

# JUNGLE BOOK

A COMMUNIQUE FROM FORESTS DEPTT, CHANDIGARH

EDITION: JANUARY - MARCH 2021

## EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TO RESTORE FORESTS



Community participation plays an important role in forest management to ensure protection and management of the forests by making social fencing. Around 300 million people across the world lived on land where forests could be restored. The local communities that lived on this land needed to be empowered for the restoration of forests to mitigate climate change.

Crucial forest-restoration areas in low-income countries were home to 12 per cent of their total population. This can have an impact on carbon sequestration projects, biodiversity conservation and local livelihoods. To realise the full potential of forest restoration, even the rural populations cannot be avoided.

Restricting sparsely inhabited forest landscapes can remove concerns of displacing or marginalising local populations. This, however, can also limit global restoration.

One good example of the opportunity for forest restoration is India, where local communities have been empowered under the community forest resource rights provision under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

There are significant forest restoration and community participation opportunities in Chandigarh, Punjab, Gujarat and Odisha and several other states of the country that can lead to carbon removal from the atmosphere.

This removal will not just mitigate the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions that led to the climate change crisis, but also support local livelihoods.

The restoration of forests — wherever it is done — must also follow scientific methods and not be done in a quick-fix way.

Such initiatives can go a long way in helping countries achieve the target of restoring 350 million hectares of forests by 2030.

Debendra Dalai  
Chief Conservator of Forests



The following winners of the Short Mobile Video Contest were awarded with a cash prize of rupees one thousand each, a trophy and a merit certificate:-

### SCHOOL CATEGORY (TOP FIVE ENTRIES);

Avani, AKSIPS 41 Smart School, Garima Tandon, The New Public School, Suhani Sharma, Delhi Public School Chandigarh, Shivam Vats, GMSSS 35D&Sanjana Charlotte, Class XI, Carmel Convent School, chd.

### COLLEGE CATEGORY (TOP THREE ENTRIES);

Divya, BCA I, Nishita Aggarwal, Class BA-II & Apoorva Pant, Class-BSC (CS) II of Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls, Sector 11, Chandigarh.

### TEACHERS CATEGORY (TOP FIVE ENTRIES);

Seema Rani, Principal, GMSSS, Dhanas, Jyoti Tewari, ShardaSarvhitkari Model Sr. Sec.School, Naveed, Chitkara International School, Seema Chaudhary, GMSSS 37B and Subalakshmi P. Durga, Principal, Adarsh Bal Vidyapeeth, Chd.

## Mobile

### VIDEO CONTEST ON MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS

The Medicinal Plant Board of Chandigarh organized a 'Short Mobile Video Contest' on "Medicinal & Aromatic Plants of Chandigarh", in which a large number of participants from over 20 prominent Schools and Colleges of Chandigarh participated.

On this occasion, Shri Debendra Dalai shared that medicinal plants have long been utilized in traditional medicine and worldwide. India's wealth of medicinal plant species have been used in traditional Indian health systems for millennia. Fortunately, we find them in abundance across hundreds of acres of forest land and city sectors in Chandigarh. It won't be wrong to call Chandigarh as Medicinal Plants City. No wonder, the city denizens are greeted by these old, loyal friends—the trees-- who give them lifesaving gifts across the sectors. And there is a need to promote the medicinal plants and herbs to save the human lives.



## ECO-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TO INVOLVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES



In order to involve the local community in protection and management of the forests in general and the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary in particular, an Eco-Development Programme was organized on 16th March, 2021 at Kansal. Programme was organized to educate the villagers about their role and responsibility towards the conservation of forests. On this occasion, Department distributed Pressure Cookers to 70 families of Khuda-Ali-Sher and Kaimbwala village to encourage them towards energy efficient cooking and reduce their direct dependency on fuel wood.

While addressing the participants, Sh. Dalai said that we depend on forests for our survival, from the air we breathe to the wood we use. Besides providing habitats for animals and livelihoods for humans, forests also offer watershed protection, prevent soil erosion and mitigate climate change. Yet, despite our dependence on forests, we are still allowing them to disappear.

The Ex-Sarpanch also addressed that the birth and growth of human civilization and culture has been very intimately connected with the forests. Forests have had a great influence on human thought and way of living.

Among prominent persons who attended the event were Mr.Hakam Singh, Ex-Sarpanch, Khuda Ali Sher, Mr. Sonu, Ex-Sarpanch, Kaimbwala, Mr.Praveen Yadav, Range Forest Officer, Chandigarh and Mr.Devender Singh Chauhan, Range Forest Officer, Nepli.



## SOLAR CARTS AT SUKHNA

Shri Manoj Parida, IAS, Adviser to the Administrator, UT Chandigarh flagged off two Solarised Carts launched by Department of Forest & Wildlife, Chandigarh for facilitating the people of the City Beautiful for sighting of migratory birds at Sukhna Lake. Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta, IAS, Home Secretary-cum-Principal Secretary (Forests), Sh.Debendra Dalai, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest, Chandigarh, Sh.Mandip Singh Brar, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Chandigarh, Dr.Abdul Qayum, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chandigarh, Sh.Rajiv Tiwari, Director Public Relations, Chandigarh and other senior officers of the Administration were also present on this occasion.

