

# World Environment Day 2017

Theme : **Connecting People to Nature**



World Environment Day was celebrated by the Centres of the Institution all over the country on June 5, 2017. Brief accounts of the celebration as received from various Centres are reported hereunder

## STATE CENTRES

### Bihar



Mr Ashok Kumar Sinha, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the dignitaries and participants and introduced the theme of the day. The Keynote Speaker, Prof Mohammad Jawed, IIT, Guwahati, delivered a vivid lecture on the theme 'Connecting People to Nature'. He mentioned that

people may live long and better life by connecting themselves with the nature. Dignitaries including Dr Arun Kumar Srivastava, Council Member, IEI; Mr Ajay Kumar Sinha, Past Chairman of the Centre; Mr Kishore Kumar, Chairman, SDF, IEI attended the programme. Mr Ramashish Sharma, Past Honorary Secretary of the Centre, conducted the function and proposed the vote of thanks.

### Delhi



Mr Devendra Gill, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the dignitaries and the participants and highlighted the importance of the day. He felt that environment can be protected only when common people get associated with this mission. The Chief Guest, Dr Chandan Ghosh, Professor &

Head, Geo-Hazard Risk Management Division, National Institute of Disaster Management (Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India), in his address, narrated that the growing of Vetiver hedges on contours and adopting tillage practices between them has proved to be an effective method to reduce runoff and soil loss and increase in-situ moisture, thereby obtaining higher crop yields. He also mentioned some of the uses of Vetiver grass, such as, harvesting rainwater and protection of infrastructure, coastlines, waterways, farmland, flood-prone areas, etc. Mr Praveen Kumar Singh, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

### Jharkhand

Mr Sanjay Sen, Chairman of the Centre, in his welcome address, stated that the theme chosen for this year, implores us to get outdoors and into nature, to appreciate its beauty and its importance and to take forward the call to protect the Earth that we share.



The Guest-of-Honour, Mr S Ganesh, President, ISHRAE, Ranchi Chapter, explained that the need of the hour is to come out of all the gadgets which are connecting people to the digital society and should connect to the nature and enjoy the beauty for rejuvenating the human body and the soul. Mr S Mitra Mazumdar, AGM, RDCIS, SAIL, in his Keynote Address on the theme, stressed on conservation of natural resources and protection of environment. Another Keynote Address was delivered by Mr Balkrishna Bisoyi,

Sr. Manager, CET-SAIL on the topic 'Granulation of Blast Furnace Slag – A Key to Environmental Protection & Sustainable Development'. He mentioned that this slag not only protects our environment but also generates revenue for sustainable development. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Mr M R Kumar, Honorary Secretary of the Centre.

### Karnataka



Prof (Dr) N Chikkanna, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function. Mr Jasmal Singh, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, welcomed the gathering. Prof (Dr) T V Ramachandra, Co-ordinator, Energy & Wetlands Research Group, Center for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in his keynote address, focussed on understanding the nature and water linkages and benefits to the society. He further clarified that river banks are the motherhood for civilized human and these banks of rivers and lakes are the sources of water for drinking and agriculture. He mentioned that in order to enhance the water retaining capability in the catchment areas, it is essential to harvest rain water and undertake large scale watershed programme (soil and water conservation).

### Punjab & Chandigarh

Mr P S Bhogal, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the gathering. Mr Krunesh Garg, Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Presentation on the theme 'Connecting People to the Nature', was given by Mr Sandeep Garg, Chairman, Environment Matters and Mr Aayush Garg. During presentation, issues related to the theme of the day were discussed. Various ways and means for protection of environment were also highlighted by the speakers. All the dignitaries felt that nature has given us water, air and healthy climate and we have the responsibility to conserve the gift of nature for future generations. The importance of healthy living related to environment and the current engineering challenges was also explained by the speakers.



