



Activity Report

World Wetlands Day 2013

Organized jointly by WWF-India & Peet Memorial Training College, Mavelikkara

Supported by

CCDU, Dept of Water Resources, Government of Kerala

The auditorium of Peet Memorial Training College, Mavelikkara became the venue for the commemoration of World Wetlands Day 2013 organised jointly by the College and WWF-India, Kerala State Office on 7th and 8th February 2013 with the support of Communication and Capacity Development Unit (CCDU), Dept. of Water Resources, Govt. of Kerala. Mavelikkara is part of Alappuzha district which is home to a vast network of wetlands, including the largest Ramsar Site of India, the Vembanad – Kol wetlands, which is the habitat for many diverse flora and fauna and directly and indirectly supports many stakeholders and their livelihoods.

Painting, poster designing and quiz competitions were conducted for students from Upper Primary, High School, Higher Secondary and College level of the region on 7th February 2013. The competitions were convened by Sri. Abraham Thomas of the College and the quiz was mastered by Mr.A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer of WWF-India.

On the 8th, the awareness programme was inaugurated by Mrs. Meena Sunil, Vice Chairperson of Mavelikkara Municipality in a function that was presided over by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director of WWF-India. She released the resource material kit including a poster, sticker and booklet on 'Wetlands take care of Water', theme of the World Wetlands Day 2013. Prof. Bobby Oommen Kurien, Faculty Member of the college felicitated the function. Around 175 participants including school students, college students, teacher trainees, teachers and local NGO representatives attended the programme. The awards for the winners of the various competitions held the previous day were distributed in the inaugural function.

The technical session on 'Wetlands – Values and Services' was led by Sri.A.K.Sivakumar and the session on 'Issues and concerns of Wetlands – Case studies from Kerala' by Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese. The second session on the case studies was a real eye opener to the participants which was very evident from the dynamic discussions and deliberations that followed with the active involvement of most of the participants. A documentary on Mangroves by Sri.Suresh Elamon was screened in the afternoon. The programme concluded by 3.30pm with valedictory and vote of thanks.

We would like to place on record our heartfelt thanks to Shri. Subash Chandra Bose, Director, CCDU, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Kerala and Prof. Abraham Thomas, Peet Memorial Training College.

Renjan Mathew Varghese

State Director, WWF-India

98472 87725/ renjanmv@wwfindia.net