Solar cart service shall provide free service to the people i.e. senior citizens, pregnant ladies, physically challenged persons etc.

Shri Manoj Parida, IAS, appreciated the unique initiative taken by the Department of Forest & Wildlife for running these carts with solar energy battery operated system which will help in providing pollution-free service to the citizens.

On this occasion, cotton bags were also distributed to the public in order to make them aware about the adverse effects of plastic carry bags. These cloth bags thus distributed to the general public by the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee shall help in promoting ban on single-use plastic and use of more and more cotton & cloth bags in Chandigarh.

On this occasion, Sh.Debendra Dalai, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, UT Chandigarh informed that every year hundreds of Migratory Birds like Brahmi Ducks, Common Pochards, Red-Crested Pochards, Geese, Shell Ducks, Marsh Ducks, Diving Ducks, Coots, Stilts, Hill Kingfisher, Mallard, Pintail, Cormorants, Siberian Ducks, Cranes, Storks, Sandpipers etc. travel thousands of miles to reach Sukhna Lake, to escape the harsh cold of their habitats. These migratory birds start arriving in the Sukhna Lake from early November and their stay lasts till March or April, depending on the climatic conditions. He further stated that this solar cart service initiated by the Administration will definitely encourage the persons with old-age, disability, pregnant women to appreciate the beauty of nature.

Among the prominent members attended the event were Sh.Debendra Dalai, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest, UT Chandigarh, Sh.Mandip Singh Brar, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, UT Chandigarh, Dr.Abdul Qayum, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, UT Chandigarh and Sh.Rajiv Tiwari, Director Public Relations, UT Chandigarh.



# World Forestry Day

When we drink a glass of water, write in a notebook, take medicine for a fever or build a house, we do not always make the connection with forests. And yet, these and many other aspects of our lives are linked to forests in one way or another.

The United Nations General Assembly recognizes March 21 as the International Day of Forests and utilizes this day to raise awareness about the importance of forest restoration. This day is a reminder of the value of forests in the lives of living creatures. The theme for 2021 is "Forest Restoration: A Path to Recovery and Well-being".

The restoration and sustainable management of forests can help in addressing the issues related to climate change and biodiversity. It also carries the potential to produce goods and services for sustainable development, fostering an economic activity that creates jobs and improves lives. Sustainable management of forests along with the judicious use of their resources is the primary way to combating climate change and contributing to the prosperity and well-being of present and future generations. Forests have an important role to play in poverty eradication and in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Though forests provide us with unmeasured ecological, economic, social, and health benefits, still global deforestation continues at an alarming rate. Therefore, it becomes necessary for everyone to act in a responsible way and spread consciousness about the importance of saving Forests on global Forests Day 2021.

On International Day of Forests, countries around the world are undertaking efforts to conduct activities for forests and trees, such as tree-planting campaigns.

Forests touch every life on the planet. Yet people find it hard to balance between the give and take relationship with nature and often ask for too much. Before it's too late, the world should clasp the nature that is slowly slipping away and march forward together to create a movement. It's time to rebuild the world, enforce new beliefs and safeguard our tomorrow.



**One, Two, Three  
Plant a Tree**



**Don't be a  
litter bug  
give a tree a hug**



**Don't be mean  
Go Green**



**Do your Duty  
Conserve Nature's Beauty**

**Give a hoot  
for the root**



# IMPORTANT DATES OF THE SECOND QUARTER 2021

## Earth Day – April 20

The largest civic event in the world aims 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.

## World Migratory Bird Day – May 12

World Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated with the theme “Birds Connect Our World” that highlights the importance of conserving and restoring the ecological connectivity and integrity of ecosystems.

## Endemic Bird Day – May 14

It is a day to observe the birds. So do watch birds from anywhere. Even 10 minutes in your backyard counts.

## International Biodiversity Day – May 22

International Biodiversity Day 2021 is being celebrated under the slogan: “We’re part of the solution #ForNature”.

## World Environment Day – June 5

This year, the theme is biodiversity – a concern that is both urgent and existential. It is celebrated to create awareness about what needs to be done to protect our environment.

## World Oceans Day – June 8

Innovation is a dynamic term that is filled with hope. This year's theme is especially relevant in the lead-up to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, which will run from 2021 to 2030

## Global Wind Day – June 16

It is a day to discover wind and the possibilities it holds to reshape our energy systems, decarbonise our economies and boost jobs and growth. This year we celebrate 40 years of wind power

# Investing in forests to build back better & greener

*How forests can contribute to strengthening the resilience of societies and economies.*



The world's forests act as shields, keeping humans safe from zoonotic diseases, such as coronaviruses. Their destruction can have devastating consequences for global public health.

**1 in 3 outbreaks**

of new and emerging diseases, such as HIV and SARS, are linked to deforestation and other land-use changes.



Forest conservation and restoration are win-wins for stimulus investment. They can create millions of green jobs to boost rural economies and provide long term sustainable growth.

Restoring **300 million**

hectares of degraded forest globally is a business opportunity estimated at 175 billion USD/year.



Recovery packages and corporate bailouts should be structured in ways that reduce, not increase, deforestation in order to strengthen the resilience of societies and economies.

Thriving forests are a crucial source of materials and services for key economic sectors like agriculture, energy, infrastructure and tourism. They are estimated to contribute

**2 percent**

of the world's GDP.

