



Report on Wildlife Week Celebration, 2019



Organized by

ENVIS Resource Partner

on

Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)

Coimbatore

Wildlife Week Celebration by ENVIS, IFGTB

The ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement at IFGTB organized Wildlife Week Celebration on 04th October, 2019. The primary objective of the observance was to focus on the importance of wildlife conservation for a balanced and healthy environment. The programme began with an invocation in Sanskrit on the significance of conservation of nature and natural resources by Dr Kannan CS Warriar. Dr S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB inaugurated the programme. During his inaugural address, he highlighted on the significance of wildlife week celebration which is being practiced since 1952 in India. He also pointed out the impacts of climate change in the wildlife habitats with an example of dwindling of vulture population in Tamil Nadu. He stressed on the role of every individual in protection of wildlife. Dr B. Nagarajan, Scientist G shared his experience in the management of captive elephants. Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Scientist F and Coordinator ENVIS elaborated on the ecological, cultural, investigatory, recreational, agricultural and economic importance of wildlife. He also explained India's rich and fascinating array of wildlife resources and measures taken by the Union Government to conserve wildlife. Though traditionally wildlife refers to undomesticated animal species, it includes all organisms living free in nature without introduced by human. And therefore, it consists of both animals and plants, he added. Awareness posters and handouts depicting the significance of conservation of wildlife and forest genetic resources were released and distributed to children of various schools and colleges in and around Coimbatore. Short films on the theme were also screened. Dr S.Vigneswaran, Programme Officer ENVIS proposed the vote of thanks.











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Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)

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OBSERVANCE OF WILDLIFE WEEK

OCTOBER 2 - 8, 2019

SIGNIFICANCE OF WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION OF FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES

Wildlife: Wildlife includes both animals and plants living free in nature

Forest Genetic Resources (FGR): FGR refers to the heritable materials that are of actual or potential economic, scientific or social value.

“The importance of Forest Resources cannot be underestimated”

Observance of Wildlife Week :

- To create awareness among people on the conservation and protection of the wildlife.
- To focus the people’s attention towards the importance of conservation of forest genetic resources.
- To implement logical services to preserve the wildlife.
- To plant more trees to make the planet cool.
- To ensure sustainability of ecosystem services.

WHY TO CONSERVE WILDLIFE AND FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES ?

Ecological importance :

Wildlife helps in maintaining the balance of nature.

As a gene bank :

Stores and conserve the plant genetic resources of major crop plants and their wild relatives.

Plant propagation :

Pollination in most plants/trees is assisted by birds, bats and insects, thus help in propagation.

Economic importance :

Wildlife tourism fetches money.



Cleaning of environment :

Scavengers and decomposers (wild animals /birds/micro-organisms) act upon dead animals/ trees, release energy back to the nature, thereby increasing fertility status of the soil.

Cultural importance :

Forests play a vital role in the life and culture of people around the world. The reverence and adoration of trees has a strong psychological and social foundation in most human cultures.

Recreational and aesthetic value :

Forests provide an environment where it is possible to evade from stresses of modern life and connect with nature.

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED ANIMALS IN INDIA



Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros



Red Panda



Dhole



Bengal Tiger



Asiatic Lion



Black Buck



Lion Tailed Macaque



Snow Leopard

IMPORTANT CRITICALLY ENDANGERED/ENDANGERED/VULNERABLE/THREATENED TREES IN INDIA

1. *Actinodaphne Campanulata* Hook.f.
2. *Amentotaxus assamica* Ferguson
3. *Dalbergia latifolia* Roxb.
4. *Ilex khasiana* Purkaystha
5. *Pterocarpus santalinus* L.f.
6. *Santalum album* L.
7. *Syzygium travancoricum* Gamble
8. *Taxus baccata* L.
9. *Vateria indica* L.