### Telangana



Dr S Satyanarayana, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function. Mr G Rameshwar Rao, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, welcomed the gathering. The Chief Guest, Dr Craig Woolard, Director of Public Works of Bozeman, USA, in his speech, said that rivers, ground water, oceans etc.

are all connected through the hydrologic cycle. He mentioned that in real sense, there is no new water since it is a finite resource. He further expressed his concern about the water contamination from industrial, agricultural and municipal

activities which menace our life and environment. Dr Woolard apprised that every country has its unique challenges in preserving water resources and we all should work together to protect water resources and provide safe and clean water to the citizens of our communities. Dr G Shrvan Kumar, Joint Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

### Uttarakhand

Mr R S Chauhan, Chairman of the Centre, in his welcome address, highlighted the importance of World Environment Day. He mentioned that the theme 'Connecting People to Nature' implores us to go outdoors and appreciate nature's beauty and importance and take forward the call to protect the planet Earth. He further stated that the day is an occasion to think how we are a part of nature and how intimately and unequivocally we depend on it for our survival. Dignitaries present on the occasion included, Mr C M Dimri, Past Chairman of the Centre, Mr Sunil Kumar, Mr A C Goel, Mr Ram Shanker, Mr D C Arora and other Executive Members of the Centre.

### West Bengal



The Chief Guest and theme Speaker, Dr Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Kolkata, in his address, stressed on the urgent need to create awareness on the importance of nature in human life. In his address, Dr Rudra covered various

aspects which are affecting nature and environment, such as, air pollution, biodiversity, global warming, rising of sea level, deforestation, water pollution, etc. He explained the status of ecological footprint which is so frightening that extinction of living being on earth seems round the corner. Earlier, Mr Anik Roy Choudhury, Past Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the august gathering and Mr Sujit Bhattacharya, Chairman, Environmental Engineering Division of the Centre, presented the history of World Environment Day. Mr Avinash Singh, Convener, Environmental Engineering Division of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

### LOCAL CENTRES

#### Agra

Mr Devendra Singh Chaudhary, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function and spoke about protection of environment on grass root level of the society and to reduce pollution. He also elaborated on the theme of the day. Members of Association of Consulting Engineers (ACE), Agra Chapter and Committee Members of the Centre attended the programme. Dr B D K Patro, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks to the participants, media and members of IEI and ACE members for making the celebration a grand success.



#### Aligarh

Prof (Dr) Mohammad Kamil, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the dignitaries and stressed on preserving nature and environment. The Chief Guest, Dr Rashid Hayat Siddiqi, former Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, highlighted the great efforts made by the Government of India towards the conservation of rivers in the country. He also explained the



importance of rivers and appealed to the concerned authorities to take proper measures for maintaining the water bodies of the nation. The Guest-of-Honour, Prof Syed Iqbal Ali, former Principal, University of Boys Polytechnic, AMU, Aligarh, spoke about the importance of conservation of water. He pointed out that the excessive use of plastics and other disposable items discharged

as solid waste creates a major threat to the environment. Dr Gyan Prakash, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

#### Asansol

Mr K V Raju, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the gathering and elaborated on the significance of celebrating the day with special emphasis on protecting the global environment from its continual degradation on key parameters. He informed that as an environmental control measure at national level – SAIL, has undertaken a programme of planting 10 lakh saplings in all steel plant locations together with mines zone this year. The Special Guest of the function, Mr Ramen Dey, enumerated on different civilian behaviours which need to be corrected, like use of plastic carry bags, discipline in disposal of domestic refuses, etc. Mr Suvendu Panda, Manager (Environment Mgmt.), SAIL-ISP, Burnpur, presented a technical paper where he discussed on environment control measures adopted at 2.5MT integrated steel plant by SAIL-ISP, Burnpur observing zero discharge principle. Mr T T Lahiri, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



#### Berhampur



Mr Ashutosh Patro, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the gathering and emphasized on various remedial measures to reduce environmental pollutions. Prof (Dr) P K Swain, Principal, PMEC, Sialapalli, Berhampur; Mr Ashis Kumar Behera, DFO; and Prof (Dr) Gunamani Jena, Dean, B. V. C. Engineering College, Anghara Pradesh, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, Chief Speaker and Guest-of-Honour, respectively. All the dignitaries discussed various aspects embracing the theme of the day explaining the motto and consequential effects. Mr Sanjay Kumar Moharana, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

#### Bhilai

Mr Kailash Malhotra, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the august gathering and spoke about the significance of observing the day. Mr Dilip Bhargava, General Manager/ I/c, Mines & Rowghat, SAIL/ Bhilai Steel Plant, graced the function as the Chief Guest. He delivered his speech on the theme "Connecting People to Nature".



