

Vasundhara calls for nature conservation

REPORTER

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Pune: Veteran theatre personality Vijaya Mehta appealed to people not to be just a viewer but also 'be a part of 'Nature Conservation'.

She was addressing a gathering while inaugurating the 6th Kirloskar Vasundhara Film Festival on Sunday. The eight-day festival includes events like Walk for Sustainability, short-film screening, discussions and workshops.

Mehta said, "Everybody is aware of the fact that we have destroyed the nature. But just being aware is not enough. We must actively participate in the process of conservation of environment." She cited an example of a small group in Mumbai that has stepped ahead



ECO AWARENESS: (1) Anand Karve's Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (ARTI) was honoured with the Vasundhara Award in 'Organisation' category. (From left) Veteran theatre personality Vijaya Mehta, entrepreneur Atul Kirloskar and Ramchandra Deshmukh of ARTI were also present. (2) Gandhian Babulal Gandhi. (3) Krishnendu Bose and (4) Erach Bharucha were also awarded. The organiser of the festival Virendra Chitrav (extreme right) is also seen.

to create a 'Nature Park' at Dharavi slum area.

The chairman of the festival Vijay Varma, wildlife activist and editor of 'Sanctuary Asia' magazine Bittu Sehgal, representative of CMS Vatavaran Priya Varma, entrepreneur Atul Kirloskar

and organiser of the festival Virendra Chitrav were present on the occasion.

Atul Kirloskar presented the 'Vasundhara Awards' for pioneering work in the field of environment and nature conservation. The Vasundhara Filmmaker Award

was bestowed upon Krishnendu Bose while the Vasundhara Activist Award was presented to Gandhian Babulal Gandhi. The award in the 'Organisation' category was conferred on Dr Anand Karve's Appropriate Rural Technology Insti-

tute (ARTI) and the 'Green Teacher Award' was given to Dr Erach Bharucha.

The inaugural function was followed by Bittu Sehgal's presentation on 'Communicating climate change and conservation through films'.

On the second day of the festival on Monday, there will be presentation by Krishnendu Bose on 'My encounter with film making' and workshop for citizens, 'Panchatva Harmony- Sustainable lifestyle for all' by Madhav Gadgil.