

We must take care of Earth: Javadekar

Athreya presented Vasundhara Mitra - Activist award

Mukkund Bhute



AWARD: Atul Kirloskar presented Vidya Athreya with the Vasundhara Mitra-Activist award during the closing ceremony of the Ninth Kirloskar Vasundhara International Film Festival on Friday.

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JM Road: Lauding the efforts of Kirloskar Vasundhara International Film Festival (KVIFF) for its efforts to spread awareness about the environment, Union Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Forests Prakash Javadekar said that when the Earth takes care of the people, they too must take care of the Earth.

"We must strive to save electricity, save water, find new designs for homes and have a sustainable lifestyle. All this must spread among people so that the carbon footprint we are leaving on Earth reduces," he said.

A recorded message by him was played during the closing ceremony of the ninth KVIFF, that came to an end on Friday. An award

ceremony honouring those who have made great contribution towards environment was also held at Balgandharva Rangmandir. This was followed by the screening of a film 'The Forgotten Tigers' by Krishnendu Bose.

KVIFF

Atul and Arti Kirloskar, Speaker of Maharashtra State Assembly Haribhau Bagade, expert on man-animal conflicts Vidya Athreya, founder of Corbett Foundation Dilip Khatau, filmmaker Krishnendu Bose, photographer Dhritiman Mukherjee, eminent ornithologist and environment educator Dr Bharat Bhushan, environment journalist Abhijeet Ghorpade and hydrogeologist Suresh Khanapurkar were among the dignitar-

ies present at the event.

Vidya Athreya who has given vast inputs and has been honoured for the conservation and survival of leopards was presented the Vasundhara Mitra - Activist award. She said, "India is a very special place in this world that has diversity. It is true that the jungles in the country are on the decrease and proactive actions need to be taken very soon to see the wildlife survive and continue be a part of us and the environment."

Talking about conservation, Bose said, "Conserving the leopards and other wild animals which are within sanctuaries and zoos is done well, but the real task is to protect those animals which live in the forests and need protection and conservation in order to survive in the environment."