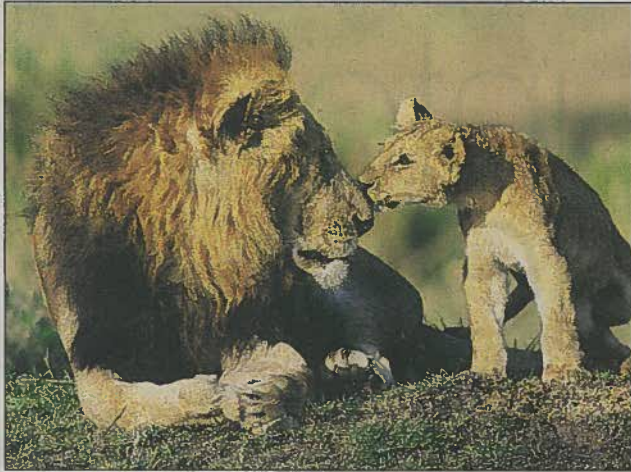


# For a greener tomorrow

Vasundhara International Film Festival, a joint initiative of Club Vasundhara and Pune Municipal Corporation, concluded recently. The theme for this year was biodiversity and sustainability



Zainab Kantawala

Sahitya Parishad's 'Paryavaran Sahitya Sammelan', Jalbiradari's 'Maharash-

Vasundhara is a one-of-its-kind nine-day festival, which combines exclusive national-international film screenings and allied activities. The festival is an innovative attempt to explore nature and analyse topical issues relating to environment, wildlife, energy, air, and water. It also presents a platform for those working for preserving nature.

At the recently concluded sixth Kirloskar Vasundhara International Film Festival, acclaimed films from 25 countries were screened. Besides, workshops, green conferences, photo exhibition, nature walks, cultural programs, open forums, quiz competitions and audio-video presentations, all aimed at exploring and analysing topical issues related to environment, wildlife, energy, air and water, were held. The festival, jointly organised by Club Vasundhara and Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC), also included environmental conferences like Maharashtra

more concerned about 'Mother Vasundhara' and fosters the need for preserving our natural heritage."

This year 'Green Teacher' award was conferred upon Erach Bharucha for his outstanding contribution to the field of environment education. Babulal Gandhi received 'Vasundhara Mitra' Award for creating a model of natural farming near Phaltan. Documentary filmmaker Krishnendu Bose was feted for his award winning film on wildlife conservation.

Chitrav adds, "The festival offers an opportunity to evolve together, on a common platform and work substantially towards preserving nature. This year, we expanded the scale of the festival by 50



trachi Nadi Panchayat' and Pune's E-waste seminar.

Virendra Chitrav, organizer, says, "Vasundhara is not just a festival or celebratory event. It is a movement, an attempt to change minds, attitudes and if possible, policies too. It strives to make people

percent, wherein we have increased our network nationally and internationally, with various organisations and NGOs. The films screened at the festival depict serious environment-related issues unique to certain parts of the globe."



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