

# *Celebration of Earth Day* | 2018

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## RFRI CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

**Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat** celebrated **EARTH DAY** at Kaziranga National Orchid and Biodiversity Park, Kohora, Golaghat (Assam) on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2018. There were around 60 participants that included students from various schools of Jorhat district including their parents. The Director, Scientists, Officers & Staff of RFRI also participated in the programme. The Day was marked by visit along Nature Trail to understand biodiversity, various competitions and visit to Kaziranga National Park.

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat graced the occasion and encouraged the students to work hard for the betterment of the mother earth. Shri R. K. Kalita, Training Coordinator briefed the participants about the importance of observation of Earth Day. He expressed basic objectives of maintaining Nature Trails. After that, Drawing & Spelling Bee contests were conducted among children and adults in the midst of nature.

Kaziranga National Orchid and Biodiversity Park at Durgapur village is the largest Orchid Park of its kind. It has more than 500 varieties of wild orchids collected from different parts of North East States. Besides orchids, the Park also houses 132 species of fruits and leafy vegetables, 12 species of cane, 46 species of bamboo and a large variety of local fishes. The other attractions are green house, photo gallery, medicinal plant garden, fruit garden, flower garden, rock garden, rice museum, traditional stilt houses on trees and live performance of different folk dances and music.

In the second phase of the Nature Trail, the participants were taken to the Central Range of Kaziranga National Park, which is the natural habitat of world famous one-horned Indian Rhinoceroses. Children and Adults were thrilled on seeing different wild animals, birds and flora in the Park. The World Heritage site is home to world's largest population of Indian Rhinoceros. Other animals that were sighted were elephants, Sāmbhar, spotted deer, barking deer, swamp deer, wild pigs, water buffalo, variety of birds, etc.



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