Mr Viteswar Nath, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

#### Dharwad



Mr S M V Narayana, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function. Dr Prakash Bhat, Chief Executive Officer, SCOPE, Dharwad, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He spoke about how the earth's surface is getting hot day by day and unusual rise in the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. 'It has become one of

the subjects of big social issues which need social awareness to a great level', opined Dr Bhat. He felt that people should know its meaning, causes, effects and solutions to solve it. Earlier, Mr Vijay H Totiger welcomed the gathering. The programme was concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Prof (Dr) Ramesh L Chakrasali, Honorary Secretary of the Centre.



## Durgapur

Mr R K Roy, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the guests and highlighted the significance of observing the day. The Chief Guest, Mr T S Reddy, General Manager, ISP-DSP Plant Centre, SAIL, RDCIS, in his address, explained that any reduction in energy consumption leads to reduction in GHG emissions and that leads to cleaner environment, which is a part of sustainable development. He discussed about some of the key innovations in R&D viz. Curtain Flame Ignition Technology, BF gas burners for Boilers and WHRS at Sinter Plant which have helped to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The Guest-of-Honour, Mr M K Mondal, DFO, Durgapur Division, West Bengal, highlighted that billions of rural people around the world are 'connected to nature' and dependent on natural water supplies and livelihoods provided by the nature. He cautioned that they are among the first to suffer when ecosystems are threatened, whether by pollution, climate change or over-exploitation. The other Guest-of-Honour, Prof (Dr) Susmita Dutta, Chemical Engineering Department, NIT, Durgapur, gave a presentation on 'CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration with Special Emphasis on Phycosequestration: A Way to Mitigate Global Warming'. Mr M N Bandyopadhyay, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



development, we have exploited our natural resources ruthlessly due to which the natural balance of our ecosystem got disturbed and this has put on a threat on the existence of our highly developed and technologically advanced society', opined Mr Asthana. Dr Rajesh Kumar Garg, Convener of the programme, proposed the vote of thanks.

## Kochi

Mr N Paul George, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the Guest Speaker and the other dignitaries present on the occasion. The Guest Speaker Prof (Dr) P V Sasikumar, former Head, Marine Engineering Department, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), in his address, highlighted that nature is the best teacher and each creation like sun, moon, rain, trees, river, sea, fields and forest teaches us different things. He mentioned that as human being progressed, environmental degradation also progressed due to deforestation and damages to the ecosystem resulted in pollution and climatic changes. He stressed on conservation which is the cheapest way to save the nature. Mr T P Raveendran, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



## Indore

Prof (Dr) P Bansod, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the dignitaries and the participants. Mr Bhalu Mondhe, Renowned Environmentalist and President, 'The Nature Volunteer', Indore, stressed on connecting people to nature and love the nature. He urged that we need to develop a good education system which will create awareness about nature among younger generation. Dr D J Killedar, Convener, also discussed various aspects embracing the theme of the day. Mr D Wadhwa, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



## Kozhikode

Mr C Jithesh, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, welcomed the gathering and gave an overview of the proceedings of celebration of the day. Dr Muhamed Jafer Palot, Assistant Zoologist, Western Ghat Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Kozhikode, made a detailed presentation on the theme "Connecting People to Nature". Prof (Dr) K P Mohandas, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function. Mr M Sajan, Committee Member of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



## Ludhiana

Mr Guneet Sethi of Punjab Pollution Control Board, Ludhiana, was the Chief Guest and Ms Avinash Kaur Walia, Managing Director, Spring Dale School, was the Guest-of-Honour. The Speaker, Mr Puneet Pal Singh Cheema, AP, GNDEC, Ludhiana, gave several examples as to how efforts of small community have led to huge environmental benefits. He also highlighted the problem of waste management in smart cities with examples of Pune city's innovative measures in reducing the land fill. Brig Mastinder Singh, Chairman of the Centre, advocated 3R mantra – Reduce, Recycle and Reuse. Earlier, Mr Gurpreet Singh Walia, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, in his welcome address, stressed on protecting the environment.



