



Report on Earth Day 2021



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**

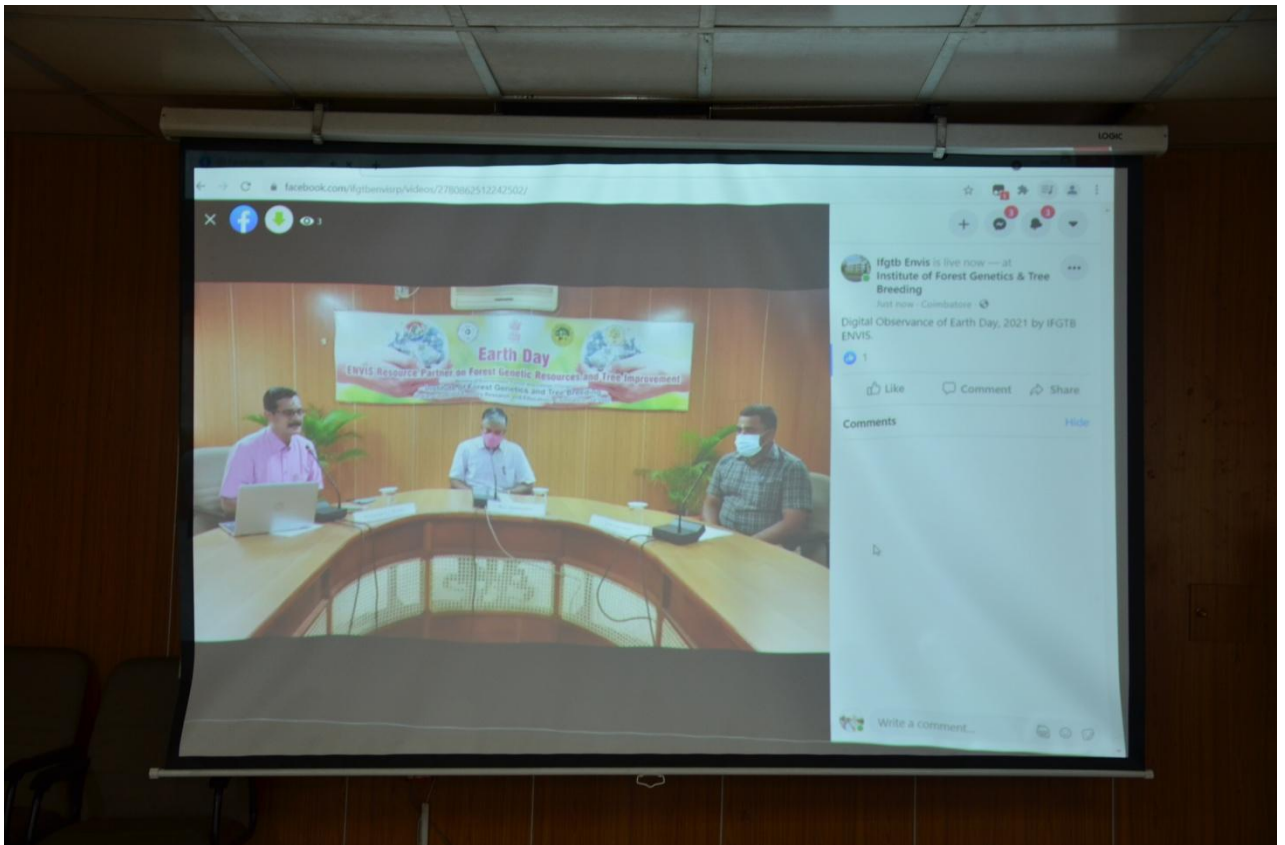
Digital Observance of Earth Day, 2021 by IFGTB ENVIS

ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding marked the Earth Day 2021 digitally through Facebook live on 22 April 2021. The digital observance also found a place in the worldwide events organized by earthday.org. The event began with an invocation on nature Prakruti Vandanam based on Yajur Veda by Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Scientist F and ENVIS Coordinator. Dr Kannan CS Warriar during his introductory remarks, spoke on the theme of Earth Day 2021, Restore Our Earth. Infectious diseases have been rising since the 1950s, with an estimated three out of every four diseases coming from animals. Scientists believe that almost half of the new zoonotic diseases since 1940 stem from changes in land use, like deforestation. Since the start of human civilization, we've cleared 46% of trees globally and we still lose 1500 crore trees a year. Biodiversity loss in the last few decades is unprecedented, too, with around one million plant and animal species at risk of extinction. Native species populations in land-based habitats have fallen 20%. Planting the wrong species or planting them in the wrong areas may cause more harm to ecosystems and wildlife than good. Here comes the importance of sacred groves. Floristic diversity studies of sacred groves help us in a regional biodiversity planning and can select the most suitable tree species for afforestation of a denuded locality, Dr Warriar, highlighted.

Dr C Kunhikannan, Director IFGTB inaugurated the digital event and released an awareness poster on the theme Restore Our Earth. During his inaugural address Dr Kunhikannan pointed out that the three 'R's, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle should be the motto of every one to preserve the mother earth. He also highlighted that the Earth's natural resources including air, water, soil, minerals, plants, and animals should be utilized in a proper way. Conservation is the practice of caring for these resources so that all living things can benefit from them now and in the future. If these resources are used wisely and efficiently people can reduce waste and manage natural resources, he added. The Director urged that all should conserve the mother Earth by reducing the ecological footprint.

An Awareness Quiz was also organized for students and general public. Participants numbering 899 from all walks of life have participated and E Certificate was awarded to all. The digital copy of the awareness poster was shared with students and all the stakeholders. Dr S. Vigneswaran, Senior Programme Officer, ENVIS proposed the vote of thanks. The online event can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/3n8d1rs>.









ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

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EARTH DAY 2021

Theme: Restore Our Earth

Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 every year to raise awareness among masses about climate change and global warming. The day inspires to act towards the protection of the environment and focus on the need for conservation. Earth Day is recognised as the largest civic event in the world. Earth Day demands immediate action to be taken to tackle industrial pollution, oil spills, toxic waste disposal and others.

SAVE OUR MOTHER EARTH



Poster No. 017/EGTE ENVIS - April 2021

Role of Individuals to Save Earth



Plant more trees



Be energy efficient



Practice 5Rs



Conserve natural resources



Avoid plastic



Wisely dispose waste



Be Eco friendly



Practice sustainability