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Green films to wow crowds

SHALINI SABOO

Ranchi, Aug. 10: When talking about the environment, what better place to do so than amid greens. It is perhaps this that would bring CMS VATAVARAN to Ranchi this year.

The capital, admired for its scenic beauty, is set to host the wildlife film festival from November 10-12.

Ashwini Sinha, the festival manager of CMS VATAVARAN, told The Telegraph: "CMS, a national research and advocacy organisation concerned with social and environmental issues, holds an environment and wildlife travelling film festival in certain parts of the country every year to generate awareness about the environment. This year, Ranchi is one of the venues. The theme this year is climate change, which is in consonance with Unep's theme for World Environmental Day — CO2 Kick the Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy."

"The three-day film festival, to be organised at forest auditorium in Hinoo and Hotel Ranchi Ashok, would explore issues of regional and local concern. A range of interactive programmes would be held including screening of approximately 40 award-winning and best of CMS VATAVARAN documentaries. Expert talks, seminars on climate change, two seminars on conservation and livelihood security and waterfall, a technical workshop, eco-tour exhibitions on climate change, photography exhibition on environment, climate expo and a film bazaar are also on cards," he said.

The Union ministry of environment and forest and Norwegian Embassy are the principal partners supporting the festival in eight cities — Agartala, Bhopal, Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Leh, Lucknow, Pune and Ranchi.

The state department of forest and environment, government of Jharkhand is the state partner promoting the event.

The Ranchi festival will have special sections dedicated to International Year of the Reef, International Year of the Planet Earth and other environmentally significant days as declared by UNEP.

"The festival will see various activities like painting, slogan writing, exhibitions in public gardens, clubs and cultural centres of the city. It would be a free-for-all public event for 10,000 people of all ages in the capital," said B.K. Sinha, the city co-ordinator of the film festival.



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