

Inauguration programme of Green skill development programme (GSDP)

Foundation Course: Biodiversity Conservationists Venue: Central National Herbarium, Botanical survey of India. 29th May 2017

MORNING SESSION:

The trainees were received and welcomed at AJCBIBG Main Gate at about 10:00 am and brought to Central National Herbarium building.

INAUGURATION SESSION:

The programme started at about 11.20 am in the auditorium of CNH. Ms. Sagari Chaudhury welcomed the dignitaries, Dr. Kailash Chandra, Director, ZSI, Dr. Paramjit Singh, Director, BSI, Dr. K. Rajmohana, Co-ordinator, ENVIS, ZSI and Dr. S. Bandyopadhyay, Scientist 'B', CNH, BSI on dais. Dr. P.V. Prasanna, Scientist 'F' & HoO, CNH, BSI welcomed all the dignitaries, guests and trainees in his Welcome Address. The programme started on an auspicious note by watering the Tulsi plant by the dignitaries.

The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Kailash Chandra, followed by Dr. A. Pramanick, HoO, AJCBIBG, BSI, Dr. K. Rajmohana, Dr. S. Bandyopadhyay and finally Dr. Paramjit Singh. They provided a general idea about the training course (Green Skill Development Programme) which will be imparted during three months foundation course (Biodiversity Conservationists) at first level and three months advanced course (Parataxonomists) at second level. The basic aim of the programme is to train people who have not been able to continue education due to different financial or social constraints but has an urge to learn new things and do something fruitful. The training will provide a general knowledge about the biodiversity and methods of conservation so that it can be spread to the general public through them and also create job opportunities for the trainees. It is a certified course aimed at creating green jobs, a valuable contribution towards green economy of the nation.

The session ended by singing of the National Anthem.

TRAINING SESSION:

The training session started at 12.40 pm. It consisted three training courses provided by ZSI Trainers and one training course provided by BSI.

Training course 1: Biodiversity and Classification, a story of invertebrates. By Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, ZSI.

In her training, Dr. Banerjee provided a basic concept about Taxonomy, a science of discovery, naming, description and classification of organisms, at a very grass root level, appropriate for the trainees. She also emphasized on the importance of classification and nomenclature and the benefits of taxonomy. Then she told about different types of invertebrates and their classification with the help of photographs.

Training course 2: Biodiversity of Indian vertebrates. By Dr. Kaushik Deuti, ZSI.

In his training, Dr. Deuti emphasized on the biodiversity and classification of Indian vertebrates. He provided a general concept about different types of vertebrates, their basic characters and means of identification with the help of photographs.

Training course 3: Biodiversity profile in India – Apterygota. By Dr. G.P. Mandal, ZSI.

The training by Dr. Mandal was basically about soil biodiversity. He provided knowledge about different animals present inside soil, their habitat and methods of collection and preservation. He also emphasized on the importance of soil fauna.

Training course 4: Medicinal plants and traditional knowledge. By Ms. Sagari Chaudhury, BSI.

Ms. Chaudhury told about ancient Indian education and the Indian science of Ayurveda. She also spoke about Ethnobotany and traditional knowledge of medicinal plants used by tribal people. She mainly emphasized on the Lodha tribe of Bankura district of West Bengal. She showed two videos showing tribal means of treatments using different plant parts or even animal bones followed by the 'traditional doctors' of the Lodha tribe. She also provided knowledge about tribal medicinal uses of some common plants.