

Doon University, Dehradun
ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi
Indian Society of Agroforestry, Jhansi
The Society for Science of Climate Change and Sustainable Environment, New Delhi

International Day for Biological Diversity 22nd May, 2021

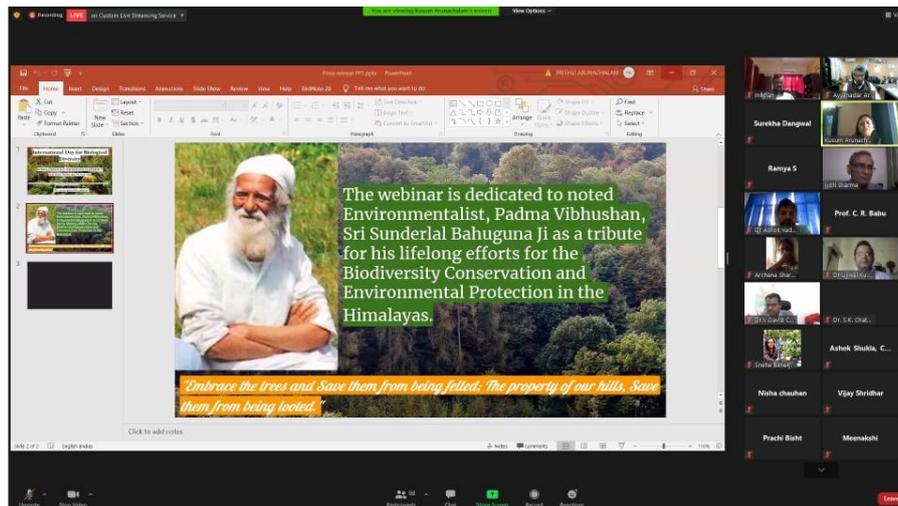
School of Environment and Natural Resources, Doon University and ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi in association with Indian Society of Agroforestry, Jhansi and the Society for Science of Climate Change & Sustainable Environment, New Delhi celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May 2021 by organizing a Webinar with the theme “WE’RE THE PART OF THE SOLUTION” for encouraging the awareness and action for the protection of our biodiversity.

The Webinar was dedicated to noted Gandhian-Environmentalist, Padma Vibhushan, Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna ji as a tribute for his lifelong efforts for the Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Protection in the Himalayas.



The webinar was chaired by Prof. Surekha Dangwal, Vice Chancellor, Doon University. The event had Prof. C. R. Babu, Delhi University, Prof. J.K.Sharma, Shiv Nadar University, Prof. M.L. Khan, Dr Harisingh Gour Central University, Sagar and Prof. S. Dayanand, Concordia University, Canada as the Planery Speakers. Also, a few student activities Poster Making, Photography/Short Videos and Article writing for the students were also organized with the theme of the day by the “Prakriti-The Nature Club”, an initiative of Doon University students, to mark the celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity.

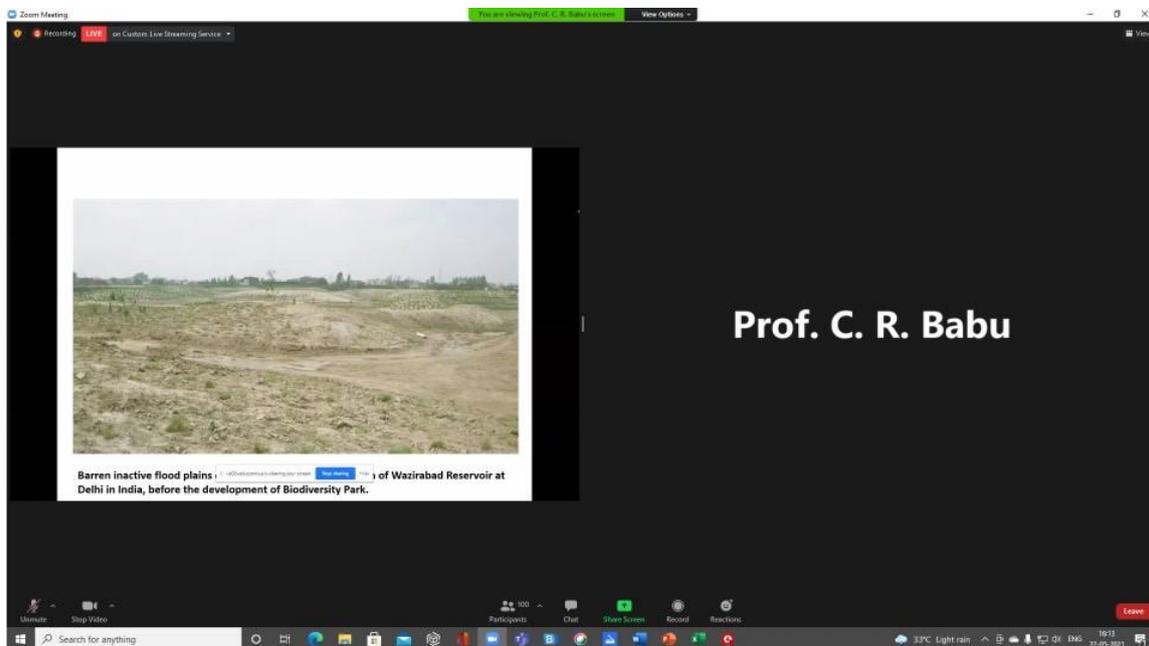
Prof. Kusum Arunachalam, Doon University in her welcome address threw light on the reason and relevance of celebrating Biodiversity Day. She said that the United Nations proclaimed 22 May as International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) to increase the understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. Biodiversity Day 2021 is being celebrated under the slogan, "WE'RE THE PART OF THE SOLUTION #FOR NATURE". This slogan was chosen to be a continuation of the momentum generated last year under the overarching theme, "OUR SOLUTION ARE IN NATURE", which served as a reminder that biodiversity remains the answer to several sustainable development changes.



