

Biodiversity Day Celebrations and Telangana Youth Biodiversity Conference

The Telangana Biodiversity Board organized the Telangana Youth Biodiversity Conference, a first-of-its-kind initiative, at the Telangana State Forest Academy, Dulapally, Hyderabad. The conference was aimed at encouraging the youth of Telangana to learn about, document, and contribute to biodiversity conservation. The theme of the conference was “Act Locally for a Global Impact”.

Day 1 Proceedings

The conference commenced with an inaugural session, followed by an address from a young startup founder who emphasized the importance of self-learning and making effective use of the vast information available through digital resources. An introduction to the Telangana Biodiversity Board and glimpses of previous National and International Youth Biodiversity Conferences were also presented.

An overview of biodiversity in Telangana was delivered by Dr. C. Srinivasulu, who highlighted the need for greater documentation of the state’s flora and fauna. Dr. Sai Priyanka Pagadala of the Deccan Development Society spoke on the conservation of indigenous millet varieties through women’s self-help groups and the promotion of millet-based food products. Ms.

Madhulika Chaudhary, founder of Dhruvansh, discussed innovative approaches to wetland restoration and water quality improvement in Telangana. A session on entrepreneurship was conducted by Mr. Shravan Chaitanya from the Atal Incubation Centre, T-Hub, who provided guidance on establishing startups and accessing incubation support.

Participants later engaged in group discussions on biodiversity-related topics, which encouraged knowledge sharing and collaborative learning. The final technical session was delivered by Ms. Gunde Padma, who spoke about the preparation of People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) through field-based biodiversity documentation. The day concluded with an interactive discussion featuring Dr. C. Srinivasulu and Sri Kalicharan S. Khartade, IAS, who encouraged participants to actively contribute to biodiversity conservation and environmental stewardship.



Day 2 Proceedings

The second day coincided with the Biodiversity Day celebrations and was held at the Birla Planetarium Auditorium, Hyderabad. The program began with a cultural performance showcasing the biodiversity and unique characteristics of different districts of Telangana, highlighting the state's ecological and cultural richness.

Following the arrival of the dignitaries, speeches were delivered on the importance of biodiversity conservation and sustainable environmental practices. Awards were presented to winners of various competitions, including painting, photography, and essay writing. Members of Biodiversity Management Committees who had actively contributed to the preparation of People's Biodiversity Registers were also felicitated for their efforts.

The event concluded with the distribution of certificates to participants of the Telangana Youth Biodiversity Conference. The conference provided a valuable platform for learning, interaction, and networking among participants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds.

I am grateful to the Telangana Biodiversity Board for providing this enriching opportunity and for organizing an informative and inspiring conference dedicated to biodiversity conservation.

Dupati Poojitha

Zoo Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. c-poojitha@zooreach.org.

Citation: Poojitha, D. (2026). Biodiversity Day Celebrations and Telangana Youth Biodiversity Conference. Zooreach Activity Update, In: *Zoo's Print* 41(6): 65–66.



Participants for the Conference.
© Telangana Biodiversity Board