

MAR ATHANASIOS COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES TIRUVALLA (MACFAST) Thiruvalla - 689101

BIO-DIVERSITY AWARENESS SEMINAR





REPORT OF

STATE-LEVEL BIODIVERSITY AWARENESS SEMINAR CUM EXHIBITION

4th & 5th FEBRUARY 2019

Organized by

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Sponsored & Supported by

KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (KSBB)



The world is facing a huge biodiversity crisis and considering the situation the United Nations General Assembly had declared 2010 as the year of Biodiversity and also recognised May 22 as the International Day for Biological Diversity, for the promotion of biodiversity issues. The most important threats to the biodiversity are habitat fragmentation, habitat loss due to change in land use pattern, introduction of exotic and alien species both in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, over exploitation of natural resources. Teaching biodiversity and making the public aware of the baseline knowledge of the biodiversity is the first and foremost step for biodiversity conservation; a challenging task too. An important goal of education is to promote students to protect their local biodiversity for a sustainable future.

Kerala is always known as God's own country, blessed with the Southern part of Western Ghats, along with 44 rivers and inland as well as coastal wetlands. For the past few years, our biodiversity had threatened in an alarming rate, which ultimately resulted in an alarming rate, which ultimately resulted in the most tragic, disaster 'Kerala Flood'. In the light of 'Kerala Flood', there arose an urgent situation, to make everyone aware of our biodiversity treasure and its sustainable utilization. The main focus of the seminar and the photo exhibition is to enrich the students and the public about the diversity of our surroundings.

MAJOR OBJECTIVES

- Defining the biodiversity and its threats.
- Why to conserve diverse ecosystems and habitats?
- Biodiversity conservation strategies and methods.
- Addressing the conservation and the destiny of wetlands (man-animal conflicts).
- Role of wetlands in conservation and the destiny of wetlands.
- Various biodiversity Conventions, Acts and Conservation Programmes.
- Introducing the bird diversity of MACFAST campus, Thiruvalla through a
 photographic exhibition, which came up as a result of the Avifaunal diversity studies
 which was conducted for the past 3 years. The importance of birds and the need for
 their conservation will be highlighted.



INAUGURATION CEREMONY

The programme started with prayer. Mr. Sanesh P Varghese, Deputy Director welcomed everyone and conveyed the importance of biodiversity through his welcome speech. Rev. Fr. Cherian J Kottayil presided the programme. Dr. P. S. Easa, Former Director, KFRI inaugurated the programme. He has extensive experience in areas of wildlife biology, conservation biology and conservation of asian elephant, human wildlife conflict etc and has published extensively in these areas. In the inaugural speech he stressed on the importance of conserving biodiversity and congratulated MACFAST for keeping the biodiversity in Campus. The distinguished guest of the programme Prof. Remadevi V. District Coordinator, KSBB explained the details of KSBB. Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) is an autonomous body of the State Government and come under the Kerala State Environment Department. With the head quarter at Thiruvananthapuram the Board falls under the provision of the Biological Act 2002, Rules 2004 and Kerala State Biological Diversity Rules 2008. She also explained the various functions of the Board in her key note address. Dr. M. S. Samuel, Director, Dept. of Computer of Applications felicitated and spoke about the significance of nature in one's life. The inaugural ceremony concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Nishad P.M, Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Applications.

SEMINAR SESSIONS

FIRST SESSION

RESOURCE PERSON: DR. P. S. EASA, FORMER DIRECTOR, KFRI, PEECHI, THRISSUR

Dr. P. S. Easa handled the first session of the seminar. He explained the various environment and climate required for various species. He mentioned several reasons for the extinction of some indigenous varieties of animals and birds. The story of sea turtles that entered the list of IUCN Red List conveyed the message that if we are not preventing the animals and birds, major portion will be in the brink of extinction. He also explained several Protection Acts emerged for addressing the problem of dwindling population of animals. Sustainable ecological balance, minimized utilization of resources and actions against exploitation of natural wealth especially forests, rivers etc contribute to biodiversity. Pictures of rare species of birds and animals enabled the listeners to understand more.



SECOND SESSION

RESOURCE PERSON: MR. HARESH KUMAR A.S, DISTRICT RESOURCE PERSON, KSBB

Mr. Haresh Kumar A. S spoke on the topic "Rules And Regulations of Biodiversity". He stressed on the importance of abode of serpents and methods to prevent them. He explained the various functions, rules and regulations of Biodiversity. The various acts were explained in detail.

