



22 MAY 2013
INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
WATER & BIODIVERSITY

Celebration of the International Day for Biological Diversity 2013

Sindh Forest Department, Government of Sindh, Pakistan's Range Management & Social Forestry Divisions, Mirpurkhas celebrated the International Day of Biological Diversity at Government Elementary College for Women, Mirpurkhas on 22nd May, 2013. Students of Government Elementary College for Men, Mirpurkhas also participated in the event along with the girls students of women college. Teachers and students actively participated in the tree plantation activities, 200 plants were planted in the college premises. Through this event Sindh Forest Department intended to create awareness among the participants about the role of forests as an important biodiversity component in providing water security.

The opening remarks were given by Mr. Amjad Ali Shah, D.F.O Planning Division, Hyderabad. During his opening remarks he highlighted the importance of the forests and its contribution to the long-term benefits that forests provide to people, wildlife, economics, and biodiversity. The closing remarks were made by Mrs. Rukhsana Yasmeen, Principal Government Elementary College for Women. During her closing remarks she appreciated the efforts of forest department to choose this college and for arranging such an informative event which is the need of present time. A power point presentation was given by Mr. Abid Hussain Rind, Divisional Forest Officer (D.F.O), Range Management/ Social Forestry Division, Mirpurkhas. During his presentation he highlighted the role of forests and ecosystems for water security. He further added that ecosystems regulate the availability of water, and its quality; ecosystem degradation increases water insecurity; ecosystem conservation and restoration therefore help us achieve water security; biodiversity underpins these benefits and is therefore one of the most visible and important contributions of biodiversity to human well-being and sustainable development.

Generally, an evaluation of the day led to the conclusion that a majority of the participants improved their knowledge on the concepts of biological diversity. The participants understood the inter-connectedness of the world's living entities, and that the millions of existing species as well as the ecosystems which shelter them, are foundations for the wellbeing of human beings. The participants appreciated the atmosphere that reigned throughout the Day. They expressed their wish that such initiatives would often repeat themselves.

Photos available at www.cbd.int/idb/2013/celebrations/pk

Sindh Forest Department
Government of Sindh, Pakistan