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प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक का कार्यालय

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

वन सदन, हैडो / VAN SADAN - HADDO

पोर्ट ब्लेयर/Port Blair, दिनांक/Dated

21st March, 2023

सेवा में/To,

The Chief Editor,
The Daily Telegram,
Govt. Press,
Port Blair

विषय/Sub: Publishing of Press Note -reg.

महोदय /Sir,

Kindly arrange to publish the press note in English enclosed (both Hard and Soft Copy) along with photographs regarding International Day of Forests celebrated on 21.03.2023 on the theme "Forests and Health" by the Department of Environment and Forests, Andaman & Nicobar Administration in the Daily Telegram on 23.03.2023.

भवदीय /Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above

सहायक वन संरक्षक / Assistant Conservator of Forests
(मुख्यालय /Headquarters)
वन सदन, पोर्ट ब्लेयर /Van Sadan, Port Blair

Copy to:-

The Assistant Conservator of Forests (GIS Cell), PCCF office for necessary action.

PRESS NOTE

The International Day of Forests was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the Department of Environment & Forests Andaman & Nicobar Administration on 21.03.2023. The theme of this year International Day of Forests is "Forests and Health". In order to sensitize the general masses about the value of forests and their relationship with human health, the department organized a bike Rally consisting of 50 bike riders from Nature Park & Interpretation Centre (NPIC), Haddo via Delanipur, Phoenix Bay, Mohanpura, Clock Tower, Marina Park, Netaji Stadium, Middle point, Goal Ghar and back to NPIC. The department also displayed a Tableau on this occasion which was based on the theme Forests & Health. The bike rally and Tableau display was flagged off by Shri. Kamal Datta, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Chief Wildlife Warden from NPIC.

In the series of events a ceremonial plantation programme was also organized at Nature Park & Interpretation Centre (NPIC), Haddo by the department. Smti. S Selvi, Chairperson, Port Blair Municipal Council (PBMC), Port Blair graced the occasion as Chief Guest along with Shri R. Someswara Rao, Ward Councilor as Guest of Honor. The invited guests and senior officers of the department carried out plantation of Thitmin (*Podocarpus neriifolius*) saplings, which is a rare & endangered tree species and the only gymnosperm species available in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Smti. S Selvi, Chairperson, PBMC, Port Blair also released newly reared butterflies in butterfly conservatory at this occasion.

As part of International Day of Forests, various awareness programs were also conducted in other part of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. In Middle Andaman, an awareness rally was organized in Bakultala, plantation events were organized apart from having meeting and discussion with local stakeholders PRI members etc. on medicinal usage of forest products, herbs and medicinal plants.

An awareness program on the theme "Forests and Health" was organised by Mayabunder Division at Karamatang beach with active involvement of PRI members of Rampur Gram Panchayat, villagers and staffs of Forest Department. An awareness programme on forest fire-prevention and firefighting methods was also conducted in Mayabunder. In Nabagram local people of Kalighat village and PRI Members were made aware about various medicinal plants and saplings were also distributed. Workshop for school students was organized at Diglipur. A seminar on importance of Forests in human health was also organized in Hutbay, Little Andaman.
