

World Wetlands Day 2020 celebration at ENVIS-RP, Institute of Wildlife Sciences, University of Lucknow

The theme for World Wetlands Day 2020 is “Wetlands and Biodiversity”. It was celebrated by the ENVIS – RP, Institute of Wildlife Sciences, ONGC for Advanced studies, University of Lucknow in collaboration with the U.P. State Biodiversity Board, Lucknow and Biodiversity and Wildlife Conservation Lab, Department of Zoology, University of Lucknow. The ENVIS-RP organized a field visit to Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary, Unnao on 2nd February 2020 for schools and college students. More than 100 students participated in the wetlands field visit and water bird census.

On this occasion Coordinator of ENVIS-RP Prof. Amita Kanaujia said, Wetlands are very important for the environment as well as places of many water birds, terrestrial animals, etc. Further Amita Kanaujia said it is necessary to appraise the students about the importance of wetlands and the need to conserve them. All students during the field visit, learned about the wetlands, its biodiversity and prepared a checklist of water birds of Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary.

The Uttar Pradesh Bird Festival -2020 held in the Sir Sarovar Bird Sanctuary at Keetham, Agra was inaugurated by State Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Shri Dara Singh Chauhan and Minister of State Forest Shri Anil Sharma, PCCF, CCF, the ACCF and also other forest officer. On this occasion, ENVIS-RP Team set up an



Participants during water bird's census: identification and observation.

awareness stall for awareness regarding the bird's ecology, habitat and threats to wetlands and birds. Prof. Amita Kanaujia delivered a lecture on Vultures Silent Guardians of Nature. Two books titled Sarus Crane: The Icon of Indian Wetlands and Vulture Silent Guardians of Nature was released by the



Lecture delivered by Dr. Rajesh Prakash Chaube and Prof. Amita Kanaujia on wetlands biodiversity and conservation.

Lucknow Dr. Rajesh Prakash Chaube delivered a lecture on “Diversity of Water birds” and told about wetlands and other aquatic habitat of birds. He told about the importance of wetlands in survival of water birds. One more lecture on “Conservation of wetlands in reference to ground water” was delivered by Dr. Venkatesh Dutta, Associate Professor, School of Environmental Sciences, Babashaeb Bhimrao Ambedkar (Central) University, Lucknow.

State Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Shri Dara Singh Chauhan and Minister of State Forest Shri Anil Sharma, PCCF, CCF and the ACCF.

In the continuation, a One Day Workshop on **Wetlands and Biodiversity** was organized on 4th February 2020. Approximately 80 students from more than 15 schools, colleges and universities participated in the workshop. During the workshop Ornithologist from

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Participants of Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh field visit.