

Publication	Date	Page No.	Editions	Position	Language
Sakaal Times	21 <sup>st</sup> February 2010	09	Pune	Bottom	English

**GREEN PAGES**

# Now, a book on trees from Europe, Australia

Penned by amateur botanist Dr Prabha Patwardhan, it was released at Vasundhara Fest

**REPORTER**  
reporters@sakaalimes.com

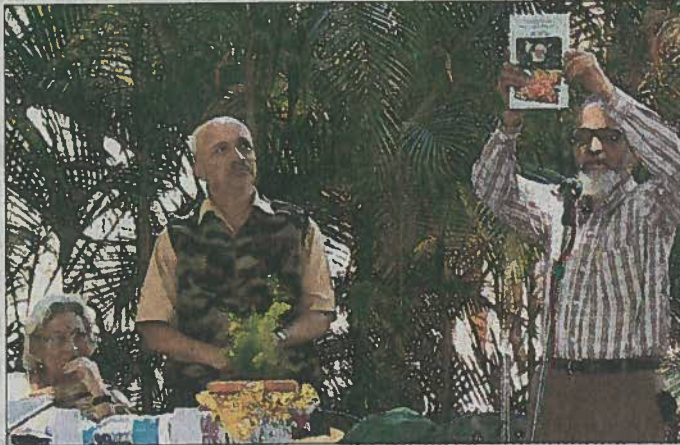
**Pune:** 'Trees from two continents,' a book highlighting trees from Europe and Australia, was released by botanist Prof S D Mahajan on Saturday.

The book that can serve as the beginners guide to plants from these continents has been penned by an amateur botanist Dr Prabha Patwardhan.

The paediatrician and homeopath-turned-amateur botanist, Patwardhan has worked on this book for over three years.

The book was released at the Empress Botanical Garden, after a nature trail organised by Vasundhara International Film Festival under the guidance of Prof Mahajan.

"The interest in Botany in my life was developed as a



**EXOTIC KNOWLEDGE:** Prof S D Mahajan releasing the book 'Trees from two continents' while Prof P K Ghanekar and author of the book Dr Prabha Patwardhan look on.

hobby. During my trips to London and Melbourne, I tried to identify the trees there, which

I had never seen in India. The scientific information I gathered along with photographs

has been compiled in the book," said Patwardhan.

Almost half of the book is devoted to colour photographs of the plants found at the Holland Park, London and Melbourne, Australia.

Speaking on the occasion, noted botanist Prof Mahajan said that the book actually represents the plants from Asia as well.

"Plant varieties like apple, Bird of Paradise, Bottle Brush, Deodar, silver oak and Chinar are found in India also. The book has some important aspects like basic Botany, arrangement according to their families, glossary of botanical terms in the beginning and pictures in true colours of flowers," he said.

Prof P K Ghanekar presided over the book release function.

# FOREST CONSERVATION: GOVT TO BLAME FOR NEGLIGENCE

**W**ildlife filmmaker Shekar Dattatri on Saturday blamed the government for negligence towards forest conservation in the country.

Addressing a press meet organised by the Vasundhara International Film Festival, Dattatri said, "The government always gives less importance to the issue of wildlife conservation. Not only Tigers but many other species today are endangered because of degradation of forest."

Dattatri will be felicitated with the Vasundhara Mitra Award during the valedictory function of the Vasundhara Festival on Sunday.

He said that forest conservation needs only four-five per cent land of the total land in



**■ Dattatri will be feted with the Vasundhara Mitra Award at the valedictory function of Vasundhara Fest on Sunday**

the country. When the question of forest conservation arises, government always ignores the issue under the pretext of 'Luxurious matter.'

"Preserving nature is not a luxurious but a charity from the human being to the nature. India is known for its beauty of nature and not for its malls, shopping centres and Information Technology parks, which consume the land reserved for forest. People should raise voice

against it," he emphasised.

Speaking on the occasion, founder of Chiplun-based Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra Vishwas aka Bhau Katdare said that cultures are also becoming a part of the endangered species since 1990. He cited cleanliness campaigns as one of the reasons for cultures' disappearance.

An expert on birds Kiran Purandare who will also be awarded with the Vasundhara Mitra Award on Sunday said that currently his NGO - Setu - is working on the pilot project of creating artificial waterholes for the birds at Nagzira National Park of Bhandara district and providing alternate earning sources to the youths instead of cutting trees.

**REPORTER**  
reporters@sakaalimes.com