



**PRESS NOTE - December 08, 2021**

### **11th CMS VATAVARAN Award Nominations Announced**

India's longest standing and largest green film festival, 11th CMS VATAVARAN, has today announced this year's Award Nominees who are in the running for 21 awards across 10 categories.

A total of **95 Indian and International films have been nominated in nine categories out of the total 805 submissions that were received for the 11th competitive edition.** The full list of all the Nominations are now available on the festival website – [www.cmsvatavaran.org](http://www.cmsvatavaran.org)

All the 95 nominated Indian and International films in various categories, namely the festival theme Celebrating Biodiversity, Wildlife Conservation, Environment Conservation, Livelihoods & Sustainable Technologies, Climate Change: Adaptation & Mitigation, Animation Films School student films, Amateur & Youth films and Public Service Announcements, will be screened at the 11th CMS VATAVARAN. The festival is scheduled from February 10 to 16, 2022 in hybrid mode.

**Nomination Films are from 22 States and 19 Countries:** Of the 95 nominations, 58 Films from 22 states are nominated in National categories. The maximum nominations were recorded from Maharashtra, with 13 films. With 5 film nominations, Delhi came second.

#### **NOMINATIONS OF FILMS ANNOUNCED FOR THE 11<sup>th</sup> CMS VATAVARAN**

- Total 805 film submissions received for this competitive edition
- 95 Films Nominated (58 National & 37 International) by the Nomination Jury
- The festival will have 21 Indian & International Awards
- Total Award money ranges from Rs 25,000 – Rs 1,00,000/- for Indian filmmakers
- International awards carry a citation and a trophy.
- All the 95 films will be screened at the 11th CMS VATAVARAN to be held from February 10 to 16, 2022, in hybrid mode (offline and online).

**Nomination Jury:** For the first time the Nomination Jury for the 11th CMS VATAVARAN was held virtually from November 12 to 26, 2021. Nomination jury comprises of 29 representatives from various organizations like WWF, IYBN, Department of Science & Technology, JNU, IIT, High Commission of

Canada etc. and it was chaired by **Dr V B Mathur**, Chairperson of National Biodiversity Authority, GOI. In a three tier selection process, after an initial festival directorate screening, 292 films were submitted to the Nominations Jury, who in five groups (5-7 persons each) watched the various categories of films and selected these nominated films. Now all these Nominations will be seen by the Award Jury to select the coveted CMS VATAVARAN Awards.

*“The uniqueness of this festival is to promote and use meaningful films to connect people to nature and contemporary environmental challenges. Aiming at diverse stakeholders, the festival is able to engage on complex environmental issues and inspire conservation efforts at multiple levels. This is the first step to restore and conserve the only planet we have! Congratulations to all the Nominated Film Makers and hope this inspires you to continue your mission for Mother Earth.”* Dr P N Vasanti, DG CMS and Festival Director CMSVATAVARAN.

**Upcoming 11th CMS VATAVARAN:** All nominated films will then be screened in the upcoming film festival and forum. The 11th edition has been scheduled to be held from February 10th to 16th, 2022. The eleventh competitive edition of CMS VATAVARAN will be organized in hybrid mode for the first time. All full seven days of the festival will have online screenings and programs and will be further supplemented by offline (on-ground) programs on first three days (10, 11 & 12 February 2022). With the theme “Celebrating Biodiversity”, the forum will see participation from conservation practitioners, media professionals, public officials, policy makers, students, educators as well as public at large to better the understanding of biodiversity conservation globally. Focus of the Forum discourse will be on the connection between Climate Change and Biodiversity and also highlight the gender angle in both climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation.

**CMS VATAVARAN** is India’s premier environment and wildlife film festival and forum – it is aimed towards enhancing understanding, appreciation and shift in attitudes towards the natural world and to increase space for environmental issues in mass media and evolve a nationwide environment outreach framework. The festival taps into an important motivating factor for audiences everywhere: the emotional draw of connecting with a compelling story or character. The festival reaches out to people from all walks of life including filmmakers, civil society groups, government organizations, environmentalists, researchers, conservationists, policy makers, activists, public and private sector organizations and students of all ages and is recognized as a calendar event amongst filmmakers, environment, wildlife and conservation sector. Its unique twin track approach of organizing competitive and traveling film festivals and environment forum has positioned it as one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe. Since its inception in 2002, ten competitive and 52 travelling festivals in 41 cities of 25 Indian states have been organized. Website: [www.cmsvatavarana.org](http://www.cmsvatavarana.org)

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Please feel free to connect for any further details.

Best wishes

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