

World Environment Day (WED), 2019

Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore

5th June is celebrated every year as World Environment Day (WED). WED is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. Since it began in 1974, the event has grown to become a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated in over 100 countries. WED 2019 urges governments, industries, communities and individuals to come together to explore renewable energy, green technologies and improve air quality in cities and regions across the world.

In line with UN declaration; Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is observing the World Environment Day, 2019 on the theme “**Beat Air Pollution**”. India has formulated and launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). This is a long term time bound national level strategy and tackle the increasing pollution problem across the country. The objective of NCAP is comprehensive plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network. The tentative national level target is reduction of PM2.5 and PM10 concentration by 20% – 30% by 2024.

On the theme of “Air Pollution”, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for World Environment Day has released new theme song & video — “**Hawa Aane De**”. The video focuses on the children and their future. With the air in India growing more toxic with each passing year from the discharge of chemical pollutants from a variety of sources, the song is a call-to-action for everyone in the nation to come together and combat the environmental challenges of our time.

On the observance of World Environment Day celebrations on 5th June 2019, the Extension Division of IFGTB organised **bamboo planting** campaign to kick start the monsoon planting programmes of IFGTB. It is important to note that IFGTB is setting up clone bank of Bamboo in Forest Campus and Forest Research Station at Panampally, Kerala under the National Bamboo Mission (NBM) Programme. Dr. Mohit Gera, Director IFGTB along with all staff and employees carried out planting of important Bamboo varieties such as *Dendrocalamus brandisii*, *Bambusa mizoramiana*, *Dendrocalamus giganteus*, *Thyrsostachys oliveri* & *Dendrocalamus longispathus* which were being multiplied by the Institute for planting on farm lands in State of Tamil Nadu.

Forest Campus sprawls over 162 acres of land in heart of Coimbatore. Befitting to the theme of the WED 2019, IFGTB appealed to all inmates to take up “**Zero Burning**” campaign to bring solidarity in awareness raising on “BeatAirPollution”. This appeal was made for raising awareness for this year WED, 2019 theme – “**Beat Air Pollution**” in the campus.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mohit Gera, Director, stressed that WED is the "people's day" for doing something to take care of the Earth. That "something" can be local, national or global. It can be a solo action or involve different stakeholders. He also emphasized the importance of sustained self-initiated action of each individual for keeping the campus clean and for adherence of “zero burning”. A **graffiti wall** was installed in the institute for 3 days to garner support and suggestion of walkers and public on the theme of WED in the forest campus. This initiative saw an overwhelming support of the students and public with more than 75 entries.

A three days activity on “**BeatAirPollution**” was arranged at Edu Center for the school and college students visiting Gass Forest Museum at IFGTB, Coimbatore. More than 150 students of YWCA Matriculation School, Coimbatore and Chinmaya Vidhyalaya, Coimbatore, participated in the awareness campaign. The theme song of WED 2019 released by MOEF&CC, video show on Air Pollution was moderated by Shri. P. Chandrasekaran, STO and talk show by Dr. Thangamani, Scientist, IFGTB and Ph.D scholars of IFGTB on Mangroves and Air Pollution were arranged to the students for awareness raising.

DIRECTOR
IFGTB



Shri. Rajesh Gopalan, Head Extension, welcoming the gathering



Opening Remarks by Dr. Mohit Gera, Director on WED, 2019



Bamboo Planting in Bamboo Hi-tech Nursery



IFGTBians participating in Graffiti Wall at IFGTB



IFGTBians in the WED, 2019 Celebrations



Talk to Scientist program on WED, 2019



Students participation in WED, 2019



Students participating in Graffiti Wall at IFGTB

Awareness drives aplenty on environment day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

WORLD Environment Day was marked by a range of events — from awareness rallies to green drives — on Wednesday. Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) celebrated the day by planting several bamboo varieties on its premises. It has plans to do the same on farmlands across the State.

In line with the theme for this year — Beat Air Pollution, the institute asked the inmates to take up 'zero burning' campaign. IFGTB Director Mohit Gera emphasised the importance of sustained self-initiated action by every individual in keeping the campus clean and in line with the 'zero burning' plan.

