

# University of Lucknow

## Press Note 8-9 May 2020

A Webinar on theme Biodiversity, Wildlife & Traditional Knowledge from 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> May 2020 organized by ENVIS resource partner, Institute of Wildlife Sciences, University of Lucknow in collaboration with Biodiversity and wildlife conservation lab, Department of Zoology, University of Lucknow, TSA India, Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal, ONGC Pvt Ltd. and MoEF&CC India.

Opening of webinar was done with the inaugural address by Prof Alok Kumar Rai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Lucknow in which he emphasized on establishment of medicinal garden at local level. The inaugural lecture was delivered by Shri Pawan Kumar, Retd. PCCF, Department Forests and Wildlife, Uttar Pradesh. He talked about relevance of immuno-booster in present scenario of Covid-19 and also discussed the importance of plants diversity specific the medicinal plants.

There were total 6 speakers on different on different theme or specific field. Our first expert Dr. Nishith Dharaiya, Co-Chair, IUCN –SSC Sloth Bear Expert Team, Wildlife & Conservation Biology Research Lab, Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan delivered a talk on assessment of the current status of sloth bear in the world, major threats to the sloth bear and how the IUCN-SSC Bear Specialist Group foresees the opportunities for sloth bear conservation in India and other range countries. Dr. Varad V. Giri, Director, Foundation for Biodiversity and Conservation, NIDUS talked about the metamorphosis of Indian herpetology providing insights into the past, present and future of Indian herpetology – with relevant examples and discussed in brief about the studies conducted, especially about caecilians of the northern Western Ghats. Another speaker Dr. Vivek Sharma, Assistant Professor, MDS University, Ajmer, Rajasthan discussed on the Herpetofaunal Diversity of Central Aravalli Mountain Ranges of Rajasthan: Current Status and Threats Identified.

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Dr. Somesh Gupta, Technical Officer, U.P. State Biodiversity Board, Lucknow talked about the importance of biodiversity for human existence and some effective methods are also discussed for the protection and management of biodiversity for present and future generations. Our one more speaker Dr. Kiran Choudhary, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Botany, Lzebra College, Kota (Rajasthan) briefed about Changing Dispersal Pattern in Plants with Special Reference to Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve in her lecture.

Total 270 participants were participated from different part of country like Gujarat, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, West Bengal, Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Odisa, Maharastra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Kerala and Jharkhand etc. Total oral presentations were 40 and poster presentations were 15.

The webinar concludes with very important message that today in scenario of Covid-19, special emphasis given on biodiversity & its conservation, India is known for its floral and faunal as well as traditional knowledge. It's time to take out the hidden traditional knowledge holders, people and tribes. There should be emphasis on registering.



Some Glimpses of Webinar