

Panaji film fest will open with David Attenborough's 'Birds' today

BY A STAFF REPORTER

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PANAJI: Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar will inaugurate the two-day Kirloskar Vasundhara International Film Festival (KVIFF), an initiative of the Kirloskar and Vasundhara Club at the Kala Academy Black Box, Campal, Panaji at 9.45 am, today Saturday, August 24.

On the occasion, Vasundhara Mitra award will be presented to Nirmal Kulkarni of Nirmal Vishwa, Ponda.

The inaugural ceremony will be preceded by a photography exhibition to be inaugurated by Kala Academy chairman and MLA Vishnu Wagh at its art gallery at 9.30 am.

Speaking to reporters, KVIFF director Virendra Chitrav said that this is for the first time the film festival will be held in Goa after the or-

ganisers decided to take the festival outside Pune four years ago. This year the festival will travel to 28 cities of six States - Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat.

Chitrav said that KVIFF is one and only one Indian festival of its kind which combines film screenings and different allied activities related to environment, wildlife, energy, air and water. KVIFF is an innovative attempt to explore nature and analyse topical issues related to environment. It presents a common platform to work towards providing effective and meaningful communication material for preserving our great natural heritage.

The message of the festival is to preserve, protect and save the earth for generation next.

Film lovers will have an opportu-

nity to watch exclusive films made by Krishnendu Bose from Delhi in the retrospective section, while films made by Indian film makers and young Marathi film makers will be the point of attraction of the festival, Chitrav said.

The opening film of the festival 'Birds,' directed by David Attenborough will be screened at the Kala Academy Black Box at 11 am, which will be followed by a photography workshop at the art gallery by Rajtilak Naik.

At 3.30 pm there will be an audio-visual lecture-cum-workshop for architects by students of Goa Architecture College. There will also be a special session for Goan film makers.

On Sunday, teachers and students of the project film "Overcoming Nimby" will be felicitated by Cor-

poration of City of Panaji (CCP) Commissioner Sanjit Rodrigues at 9.30 pm.

Since the festival programmes are designed to create awareness among children, youngsters, women and experts also, the Rotary Club of Panaji Mid-Town will hold rally of students and personnel from fire and emergency services at 9 am on Sunday, on the topic 'Water conservation.' Vasundhara Sanman award will be presented to environmentalist Rajendra Kerkar for his outstanding work in preservation of Mhadei river.

The winners of photography, drawing, model making and quiz competitions will be awarded prizes. The two-day festival will come to a close with the screening of award winning film 'Serengeti', directed by James Earl Jones.

WHAT'S IN STORE AT THE FESTIVAL...

TODAY

- Photography workshop at Art Gallery after 11 am film screening
- Lecture-cum-workshop for architects
- Special session for Goan film makers

ON SUNDAY

- Rally by Rotary Club of Panaji Mid-Town on the topic 'Water conservation.'
- Teachers, students of film 'Overcoming Nimby' to be felicitated
- Screening of award winning film 'Serengeti'