A week-long activity on 'Beat Air Pollution' has been arranged at the Edu Center for school and college students visiting the Gass Forest Museum. Students will get to



About growing trees

A traditional folk dance and skit were performed to create awareness on growing trees. Coimbatore Railway Station Director P Satheesh Saravanan and Commercial Inspector B Citibabu were present

watch talk shows of scientists and research scholars in an effort to create awareness.

Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (CCMC) staff, and volunteers of Siruthuli and Namma Kovai planted several saplings at Vellalore dumping yard. As many as 50 neem saplings

were planted along the sides of the railway track.

Railway staff and Aram Foundation Charitable Trust conducted a special program at the Coimbatore railway station.

Collector K Rajamani inaugurated an awareness rally at Racecourse and distributed tree saplings to the public on Wednesday.

The national plan

India has formulated and launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) -- a long term time-bound national strategy to tackle the increasing pollution problems across the country. The objective of NCAP is to form a comprehensive plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution, besides augmenting the air quality monitoring network.

The tentative national target is reduction of PM2.5 and PM10 concentration by 20-30 per cent by 2024.

When city got lost in clean, green drives

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

J Jackson

Coimbatore: The city railway station did its bit to promote green concepts on the occasion of the World Environment Day on Wednesday. Passengers who came to board trains were provided with cloth bags to create awareness among them on alternatives for plastic, while the travellers who came out of the station were greeted with a street play on the theme of environmental conservation.

In another instance, a group of volunteers and NSS students cleaned the Sengulam tank at Kuniamuthur in the city. Similarly, several governmental and non-governmental organizations conducted an array of events to mark the World Environment Day.

Southern railway officials had tied up with private firms and NGOs to organize a number of events. "We planted saplings near the railway police station," said a railway official. Along with the city-based Aram foundation, they also arranged a street play and a parai aattam performance.

Members of the Kovai Kulangal Padhukappu Amaippu, along with the NSS volunteers of Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science, cleared plastic waste and liquor bottles from Sengulam tank in Kuniamut-



WE ARE IN: (Top) The city corporation organized a tree planting drive at the Vellore dump yard (Below) Students cleaning Sengulam tank

hur. "People are using tank bunds as drinking places. We have removed sacks full of liquor bottles from the tank. Officials should take strict action against the people who drink in eco-

logically sensitive spots," said R Manikandan, organizer of Kovai Kulangal Padhukappu Amaippu.

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) in the city, meanwhile, organized a

bamboo planting campaign to mark the environment day and also to inaugurate its monsoon planting programme. A 'graffiti wall' was also installed on its campus. It would be open for three days and people could express their ideas about saving environment on the wall. A week-long activity on 'beat air pollution', the theme of this year's World Environment Day, would be arranged for school and college students who visit the Gass Forest Museum on the campus.

District collector K Rajamani distributed saplings to morning walkers at Race Course. On its part, the city municipal corporation, along with city-based NGOs, organized a tree planting drive at the 650-acre Vellore dump yard. Rajamani corporation commissioner J Sravan Kumar and other officials participated in the event.

Educational institutions in the city too organized events to mark the World Environmental Day. Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Kuniamuthur, conducted awareness sessions on air pollution and planted saplings. Similarly, representatives of PSG Hospitals planted saplings on the hospital premises.

The civic body also unveiled a medical plants garden and arboretum of endangered trees at Singanallur Lake and distributed seed balls to the students.

உலக சுற்றுச்சூழல் தினம்

■ கோவை

கோவை மேட்டுப்பாளையம் சாலையில் அமைந்துள்ள இந்நிறுவன வளாகத்தில் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சியில், வனமரபியல் மற்றும் மரப்பெருக்கு நிறுவன இயக்குநர் மோஹித் கீரா கலந்து கொண்டு, சுற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு கையெழுத்து இயக்கத்தை தொடங்கி வைத்தார். அதைத்தொடர்ந்து 5 ஏக்கர் பரப்பளவில் மூங்கில் மரக்கன்று நடவு செய்யும் திட்டத்தை தொடங்கி வைத்தார். அதில் விஞ்ஞானிகள், ஆராய்ச்சி மாணவர்கள் நூற்றுக்கும் மேற்பட்டோர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.