## Kanchipuram

The Chief Guest, Dr Sultan Ahmed Ismail, Director, Eco-Science Research Foundation, Chennai, gave an inspiring speech on importance of conserving earth and its natural resources. He explained this year's Environment Day theme 'Connecting People to Nature' and stressed on the need of the projects which are useful to the society. He also spoke about hazards due to adulteration of soil and food related products and urged to create mass awareness in this respect. Earlier, Dr R Venkatesan, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the gathering. Dr S R R Senthil Kumar, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



## Madurai

Mr K Vijaya Kumar, Chairman of the Centre, delivered the welcome address and presided over the function. The Chief Guest, Mr D Venkatesh, District Forest Officer, Dindigul Forest Division, Dindigul, expressed his views that we should motivate common people to save the environment since it is degrading due to deforestation and pollution. He further explained that increase in population induces the people to indulge in deforestation, poaching wild animals, destroy biodiversity. Mr Venkatesh emphasized that creating awareness through NGO, developing infrastructure and alternative employment through self-help group



## Kanpur

Prof D P Mishra, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the august gathering. Mr U C Shukla, Director, MSME and Mr Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Sr. Manager HPCL, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Guest-of-Honour, respectively and addressed the gathering. Theme Speaker, Mr Vivek Asthana, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, while talking on the subject, mentioned that life exists on our planet Earth due to its environment and existence of a supporting eco-system. 'In this race of advancement and



will help in uplifting the people as well as improving their educational status. The function concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Mr R Narayanasamy, Joint Honorary Secretary of the Centre.

### Mangalore

Dr S B Malegole, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, welcomed the gathering. Dr B R Manjunatha, Professor and Chairman, Department of Marine Geology, Mangalore University, Mangalore, while speaking on the theme of the day, said that nature's weather and climate are worsened due to human activities and it is the time to connect ourselves to the nature to safeguard the Earth. He called upon the engineers to take up geo-chemical engineering work to mitigate human impact on globe. He felt that man is dependent on earth for everything hence it is our duty to use the natural resources judiciously keeping in mind our future generation. Dr A O Surendranathan, Immediate Past Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function.



Guest-of-Honour, Dr L N Shukla, former Professor, Department of Botany, BRABU, spoke about the disturbances being made by the common people with the nature. Dr J N Jha, Principal, MIT, Muzaffarpur, pointed out that instead of going close to the nature, we are making distances from it. Dr S K Mishra, Chairman of the Centre, mentioned that excessive exploitation of the nature has started threatening to people's life as well as the earth. Dr R R Kumar, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



### Mysore

Mr M Chinnaswamy, Chairman of the Centre, presided over the function. Mr P G M Patil, Principal District Sessions Judge, highlighted the importance of preserving the earth for the benefit of mankind. Senior Civil Judge, Mohamud Muzir Ulla C G advised not to waste food, water, energy which are the essential part of environment. Mr M G Yatheesh, a Senior Officer of Pollution Control Board, gave a brief account of the action taken by the Board to maintain clean atmosphere and control industrial waste. Mr Shivanandappa spoke on the topic "Man and Nature – Past, Present & Future". He said that various human activities, including industrial revolution, mining, etc caused deforestation and resulted in climatic change, CO<sub>2</sub> emission, extinct of wild life and bio-diversity. Mr B V Ravindra Nath, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



### Meerut

Mr V C Gupta, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the guests and dignitaries present on the occasion. The Chief Guest Mr Vishnu Saran, Chairman, MIET Group of Institutions, emphasized on the protection of environment and suggested tree plantations as the best solution. The Guest-of-Honour, Lt Gen J M Garga, Director General, MIET, Meerut said that the environment is so polluted that the oxygen bags are used in some countries for breathing. Speaking on the theme, Dr S C Prasad, Professor & Head, Civil Engineering, MIET, Meerut, said that one of the challenging issues in connecting people to nature is water uses and sanitation. Dr A K Sharma, Professor & Head, Biotechnology Department, MIET, Meerut stressed on creating awareness among the common people about environmental issues and to encourage people to actively participate in developing environmental safety measures. Mr Rajneesh Kumar, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



### Palghat

The Guest Speaker, Prof M G Cyriac, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Jyothi Engineering College, Cheruthurthy, pointed out that nature is the most efficient engineer and it has all the relevant technologies for maintaining its people. He further mentioned that the nature has systems for water purification, wastewater purification, air purification, solid waste disposal, maintaining and increasing soil fertility and lot of others. He mentioned that there are countless gifts of the nature to us like hydro-geologic cycle, wastewater treatment mechanism, solid waste treatment, air pollution control, etc. Prof Cyriac mentioned that the role of human beings is the most predominant in all cases of ecofriendly activities.



