A Report on International Day for Biological Diversity, 22nd May 2015

The Assam State Biodiversity Board celebrated the "International day for Biological Diversity" on 22nd May, 2015 on the theme of "Biodiversity for Sustainable Development" at Jeypore that is known for its Rainforests, situated in the Dibrugarh District of Assam. The event was sponsored by National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai. This function was organized by Assam State Biodiversity Board (ASBB) in collaboration with Assam Forest Department.

Shri Atuwa Munda, Hon'ble Minister for Environment & Forests and Tea Tribe Welfare Department, Assam, was the Chief Guest at the function.

The other dignitaries on the dais included Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS, Chairman-ASBB & Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam, Shri D. Mathur, IFS, PCCF & HoFF-Assam, Dr. A.K. Goswami, Member-ASBB, Dr. R. C. Goswami, Member-ASBB, Shri M.S. Manivanam, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh District, Shri Gyan Pal Bhante, Guru of Namphake Buddhist Monastery. In addition, Shri A.K. Singh, IFS, Addl. PCCF (CAMPA), Shri J. M. Kouli, Addl. PCCF (UAZ), Dr. Ranjana Gupta, IFS, Addl. PCCF (Wetlands), and Shri A. K. Johari, IFS, Addl. PCCF (Biodiversity& CC) & Member Secretary, Assam State Biodiversity Board were also present.

Dr. Ranjana Gupta, IFS, Addl. PCCF (Wetlands) welcomed the Guests. Shri A.K. Johari, APCCF (Biodiversity & CC) & Member Secretary-ASBB made an introductory address explaining the significance of the theme of the function.

The invitees to the function included Presidents & Members of Anchalik Panchayats and Members of Biodiversity Management Committees of Golaghat, Jorhat, Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia Districts; the representatives of Government Departments such as Agriculture, Fishery, Horticulture, Veterinary & Educational Institutions; several NGOs, Senior Forest Officers and Member Secretaries of the Biodiversity Management Committees.

Around 400 students of adjoining schools participated in the function.

Main events of the function included:

- 1. **Painting & Photography Exhibition**: displaying all prize winning paintings of the competition held along with other wildlife & biodiversity photographs of the Jeypore Rainforest by several amateur photographers.
- 2. **Release of a Booklet on the theme**: "Biodiversity for Sustainable Development".
- 3. **Release of PBR preparation grant:** An amount of Rs 50,000/- was release to 37 BMCS of Upper Assam for preparation of PBR.
- 4. Address by Dignitaries: Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS, Chairman-ASBB & Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam, Shri D. Mathur, IFS, PCCF & HoFF-Assam, Dr. A.K. Goswami, Member-ASBB, Shri R. C. Goswami, Member-ASBB, Shri M.S. Manivanam, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh District, Shri Gyan Pal Bhante, Guru of Namphake Buddhist Monastery.
- 5. **Award of prizes**: As part of the celebrations, Painting and Quiz competitions for school children were organized for generating awareness amongst the students and local people. About 700 school children from 25 different government and private schools participated in the competitions:
 - a. Painting Competition (Total Participants : 605)
 - i. Group I: Class I V $(1^{st}, 2^{nd}, 3^{rd} & 7 \text{ Consolation prizes})$
 - ii. Group II: Class VI VIII $(1^{st}, 2^{nd}, 3^{rd} \& 7$ Consolation prizes)
 - iii. Group III: Class IX X (1st, 2nd, 3rd & 7 Consolation prizes)
 - b. Quiz Competition: (Total Participants : 102; 34 teams of 3 students each, from Class IX X: 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 3 Consolation prizes)

The prizes included a trophy/medal, certificate, memento, posters and a folder containing various publications of the Board.

Each student was given a Certificate of participation for competitive events.

The event was widely covered by the print and electronic media.



Dignitaries at the Function



Hon'ble Minister, E & F at the Function



Chairman-ASBB at the Function



PCCF & HoFF at the Function



Shri Gyan Pal Bhante at the Function



Hon'ble Minister, E & F lighting the inaugural lamp

Exhibition of the Photographs and Painting at the Function



Minister and other Dignitaries at the Exhibition



Minister and other Dignitaries at the Exhibition



Photographs of Jeypore Rainforest at the Exhibition



Photographs of Jeypore Rainforest at the Exhibition



Children admiring the Paintings at the Exhibition



School Children admiring the Paintings at the Exhibition

Release of the Booklet



Release of theme Booklet by the Minister during the function



Booklet released during the function

Release of the PBR Grant to BMCs



BMC Members receiving the Grant cheque from the Dignitaries



Prize Distribution for award winning students at the function



Prize winning students receiving their award from Minister and other Dignitaries



1. Painting Competition



2. Quiz Competition

