

RFRI celebrates International Day for Biological Diversity-2013

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 as International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. When first created by the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly in late 1993, 29 December (the date of entry into force of the Convention of Biological Diversity), was designated The International Day for Biological Diversity. In December 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted 22 May as IDB, to commemorate the adoption of the text of the Convention on 22 May 1992 by the Nairobi Final Act of the Conference for the Adoption of the Agreed Text of the Convention on Biological Diversity. This was partly done because it was difficult for many countries to plan and carry out suitable celebrations for the date of 29 December, given the number of holidays that coincide around that time of year.

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) has joined hands with other countries around the Globe in celebrating International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, 2013 in befitting manner at its Institute. The function was attended by girl students of Cheniamguri High School, Sotai, Jorhat along with their two teachers apart from Scientists, Officers and other supporting staff members of RFRI.

At the outset, Dr. R. K. Borah, Group Coordinator (Research), RFRI welcomed all the guests and participants. He explained the purpose of celebration of this Day at this Institute. Dr. A. P. Singh, Scientist, RFRI, Jorhat made an illustrative presentation on diversity of flora and fauna of Northeast India. He emphasized the need of conservation of rich biodiversity around us. Dr. D. Dutta, Research Officer, RFRI delivered a most informative presentation on importance biodiversity and the strategies for their conservation. He sensitized the students on issues of biodiversity conservation, more particularly emphasized on water and biodiversity in the present context coinciding with this year's theme i.e. **Water and Biodiversity**.

Three Scientific Films on biological diversity - two on butterflies and one on leopard - were screened on the occasion. The students also exchanged their ideas with Scientists and their queries were answered by the Scientists present.

Sri R. K. Kalita, HoD, Forestry Extension and Training Coordinator, RFRI, Jorhat conducted the entire programme.

Glimpses of celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity-2013







