



Thiruvananthapuram CMS VATAVARAN inaugurated

The film festival and forum was inaugurated by veteran filmmaker Sri Adoor Gopalakrishnan and Sri Binoy Viswam, Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Government of Kerala. The film festival and forum is on till Oct 7

Thiruvananthapuram, October 04: The much awaited environment and wildlife film festival & Forum, Thiruvananthapuram CMS VATAVARAN was inaugurated today at Kala Bhavan Theatre with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony. The green film festival and forum was inaugurated by veteran filmmaker Sri Adoor Gopalakrishnan and Sri Binoy Viswam, Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Government of Kerala. Also present on the occasion were Dr N Bhaskara Rao, chairman CMS, Sri T M Manoharan, PCCF, Dr RV Varma, Chairman, Biodiversity Board of Kerala and Sri Suresh Elamon, filmmaker.

Speaking on the occasion the PCCF, Mr Manoharan emphasized that concerted efforts of the forest department as well as the civil society groups and people are required to conserve the environment. Veteran filmmaker Sri Adoor Gopalakrishnan recalled his long association with CMS VATAVARAN and appreciated the efforts made by CMS in popularising environmental issues among general public. "We need to focus on the younger generation and film festival is a powerful medium to attract the attention of youth towards environmental issues," he said.

From October 04-07 a series of workshops, panel discussion, exhibition, eco-tour, marathon in addition to 45 green film screenings will be organised as part of the film festival and forum. Entry is free for all in the film festival. The much acclaimed film "Angels in Tigerland" by Suresh Elamon was shown as the inaugural film.

Green Heroes felicitated:

Three individuals from Kerala who have been making significant contribution in the field of environmental conservation were also felicitated during the inaugural ceremony. These were Mr Bal Pandi, Mr Vava Suresh and Mr CV Vidyadharan.

Special Programmes in city

As part of the film festival special Programmes are also being organised in schools, colleges and clubs. These include Kesari Memorial Press Club, Mar Ivanios College, A J Media College, Women's College, Fine Arts College, Gandhi Park, Eastfort, Press Club Institute of Journalism, Mar Ivanios College, M.G.College, Kesavadasapuram, Sree Narayana Training College, Govt. Law College, Dept of Aquatic Biology, University of Kerala and others.

Tommorow's programmes:

- **Film screenings:** 10.00 am -02.00 pm at Kala Bhavan Theatre
- **Eco Tour:** 07.00 am-05.30 pm at Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary

About CMS VATAVARAN 2010:

India's much acclaimed environment and wildlife film festival, CMS Vatavaran is travelling to eight different cities of the country in the year 2010. It started from Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) and was subsequently organised at Hyderabad and Shillong. In October it is being organised at Trivandrum and Port Blair. Other festival destinations for 2010 are Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar and Patna. The festival is organized by New Delhi based think tank CMS Environment.

The theme of CMS VATAVARAN 2010 – Environment and Wildlife Travelling Film Festival & Environment Forum is Climate Change and Sustainable Technologies. The festival and forum aims to promote sustainable technologies, with a focus on green production and delivery methods, convergence and fusion of new consumer services, and on the notion of 'collective goods' for greater environmental efficiency, which can usher in a new green order.

The travelling film festival allows a fresher, wider and more diverse audience to enjoy the film festivals and participate in the environment forums, taking the support circle beyond the near and easy. It is a chance to people to understand green films, participate in environment forums, network (with film makers, film societies, government organisations, bilateral, NGOs, bureaucrats, parliamentarians, members of think tanks, corporate sector members, representatives of the educational sector, the media fraternity, software producers and a medley of other people) and engage in critical thinking and discourse. The festival would help in the setting up of a credible national and international green forum.

The first CMS VATAVARAN Environment and Wildlife Travelling Film Festival was organised in 2004 in Chennai. Since then 26 festivals has been organised in 19 cities with overwhelming participation from the cities and generous support of the respective state government, local administration, industries and organisations. The travelling festival has now become an intrinsic part of the film festival and environment forum fabric of CMS Environment.

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