

WEDNESDAY, 15 JANUARY, 2014.

# Catch the green film festival



Still from the film, *The Truth About Tigers*

The eighth edition of the Vasundhara International Film Festival will comprise screenings, discussions and educative tours that will conclude in an awards ceremony

## FILMS

### THE GUIDE TEAM

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The city will witness the eight edition of the Vasundhara International Film Festival from January 17 to 25. This time around, almost 16,000 youngsters will be participating in the event. Virendra Chitrav, festival director commented on this development, "The awareness in colleges and schools about preserving the environment has been growing for some time. Amongst the participants, 60% comprise the youth, especially in the environment film competition section. From local issues like mining, tree plantation to global warming, all kinds of topics are covered in the selection."

For the first time, the festival will travel to 35 college campuses, wherein discussions and forums will be held to discuss various environment-related issues. This will be done keeping the

festival's aim of bringing about awareness of such issues in mind.

Also, Pune-karis can also bank upon the opportunity to catch the premiere of the film, *Chilika*, that is directed by Shekar Dattatri, an environmentalist and a wildlife activist.

The film takes its title from a lake in Orissa that was formerly dying and was eventually preserved by the state government. Dattatri, relates his enthusiasm for the screening, "I'm very happy and proud of the fact that the film will be showcased at the festival. The film is about the challenges we were faced to save the lake and how it was finally preserved."

Awards will be another part of the festival. Personalities like Dr Asir J Thomas, a tiger conservator, will be honoured as well as the Vasundhara Mitra award will be given to Help Tourism. The latter is a Kolkata-based organisation that is working to promote community tourism.

The Eco Journalist award



A dance recital that took place at the festival last year

will be given to Atul Deūgaonkar, a reputed eco journalist and lastly, city's environmentalist, Dr Hema Sane will be honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award.

The director shares events especially meant for children, "we will also have a children's day during the festival where in we will take the kids for an educative tour. There will be competitions and discussions for them, too."

FROM January 17 to 25

LOG ON TO [www.kirloskarvasundharafest.in](http://www.kirloskarvasundharafest.in)



The festival always aims to incorporate children as a major proportion of the participants