



Press Note 03/02/2024

On Friday, February 2, 2024, Paryavaran Dakshata Manch of Thane organized a one-day national conference on the occasion of World Wetlands Day in association with Enviro Vigil, Maharashtra Mangrove and Marine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (Mangrove Foundation), Mumbai University, Keshavsruithi and Association of Teachers in Biological Sciences.. The conference was held in the auditorium of Green Nanotechnology at the University's Kalina Campus in collaboration with the University of Mumbai. The conference began with a student of The University of Maharashtra performed by the students of the Music Department as per the tradition of the University. Presented. Professor, Department of Geography, University. Dr. Aparna Phadke welcomed the participants and on behalf of the university, Deputy Registrar Shri. He informed about the eco-friendly activities of Kalina Complex being implemented under the initiative of Ashok Ghule. M. Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni has always encouraged such initiatives. Phadke said. Later, the Chairman of the Paryavaran Dakshata Manch Dr. Mansi Joshi gave information about the various activities being run by the Paryavaran Dakshata Manch in thane city as well as in the rural areas of Dombivali, Kalyan and Murbad talukas. After this, Dr. Purushottam Kale gave information about the work of 'Association of Teachers in Biological Sciences'. Prof. Vidyadhar Walawalkar, founder of the Board, explained the background of the Swachh Khadi Campaign being implemented by the Paryavaran Dakshata Manch for the last 16 years and the importance of this campaign.

Coordinator of the conference. Prasad Karnik briefed the gathering about the day-long sessions of the conference. He was followed by National President of the Association of Teachers in Biological Sciences. Madan Mohan Malviya addressed the gathering. Head of the Department of Chemistry, University of Mumbai and Dean of the Faculty of Science. Shivram Garje delivered the presidential address. He guided the attendees and wished them the success of the conference. Later, the February issue of The Paryavaran Dakshata Manch's 'Our Environment Magazine' was released by the dignitaries.

The next session began with a very good street play performed by the students of Bal Vikas Vidyalaya in Kisan Nagar area of Thane. The drama highlighted the need to save wetlands. This was followed by a koli song by the music department of the university.

Dr. Ajay Deshpande, former environmentalist of the National Green Tribunal and honorary professor at the Indian Institute of Technology-Mumbai (IIT), gave a detailed review of various laws and schemes related to wetland conservation and protection in his seed speech. Dr Ritesh Kumar, Director, South Asia, Wetlands International, delivered the special guest address, followed by research papers, murals, miniature paintings and essay competitions on wetlands.



The closing ceremony of the conference was held in the evening at the Auditorium of Green Nanotechnology. Aarti Kulkarni, who has been covering the environment through short films, showed and commented on a short film on the habitat of wetland birds at Nandur Madhameshwar. Earlier, a short film on Dhamapur Lake by a team of Dai Tarun Bharat was shown, followed by Dr Nitin Bassi of Delhi for the conservation of wetland ecosystems. The attendees were briefed on the plans and measures. At the end of the program, Dr. Sanjay Joshi reviewed the day's developments. Mr. Shubham Nikam gave a vote of thanks and the conference concluded with the national anthem. The event was hosted by Dr. Namita Nimbalkar and Paryavaran Dakshata Manch Rupali Shaiwale did. The event was funded by Keshav Srishti, Thane Janata Sahakari Bank and Association of Teachers in Biological Sciences.

Co-Convenor

Dr. Aparna Phadke