

Uttar Pradesh State Biodiversity Board

Announces a Conference on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity, 22nd May 2012 on the theme "Marine Biodiversity"

About the Conference:

The theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity May 22nd, 2012 is "**Marine Biodiversity**". This is a unique opportunity for everyone interested in marine life to increase practical action and raise awareness on this issue.

The oceans cover 70% of the earth's surface and the marine and coastal environments together support an abundance of marine life. Marine habitats include mangrove forests, coral reefs, seagrass beds, estuaries in coastal areas, hydrothermal vents, sea mounts and soft sediments.

The world's oceans and seas host 32 of the 34 known phyla on Earth and contain somewhere between 500,000 to 10 million marine species. In addition, oceans are essential to transportation, are a major supply source for the fishing industry. The phytoplankton in the oceans produce a third of the oxygen we breathe by photosynthesis. The oceans are a treasured source of recreation for humans (beaches). It is mined for mineral (salt, sand, gravel and some manganese, copper, nickel, iron and cobalt). It is also drilled for crude oil. The ocean also plays a critical role in removing carbon from the atmosphere and is an important carbon sink. It regulates climate change.

The **U.P. State Biodiversity Board is celebrating the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, 2012 at Lucknow.** The aim of the conference is to provide an effective platform for all those who are concerned with marine biodiversity.

Background:

Today the world's oceans and coasts are highly threatened. The major threats include land based pollution and eutrophication, overfishing, destructive fishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, exotic species, and climate change. Overfishing is widely acknowledged as the single greatest threat to marine wildlife and habitats. About 20% of the world's coral reefs have also been effectively destroyed.

Celebration on the theme of "**Marine Biodiversity**" is an excellent opportunity for the marine ecologists/ scientists/teachers/policy makers /NGO's and all stakeholders to discuss on the issue of marine biodiversity- what effects it and in what way? How do we get better?

Call for papers:

Papers are invited on various aspects of "**Marine Biodiversity**" including:-

1. Marine and coastal biodiversity of India
2. Policies on oceans and seas - National and International
3. Economic aspects of oceans/marine resources
4. Marine energy and its effect on marine biodiversity
5. Marine pollutants
6. Marine conservation areas
7. Sustainable fisheries
8. Threatened and endangered marine life
9. Ocean pollution
10. Coral reefs and their importance
11. Mangroves and their significance
12. Marine algae
13. Marine mammals
14. Carbon storage in oceans
15. Role of oceans in climate regulation
16. Any other relevant topic

Each one of us uses oceans/seas in one way or the other and is also a steward of these natural treasures for generations to come. The world's population is increasing and these once inexhaustible resources are getting taxed. May 22nd, 2012 is the day to let others know that this issue of **Marine Biodiversity** is extremely important to you. **So kindly send in your papers as soon as possible (before 02 May 2012).**

Papers are invited in electronic format, typed in MS Word, using 12 point font and no less than 2.5 cm (1-inch) margins, 1.5 spacing, with colour photographs (jpg. format) along with brief bio-data of the authors **before 2nd May 2012** through E-mail/CD. All papers must contain the following information:

- Author(s) and affiliations
- Key contact and correspondence email address
- Theme: one among the above

The E-mail ID for all correspondence related to the Conference will be: upstatebiodiversityboard@gmail.com. The selected and relevant articles will be published in a Souvenir to be released at the time of inauguration of the conference.

The registration is free for all the invited participants or for those articles that will be accepted for publication.

For any further information please contact:

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