

The 8th CMS VATAVARAN International Film Festival and Forum was organised from October 9-13 at NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi. The American Center hosted a special curtain raiser programme on October 8, where Ambassador Richard Verma launched the festival. This year's festival brought in nominated filmmakers from USA, Germany, and across the country.

On the festival theme 'Water for Life', a total of 8 discussions, 4 workshops and a peace march was organised with 50 experts from the environment and filmmaking sectors. As India's largest green film festival and forum, the 8th CMS VATAVARAN's multiple programme format included film screenings, seminars, workshops, tribal food festival, exhibitions, green haat all under one roof. Four special halls hosted film screenings, workshops and seminars. Special areas were created for food court, green haat and exhibitions.

A Cinematic Ode to Environment....
The premiere film festival addresses
wildlife and environmental issues focus as
the theme of Water this year.... Let's GO
GREEN.... Head to the VATAVARAN Film
Festival.... a cornucopia of films and events
that promises to draw you into conversation
around nature, wildlife, climate change and
sustainable technologies....

-Hindustan Times Saturday, October 10, 2015



Glimpses of 8th CMS VATAVARAN













The festival also attracted a lot of younger audience with a rise in attendees from college students studying environment, science and journalism. Overall attendance was close to 5000 with the highest participation from school children, followed by college students and amateur filmmakers. Film and media students also flocked the venue for two filmmaking workshops by Quark Workshops and PSBT. The festival also brought together around 30 media professionals for two workshops coorganised with India Water Portal and The Third Pole. There were a number articles and stories on the online and print media. The pre-festival online and on-ground initiative attracted good participation.

The 2015 CMS VATAVARAN award ceremony was attended by nominated filmmakers and invited guests such as Mr Harald Sandberg, Ambassador of Sweden to India; Mr Ashok Lavasa, Secretary, MoEF & CC; Mr Amol Palekar, Eminent Actor and Jury Chairperson; Mr Rajendra Singh, Stockholm Water Prize Laureate and Mr Srinath Komarina, Associate Vice President, YES BANK. The guests presented 18 awards to filmmakers in Indian and international sections. Mr Anupam Mishra was conferred with the first ever CMS-YES BANK Prithvi Bhushan Award for his exemplary work in water conservation, while Mr Himanshu Malhotra were conferred with the 7th Prithvi Ratna Award for his outstanding contribution to wildlife filmmaking. Ms Pritha Chaterjee, Mr Aniruddha Ghosal and Mr Manu Moudgil were awarded with the 5th Young Environment Journalism Awards.

The 7th travelling film festival will now take place in five river front cities with the theme of Water for Life. Nominated films of the 8th competitive edition will be screened at multiple locations. Issues such as river rejuvenation, water & health and ground water that were deliberated upon at the national level during the 2015 festival, will also be discussed during the travelling edition at specially curated forums with local experts.

Indian Film Festival highlights growing water stress... poised to become the most populous nation on earth by 2022, India is witnessing a steady decline in its groundwater level.... A recent film festival drew public attention to this crucial issue.

-Stockholm WATERFRONT November 2015 (issue)

Gujarat ke namakkarmiyon per bani film VATAVARAN Film Mahotsav mein puraskrit.

> –Rashtriya Sa<mark>ha</mark>ra Tuesday, October 13, 2015

8th CMS VATAVARAN Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum is gathering a sincere crowd of filmmakers, cinephiles and nature enthusiasts'.

> -Deccan Herald Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Purge before we Perish.... As CMS VATAVARAN Film Festival opens this week, we pick three films that reflect the state of environment in the country.

> -The Hindu - Metro Plus Monday, October 05, 2015