Prof. Surekha Dangwal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Doon University, in her Presidential Address underlined that since prehistory, literature and the arts have been drawn to portrayals of physical environments and human-environment interactions. The modern environmentalist movement as it emerged first in the late-nineteenth century and, in its more recent incarnation, in the 1960s, gave rise to a rich array of fictional and nonfictional writings concerned with humans' changing relationship to the natural world. She stressed on documenting the rich traditional knowledge associated with the biodiversity conservation in the region. She further paid homage to veteran Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna for his exemplary services for the hills and hill people.



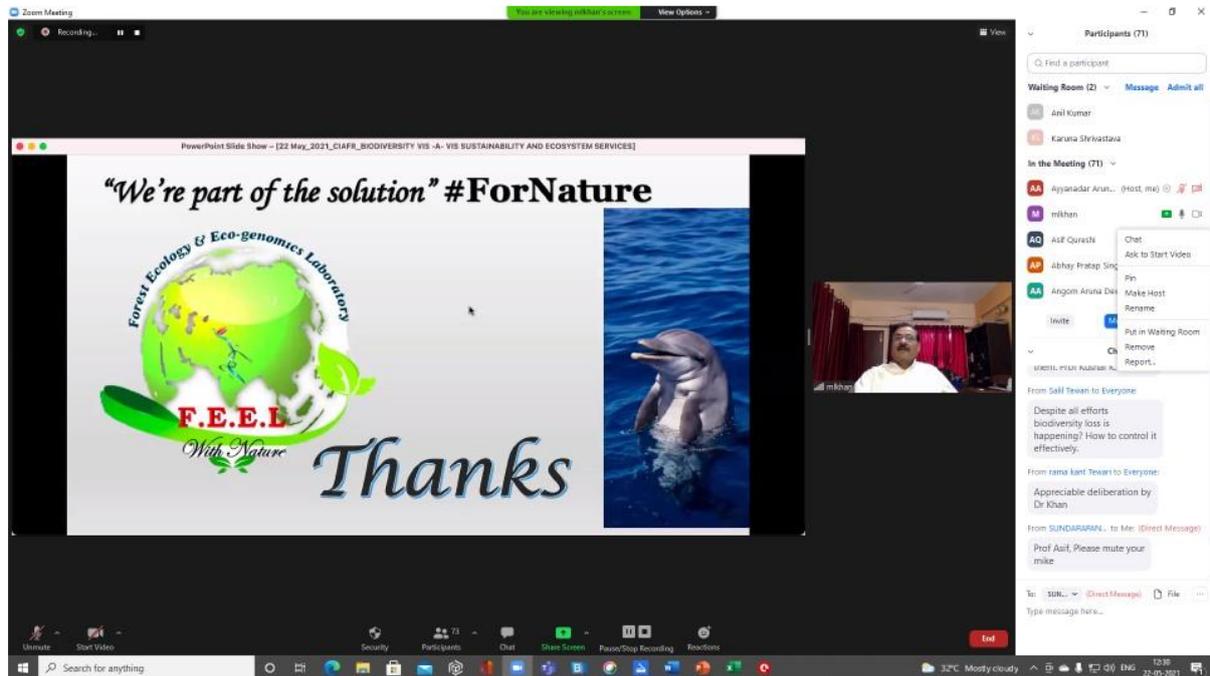
Professor C.R Babu, Delhi University noted Botanist and Environmentalist, in his keynote, elaborated Biodiversity Parks as a model for urban environment sustainability and resilience. As they are unique landscape of wilderness where ecology assemblages of native species occur it would provide recreational as well as aesthetic values to the urban environment. He spoke from his experiences of Aravali and Yamuna Biodiversity Park in New Delhi which were developed under his supervision and called on the youth to be forthcoming for environmental principles.



