

# Celebrating International Day for Biological Diversity- 2020

## "Solutions in Nature to Combat Pandemics"



**22 MAY 2020**  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR  
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**  
Our solutions are in nature

**Webinar -cum-Brainstorming on  
"Biodiversity for nature based  
solutions to combat pandemics"**

Ecosystem integrity underlines human health and development. Human-induced environmental changes modify wildlife population structure and reduce biodiversity, resulting in new environmental conditions that favour particular hosts, vectors, and/or pathogens. The UN decade on biodiversity (2011-2020), culminating this year, calls for strategic planning on biodiversity conservation and leading to nature based solutions to combat pandemics. Hence, there is need for mass awareness on threats and conservation priorities, solutions in nature, and communicating value of biodiversity.

### Webinar-cum-Brainstorming (22 May 2020; 3:00-4:15 PM)

#### KEY DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Challenges in nature and emergence of pandemics
- Role of biodiversity to combat pandemics
- Biodiversity loss and its effect on human health
- Biotechnological approaches for nature based solution
- Agro-biodiversity options of sustenance & livelihood
- Biodiversity & preparedness for pandemics-Economic perspective:
- Communicating the value of biodiversity

### Events and Competitions:

#### Drawing & Painting Competition (for school students)

Theme: *Save Biodiversity Save Life*

Categories: Junior (6-9 Std.) & Senior (10-12 Std.)

#### Essay Competition (for school students)

Theme: *Nature as self-healing solution*

Categories: Junior (6-9 Std.) & Senior (10-12 Std.)

#### Photo Competition

Theme: *Himalayan Biodiversity (Focus- Eastern Himalaya)*

Category: Researchers/College students/Faculty

**NOTE:** All entries in digital format (along with name, School/ University/ Institute and contact details) must be submitted by email (at [sandeep\\_rawat15@rediffmail.com](mailto:sandeep_rawat15@rediffmail.com); [kgaira@gmail.com](mailto:kgaira@gmail.com)) or by whatsapp (No. 8894371041; 9593261157) latest by 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020 (9:30am). Winners will be informed by email/ phone and awarded with suitable prizes & certificates.

#### Coordinators:

Dr. Sandeep Rawat, Dr. K. S. Gaira

### PANELISTS

#### Dr. R.S. Rawal

Director, National Institute of Himalayan Environment



#### Prof. G.K. Niroula Chhtry

Vice Chancellor, Sikkim State University



#### Dr. S.K. Nandi

Former Head, CEA&CC, NIHE



#### Dr. Sarala Khaling

Regional Director, ATREE, Gangtok, Sikkim



#### Prof. N. Sathyanarayana

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#### Dr. Rajib Gogoi

Head, BSI, Sikkim Himalaya Regional Centre



#### Dr. Shriprakash

Assistant Director RARI, Sikkim



#### Dr. T. N. Deka

Head, Indian Cardamom Research Institute, Sikkim



#### Prof. R.M. Pant

Director, NIRD & PR-NERC



#### Moderator & Convenor

Dr. Rajesh Joshi

Head, NIHE, Sikkim Regional Centre



गोविंद बल्लभ पंत राष्ट्रीय हिमालयी पर्यावरण संस्थान

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