

A report on
International Day for Biological Diversity- 22 May
Celebrated by
Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The 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. The theme **Water and Biodiversity** was chosen to coincide with the United Nations designation of 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation. Water and Biodiversity is the theme for International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) in 2013.

Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur celebrated the IDB on 22nd May, 2013 in the following fashion:

1) Drawing and Painting Competition:

Drawing/Painting Competition for the School children of two groups: a) Junior group (upto class 8th) and b) senior group (9th to 12th class) held in the Conference Hall, Ground Floor, TFRI, Jabalpur. The theme of the competition for junior group and senior group was "*Biodiversity around us*" and "*Biodiversity conservation for future*" respectively. Total 15 children were participated and their performances were evaluated by a panel of Judges: - Mrs. Rita Prakasham, Mrs. Meena Ansari and Dr. (Mrs.) Fatima Shirin. Group wise first three participants are:

a. Junior Group

1 st Prize	Master Abhijeet Bhowmik
2 nd Prize	Master Sankalp Shrivastav
3 rd Prize	Master Ayushman Pathak

b. Senior Group

1 st Prize	Ms. Ankita Navik
2 nd Prize	Ms. Mousami Biswas
3 rd Prize	Mr. Gaurav Singh Raina

2. Essay Writing Competition

Essay writing Competition for the employees including Junior Research Fellows and their families/ dependents was organized at the Conference Hall, Genetics Building. The topic of essay was "*The Pressure of Urbanization and Biodiversity Conservation*". In all, 11 participants participated in essay writing competition. The essays were adjudged by Dr. S. A. Ansari, Dr. R.K. Verma and Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra. Following were the prize winners.

1 st Prize	Mr. Vivek Vaishnav
2 nd Prize	Mr. Anand Kumar Das
3 rd Prize	Mr. Lakshmi Kant Kaurav

3. Lectures on Biodiversity

Two specialized lectures related to the Biodiversity and its conservation, emphasizing the current theme for the year "*Water and Biodiversity*" were delivered these were –

a. ***Biodiversity in India*** - by Dr. U. Prakasham, Director, TFRI, Jabalpur.

b. ***Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve: Paradise of Biodiversity***- by Dr. N. Roychoudhury, Scientist – F and Head, Forest Entomology division, TFRI, Jabalpur.

During the programme, certificate received from the UNESCO, through the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), notifying the inclusion of Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve (AABR) in World Network of Biospheres was also displayed for

public viewing. The institute has played major role in notification process of the AABR, being a Lead Institute.

The programme attracted by a good number of audiences from the institute, its residential colony and others from the surrounding areas. Overall, the programme was successful in sensitizing the importance of the biodiversity and its conservation amongst the audiences including school children.

The programme was organized by Forest Extension Division under the guidance of Dr. U. Prakasham, Director TFRI, Co-ordinated by Dr. N. Kulkarni, Scientist-F and conducted by Dr. S.N. Mishra, Research Officer.



Selected Paintings



Children Participating in Painting Competition



Participants of Essay Competition



Children showing their Paintings after competition



Audience during specialized lecture on the biodiversity