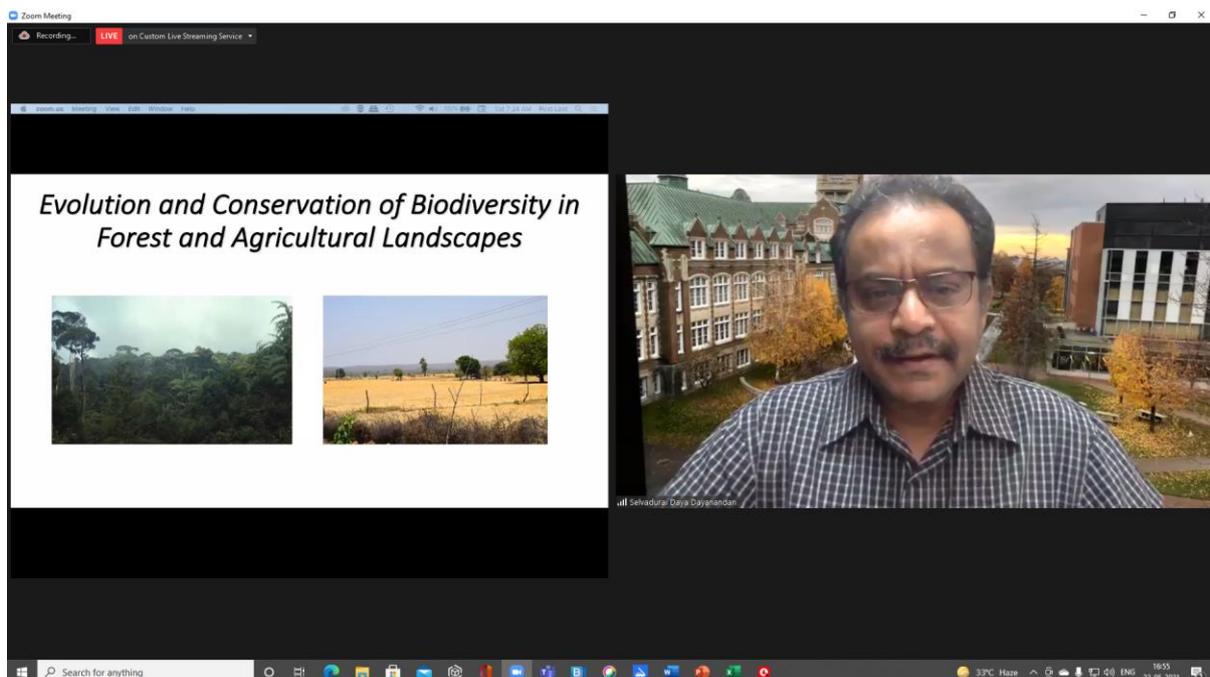
Prof. J.K Sharma, Shiv Nadar University, Greater Noida spoke about the role of butterflies in the ecosystem functioning. He said that the butterflies can be used to study the impact of habitat loss and they support the range of other predators as well as parasites, they act as a pollinator, acting as important connector in a thriving ecosystem web.



Prof. M.L. Khan from Dr Harising Gour Central University, Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) gave an account of ecological services provided by biodiversity and underlined its role in human nourishment.