THIRD SESSION

RESOURCE PERSON: MS. GREESHMA PALEERI, RESEARCH SCHOLAR, KFRI, PEECHI, THRISSUR

Ms. Greeshma Paleeri spoke on the topic "Importance and threats of wetlands in Kerala". She explained about wetlands and made people aware that wetlands are not waste lands. She mentioned the importance of wetlands for the purpose of preventing many natural calamities and also briefed the habitats. The wetland types – swamp, marsh, bog, fen and mangrove were explained in detail. She emphasized the major threats wetlands of Kerala face. The lifestory of Kallen Pokkudan who tirelessly planted mangroves to protect them inspired the listeners. The present situation of wetlands in Kerala and why protection is needed was well understood from the session.

EXHIBITION

Photos of 100 birds of 96 species were exhibited in the Conference Hall. All the pictures of the birds were captured by Dr. Nishad P.M, Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Applications. The interesting factor was that all the pictures of birds were captured from MACFAST Campus, which itself proves the biodiversity offered in the campus. Students from schools and colleges visited the exhibition and Dr. Nishad P.M explained about the different species and their habitats.



INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF

State Level Bio Diversity Awareness Seminar cum Exhibition **MACFAST, TIRUVALLA**

Programme Sheet

Date: 04th Feb 2019

Prayer

1.

2.

Ms. Veena & Aisha

Welcome Speech

: Mr. Sanesh P. Varghese

Principal, MACFAST

Presidential Address

Deputy Director, MACFAST : Rev. Fr. Cherian J Kottayil

Lighting the Lamp & Inaugural Address

: Dr. P.S Easa(Chief Guest) Former Director, KFRI Peechi, Thrissur

Keynote Address

: Prof. Remadevi V. (Distinguished Guest) District Coordinator, KSBB

Venue: College Auditorium

Felicitation

Prof. Varghese Abraham Administrator, MACFAST

Felicitation 7.

Dr. M.S Samuel

Director, Dept of Computer Applications, MACFAST

Vote of Thanks 8.

: Dr. Nishad PM

Associate Professor, Dept of Computer Applications, MACFAST

State Level Bio Diversity Awareness Seminar cum Exhibition MACFAST, TIRUVALLA

Programme Schedule

Date: 04/02/2019

Venue: Auditorium

09.30 am - 10.20 am

Inauguration

10.20 am - 10.30 am

Tea Break

10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Dr. P.S Easa, Former Director, KFRI, Peechi, Thrissur

12.30 pm - 01.30 pm

Lunch

01.30 pm - 03.00 pm

Mr. Harikumar A.S, District Resource Person, KSBB

Topic: Rules and Regulations of Biodiversity

03.00 pm - 04.30 pm

Ms. Greeshma Paleeri, Research Scholar, KFRI, Peechi, Thrissur

Topic: Importance and threats of wetlands in Kerala

Exhibition Schedule

Venue: Conference Hall

Day 1

Date: 04/02/2019

09.00 am - 05.00 pm

Day 2

Date: 05/02/2019

09.00 am - 05.00 pm



Courses Offered: Ph.D in Biosciences.

M Sc. Food Technology & Quality Assurance

Biochemistry

Bioinformatics

Plant Biotechnology

Biotechnology

Phytomedical Science & Technology

MBA Master of Business Administration

MCA Master of Computer Applications,

3 Years & 2 Year Lateral Entry

Contact Details

Rev Fr Dr Cherian J Kottayil

Principal, MACFAST Principal@macfast.org

Prof. Remadevi V.

District Co-ordinator, KSBB remadevivijayalakshmi@gmail.com

Programme Coordinator

Dr. Nishad P.M

Mob: 9495262832 Email: nishad.pm@macfast.org

Joint Coordinator

Mr. Thomas Mathew

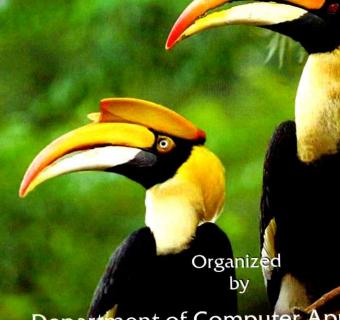
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STATE-LEVEL

BIODIVERSITY AWARENESS SEMINAR CUM EXHIBITION

4TH & 5TH FEBRUARY, 2019



Department of Computer Applications MAR ATHANASIOS COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES TIRUVALLA

(Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade & DSIR Recognized)





Sponsered and Supported

KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (KSBB)





CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Certified that _	has participated
Certified that _	has participated

in the State-Level Biodiversity Awareness Seminar cum Exhibition

on 4th February 2019 and 5th February 2019

Organized By Department of Computer Applications, MACFAST, Firuvalla.

Sponsored And Supported By Kerala State Bio-diversity Board (KSBB).

Dr. Nishad P.MCo-ordinator

Fr. Dr. Cherian J Kottayil

Principal MACFAST

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