### Munirabad

The Guest Speaker, Ms Ashwini R, Assistant Professor, RYM Engineering College, Bellary, delivered an impressive lecture on the topic 'Connecting People to Nature'. She narrated the origin of World Environment Day and explained the importance of environment. She also explained in detail with facts and figures about various issues related to environment. Earlier, Mr T H M Somashekhar, Past Honorary Secretary of the Centre, welcomed the Chairman, Guest Speaker and other participants. Mr Rajasekhara Gowd P, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, also addressed the gathering. Mr R S Kadagad, Executive Committee Member of the Centre, presented a brief lecture on Environment Day. He also proposed the vote of thanks.



### Saurashtra

Mr J P Sinha, Chief General Manager (Technical), Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Western Region Pipelines, Gauridada, Rajkot, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered lecture embracing the theme of the day. Prof (Dr) Kaushik Roy, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Science & Engineering, Marwadi University, in his Keynote Address on the theme, discussed various aspects of climate change. Mr Bagda, Officer, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Government of Gujarat, Rajkot, narrated the history of World Environment Day.



### Tirupati

Mr K Vidyasagar Reddy, Chairman of the Centre, in his welcome address said that the theme 'Connecting People to Nature' implores us to get outdoors and into nature, to appreciate its beauty and its



### Muzaffarpur

A Seminar on the topic 'Connecting People to Nature' was organized on this occasion. The Chief Guest, Dr C P Sukla, former Professor, Department of Botany, B R Ambedkar Bihar University (BRABU), Muzaffarpur, stressed on conservation of natural resources and control of environmental pollution. The





importance and to take forward the call to protect the Earth that we share. Prof M Bhaskar, Rector, S V University, Tirupati, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Prof M Devarajulu, Registrar, S V University, Tirupati; Mr P Gopal Reddy, Former Chairman, APSPDCL; and Prof A Ranga Reddy, President, SVURTA, were also present as the Guests-of-Honour. The function concluded the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. S Vijayabhaskar, Honorary Secretary of the Centre.

### Trichur

Mr V Damodaran, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the guests and presided over the function. Mr Viswanathan Prabhakaran (Wikipedia) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and presented the theme paper on "Connecting People to Nature". Mr U K Sugathan, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.



### Udaipur

Mr M K Mathur, Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the august gathering and highlighted the importance of World Environment Day. The Chief Guest, Mr Akshay Singh, Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Rajasthan,

Udaipur, advised to plant at least one tree per person to maintain the balance of environment. The Guest Speaker, Dr Satish Kumar Sharma, Assistant Conservator of Forests (Retd), Government of Rajasthan, stressed upon the nature and elaborated that nature provides us all the necessary element to survive and these elements are the basic needs of every one. He stressed that one must conserve wild animals to maintain eco-balance of the environment. Mr Anurodh Prashant Sharma, Honorary Secretary of the Centre, proposed the vote of thanks.

### Upper Assam

The celebration started with lighting of lamp and planting of saplings by the Chief Guest, Guest-of-Honour and Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Centre. Mr Diganta Kumar Dutta, Immediate Past Chairman of the Centre, welcomed the participants and elaborated the theme of the day. The function was graced by the presence of Mr H K Changani, General Manager, NEEPCO as the Chief Guest and Mr S Tamuli, Deputy General Manager, AGCL as the Guest-of-Honour. Both the dignitaries delivered their speeches embracing the theme of the day. Experts in the field presented their papers on various sub-themes during the technical session. The function was well attended by the Corporate Members of the Centre and engineering professionals from different organizations, such as, Oil India Ltd., NEEPCO, AGCL, APL and BVFCL. Mr Diganta Goswami, Senior Manager [E/M], AGGBP, NEEPCO, Duliajan, proposed the vote of thanks.