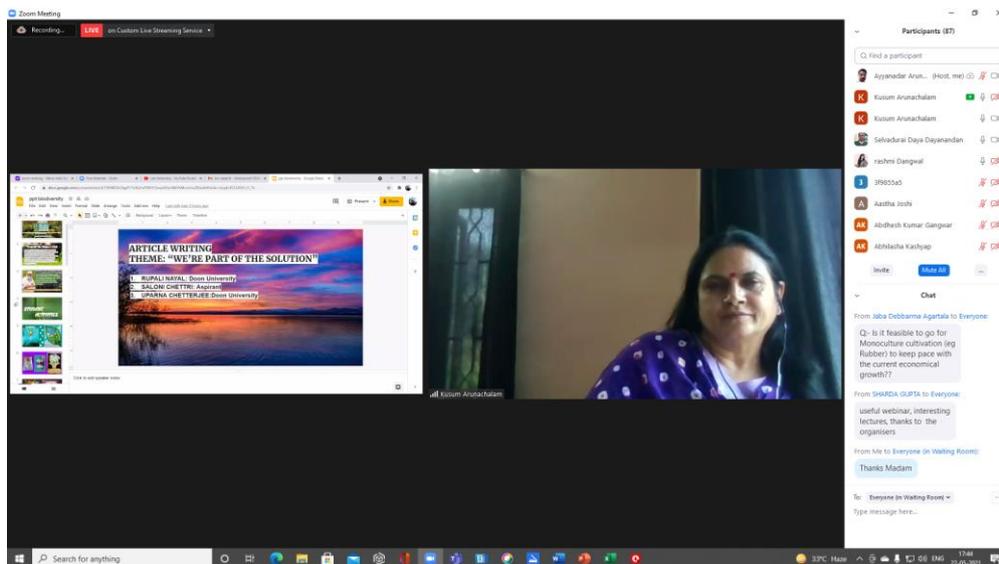


Prof. S. Dayanand from Concordia University divulged the evolution and conservation of biodiversity in the forest and agriculture landscapes. He highlighted the new area of research on emerging in the field of biodiversity such as bioprospecting and nutraceuticals. He stated understanding the forest-farm interface is the ecotone level research required to continue drawing the food, nutrition, and other environmental services from the biological diversity for the cause of the human sustenance in this blue planet.

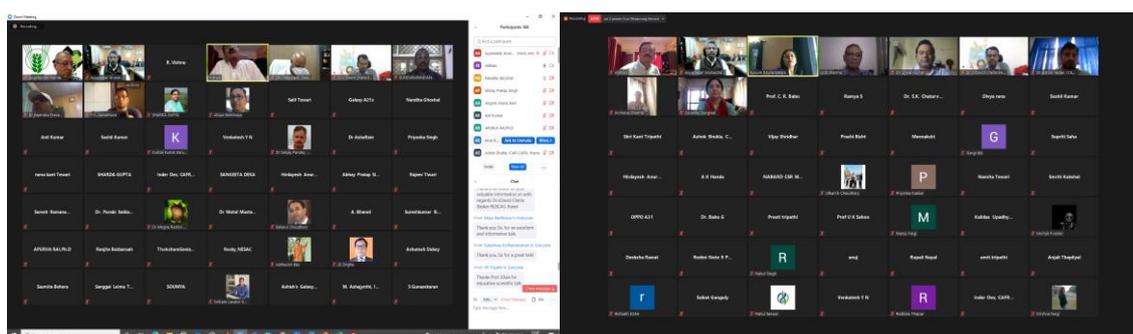


Prof R.P Singh in his concluding remarks summarized the importance of biodiversity and how humans can enable its functioning. We need to protect the biodiversity and with proper knowledge, research, and technologies, we can achieve the sustainable development goals not compromising the biological diversity.

Professor Kusum Arunachalam finally announced the prize winners of various student activities organised on the occasion and commended the participants of students. The prize winners were issued certificates by the organisers and cash prizes by the Indian Society of Agroforestry.



Dr A. Arunachalam Director ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi, President, Indian Society of Agroforestry and Secretary, SSCE delivered vote of thanks on the occasion by also highlighting the role of trees in climate change mitigation and restoration of degraded lands in the country, also valuing the role of Chipko Movement mentored by Padma Vibhusahn Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna ji.



About 200 participants from different educational/research institution of the country and NGO partners participated in the events and the prizes were sponsored by the ISAF.

Prof. Kusum Arunachalam
Head
School of Environment and Natural Resources

Dr. A. Arunachalam
Director
ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi

International Day for Biological Diversity

Date: 22 May 2021; Time: 3.30 PM IST

Biodiversity Conservation for Sustainable Development.....

Announcement of Prize Winners based on Student Activities relating to Biodiversity Theme



Patron

Professor Surekha Dangwal
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Doon University

Guest Speakers



Prof. C.R. Babu
Professor Emeritus
Delhi University



Prof. J.K. Sharma
Shiv Nadar University
Greater Noida, India



Prof. S. Dayanandan
Concordia University
CANADA



Theme: We are the Part of Solution.....



Virtual platform : Zoom

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3365171850?pwd=jqUVQtqdyQAt9cXrzMRRvPS35zZA4Q>

Meeting ID: 336 517 1850 Password: 000000

Organizing Team



Professor Kusum Arunachalam
Doon University, Dehradun
UTTARAKHAND



Dr. A. Arunachalam
President, ISAF
Jhansi



Dr. R.P. Singh
President, SSCE
New Delhi

Organized by:



In association with



Follow COVID Protocols, Stay Safe