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Monsoon croaks...

Varun Kher

Current Protected Area Network of India

(Position as on 30 September, 2021)

National Parks: 106; Area 44,372.42, (1.35%)

Wildlife Sanctuaries: 563; Area 1,22,296.93 sq km, (3.72%)

Conservation Reserves: 102; Area 4,996.29 sq km, (0.15%)

Community Reserves: 218; Area 1445.70 sq km, (0.04%)

Total Protected Areas: 989; Area 1,73,111.34 sq km, (5.26%)

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Around the Campus

One-Week Special Course on Wildlife Protection, Law and Forensic Science for Officer Trainees of Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes), Dehradun, 20-25 September 2021.

The Wildlife Institute of India conducted a one-week special course on 'Wildlife Protection, Law and Forensic Science' for Officer Trainees of Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes) Group-A, 71st Batch. A total of 29 IRS officers have participated in the course. The course had a formal inaugural session on 20 September 2021, which was graced by the Smt. Tilotama Varma, IPS, Addl. Director, WCCB, New Delhi, as Chief Guest.

The course provided extensive inputs on forensic science and its relevance in combating Wildlife crime. The training was conducted with the theoretical inputs as well as the practical exposure of wildlife articles for the explanation of the identifiable features of the articles. The trainees were taken to field to an elevation range of 2,000-2,500m in Himalayan hills for practical exposure to the flora of the ecosystem along Surkanda Devi hill. They were also taken to the GST Office, Dehradun, for the interaction with the Officers. The participants were taken to the Corbett Tiger Reserve, Ramnagar, where they interacted with the Park Manager and

visited the Reserve to understand the challenges in the protection of animals from poachers. Overall feedback on the course was excellent.

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Spearhead Training Programme for Ganga Task Force and Eco-Task Force on Biodiversity Conservation of Ganga River and its Tributaries, Dehradun, 27 September to 2 October 2021.

Under the Wildlife Institute of India - National Mission for Clean Ganga project 'Biodiversity Conservation Initiative Phase II, a 6-day training programme for the spearhead team of Ganga Task Force (GTF) & Eco Task Force (ETF) from the Ganga river basin was conducted at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII). The objective of the training was to train the spearhead team of GTF & ETF, who will lead the conservation activities in their respective areas especially conducting cleanliness and plantation drive, volunteering with State Forest Departments in population estimation and different aquatic species of the



Hindi Pakhwada Celebrations at WII,

Dehradun, 14-28 September 2021. The Hindi *Pakhwada* (fortnight) was celebrated at the Institute with full enthusiasm and commitment. It started with a circular by the Chairperson of the *Vibhagiya Rajbhasha Karyanwayan Samiti* (VRKS) of the Institute, Dr Monali Sen, requesting all the employees and officials of the Institute to maximize their work in Hindi. The banner of Hindi *Pakhwada* was displayed at the Institute's main gate. The standees having quotations on 'Importance of Hindi' by the great leaders and eminent personalities of our country were displayed. The messages and videos in Hindi contributed by the faculty members and staff were also uploaded on the website of the Institute during this period. Four useful forms were made bilingual for the benefit of the staff.

On 27 September 2021, many activities were organized by the VRKS of the Institute. Hindi Officer and Library & Information Officer of Archaeological Survey of India, Dehradun, Dr Shiv Nandan Pandey, was invited to deliver a lecture on this occasion. Dr Pandey discussed the history, importance and present status of Hindi at length. Dr V.P. Uniyal, Scientist-G, made a presentation on 'Use of Insects for Fashion Design' in Hindi. Ms Nidhi Rana, Researcher, also made a presentation on 'Importance of Firefly in the Ecosystem' in Hindi. Both these

presentations were highly appreciated by the participants. Smt. Sadhna Verma, Assistant Grade-II, delivered a lecture during the programme.

A quiz in Hindi was organized for the staff and the officers of the Institute, in which almost all the participants attempted the questions and received the prizes. The live streaming of the programme was also done on the website of the Institute. Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII; and Shri K.K. Shrivastava, Principal Technical Officer and Assistant Director (Official Language), expressed their views on this occasion. Smt. Sunita Aggarwal, Librarian proposed the Vote of Thanks.

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75th Independence Day Celebration at WII, 15 August, 2021.

India's 75th Independence Day was celebrated in the Wildlife Institute of India campus on 15 August 2021. Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII, hoisted the national flag. He recalled the sacrifices of the martyrs of our country, who sacrificed their lives during the freedom struggle of India. He said that during the time of the global pandemic, all the members of the Institute had followed the rules and norms prescribed by the Govt of India and the Uttarakhand State Govt from time to time. The Institute campus was made safe from the Corona Virus attack and sanitized from time to time. He requested all the employees to get vaccinated as early as possible. He urged the Institute's scientists, researchers, students and staff for their continued support in successfully meeting the various challenges present before the Institute.

Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII, appreciated the efforts of all employees and especially the security personnel, hostel staff and cleanliness workers to keep the campus safe.

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Farewell...

Dr Anju Baroth, Scientist-C

Dr Anju Baroth is a PhD in Environmental Toxicology from the University of Rajasthan. Before joining WII, she worked for close to a decade with GE India Technology Centre, Bengaluru as a Lead Engineer in Sustainability and Toxicity domain. She has her expertise in Eco-toxicology, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Carbon Footprint, Energy Footprint, Product Sustainability, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and International Regulations on Environment. Her research interest lies in extending the understanding of Toxicity related to emerging contaminants, pesticides, heavy metals and chemicals. Her parallel field of interest is to integrate LCA methodology to assess biodiversity loss. A six sigma certified professional, Dr Anju has been actively involved in training and capacity building in the field of Eco-toxicology, LCA and Sustainability. She has published several papers in national and international journals, has a book chapter to her credit and has been invited to deliver lectures at national and international platforms.

Dr Anju Baroth has resigned from the position of Scientist-C in WII and she has been relieved on 30 September 2021.



Shri Tika Singh Negi, Cook

Shri Tika Singh Negi, Cook, retired from WII services on 30 September 2021. He served the Institute for more than three decades with passion and dedication.

Patron: Director, WII
Editors: Bitapi C. Sinha and K.K. Shrivastava
Layout & Design : Kuldeep Chauhan
Photo : Chandan Jani (WII Building) & Vinod Verma

Mother Earth is not a resource; she is an heirloom.

- David Ipina, Yurok

Source: <https://indiancountrytoday.com/archive/13-quotes-that-remind-us-to-protect-mother-earth-40y-MhzbbUeLOOSH6yHew>