

Report

on

Shiksha Saptah and the International Day for the conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem 2024



Organized by

EIACP Programme Centre Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement ICFRE - Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education) Coimbatore – 641 002

Shiksha Saptah and the International Day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystem 2024 Celebrations by ICFRE-IFGTB EIACP

As part of the EK Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign, Mission LiFE, Shiksha Saptah and in connection with the International Day for the conservation of Mangrove Ecosystem 2024, EIACP (Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme) Programme Centre (erstwhile IFGTB ENVIS) RP at the ICFRE - Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore organized an awareness event and tree sapling planting programme at Corporation Girls Higher Secondary School, Ramanathapuram and Government Boys High Secondary School, Thadagam. This #Plant4Mother initiative involves to strengthen the bond between students, their mothers, and Mother Earth and aimed to empower students with the knowledge and motivation to positively impact their surroundings by planting indigenous trees.

Dr. S. Vigneswaran, Senior Programme Officer at EIACP, explained about the national initiative EK Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign. He highlighted the campaign's objectives and its significant role in promoting environmental conservation through tree planting. He also explained about the Shiksha Sapath initiative, detailing how it aims to educate and involve students in sustainability efforts. Dr Vigneswaran elaborated on how the EK Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign seeks to in-still a sense of responsibility in individuals, encouraging them to plant and care for trees in honor of their mothers. This act symbolizes the nurturing and life-giving qualities of motherhood, fostering a deeper appreciation for the environment. He pointed out that by planting trees, we not only enhance our natural surroundings but also contribute to the fight against climate change, improve air quality, and support biodiversity.

He further explained the significance of the #Plant4Mother campaign, which aims to create a lasting legacy of green spaces for future generations. By engaging students in plantation drives, the initiative fosters a sense of community and collective responsibility. Dr. Vigneswaran encouraged students to take an active role in these efforts, understanding that their contributions, no matter how small, can lead to substantial positive changes in their environment. An awareness poster emphasizing the importance of mangroves was released. Additionally, posters and handouts promoting the Life Mission and the #Plant4Mother initiative were distributed to attendees.

Staff and students collaboratively planted saplings of *Terminalia bellirica*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Albizia amara*, *Majidea zanguebarica*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Ficus benghalensis*, and *Mitragyna parvifolia* in the school premises. This initiative aimed to create a greener environment within the school grounds while fostering a sense of responsibility and community among participants.

As part of these celebrations, an awareness quiz was conducted from July 5, 2024, to July 26, 2024. Participants from various walks of life took part in the quiz, and certificates of participation were awarded to all who participated.













