**The winner of the 2015 Prithvi Ratna Award is Mr Himanshu Malhotra. Himanshu Malhotra, is a documentary filmmaker specialising in environment and wildlife filmmaking.** He is an environmentalist, animal rights activist and a wildlife filmmaker who has been working in the area of creating awareness on issues concerning the environment for over three decades. He has been relentless in his individual effort to create awareness on issues of wildlife trade specially trade in Marine species. As a recipient of the UK Environment Film Fellowship he explored the area of exploitation of marine species like Corals, shells, sharks etc. Subsequently he has done extensive work in the Gulf of Mannar on specialized fishing practices and exploitation of the coral reefs. His recent documentary “The Shell Story” explores the issue of illegal trade in Shells along with issues of livelihood and the handicraft industry. He has made the campaign film for TRAFFIC India on wildlife crime “Don’t Buy Trouble” which has triggered a national wide effort to create awareness about both the nature of the crime and the laws which can be used against it.

**Initiating the first ever lifetime achievement award in the Prithvi Bhushan is YES BANK. And the 2015 CMS YES BANK Award is conferred to Mr Anupam Mishra.** He is a journalist, environmentalist, and water conservationist who works on promoting water conservation, water management and traditional rainwater harvesting techniques. The CMS YES BANK Award has been awarded to Mr Mishra for his works on promoting water conservation, water management and traditional rainwater harvesting techniques are unprece dented. Also, his publications on the work of communities organising themselves, to harvest and manage water, continue to inspire several individuals to take up work on setting up and reviving such time-tested water harvesting systems.

“At YES BANK, we understand the need for a robust decision making paradigm and, new perspectives on financial management models and structured public private partnerships that can create effective solutions for climate change and environmental related policy concerns of the country. Partnering with CMS Vatavaran is part of our quest to catalyze sustainable development, after an extensive stakeholder consultation, for addressing over-riding environmental issues of our time, said Mr Rana Kapoor, MD & CEO of YES BANK.”

**The highlights of the Day 3 of the 8th CMS VATAVARAN-**

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| **Global Water Walk for Peace (7:00- 9:00 am)**  Mr Rajendra Singh, Stockholm Water Prize Laureate  Mr Kapil Mishra, Minister of Water, Govt of NCT of Delhi  Mr Ashok Lavasa, Secretary, MoEF&CC | **Film Screenings (10:00 am- 6:00 pm)**  Special Screening of I Cannot Give You My Forest followed by a panel discussion by Nandan Saxena and Kavita Bahl. |
| **Joining the Dots: Discussion on Challenges in Wildlife Filmmaking (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)**  Mr Praveeen Singh  Mr Sanjay Barnela  Ms Rita Banerjee  Mr S Nallamuthu | **Documentaries in India, Expectations from Public Broadcasters by RSTV** |
| **Award Ceremony (6:30 pm)**  Felicitation of Prithvi Ratna, CMS- YES BANK Prithvi Bhushan, 22 Awards to filmmakers, Young Environmental Journalism Awards. | |

**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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For media related queries, contact: **Indira Akoijam, Email:** [**indira@cmsindia.org**](mailto:indira@cmsindia.org)**, Mobile: 9899979161**