



**KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD**

# EKAA

Environment. Kerala. Awareness. Action  
Monthly - Newsletter of the Kerala State Biodiversity Board

June 2022  
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World Environment Day

RKI Project

KSBB Activities

## World Environment day

KSBB celebrated World Environment day at the Deaf and Dumb school in Jagathy, Thiruvananthapuram on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Ward Counsellor Adv. Rakhi Ravikumar planted fruit plant seedlings at school premises and inaugurated the event. She pinpointed the need for preserving indigenous breeds of animals, birds and plant species for the coming generations. Competitions in Pencil and crayon drawing on was conducted for lower primary and upper primary, high school and vocational secondary students. The books published by KSBB on various topics related to biodiversity were donated to the school library. Chairman, Dr. C. George Thomas distributed the awards to winners. Board member Dr. Satheeshkumar, Administrative officer Mini, Vocational Higher Secondary Principal Manju Mathew, Sreekumari.V and Headmistress Sujatha George attended a function along with other staff and students.





## Sundaravanam Project Pallichal, Thiruvananthapuram

Pallichal BMC initiated Sundaravanam, the medicinal plant garden project in five selected schools of the Panchayath. MLA Adv. I.B. Satheesh of Kattakada constituency inaugurated the project by planting a medicinal plant at SRS Upper Primary School, Mukkunada on June 10<sup>th</sup> 2022. KSBB Chairman Dr. C. George Thomas gave the keynote address. Mr. A. Nizamudeen, the land use commissioner and Technical Support Group member of KSBB offered felicitations for this ABS funded project of KSBB. President T. Mallika, Ward member Sajikumar and BMC secretary K.V. Suresh participated in the event.



MLA Adv. I.B. Satheesh planting Asoka tree seedlings

## Model BMC Project inaugurated at Perumkadavila BMC

Thiruvananthapuram district Panchayath President Adv. D. Suresh Kumar inaugurated the model BMC project, medicinal plants garden, butterfly park and tuber crops conservation at Marayamuttam HSS compound on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022. KSBB chairman Dr. C. George Thomas delivered keynote address. BMC president S. Surendran, LSG representative K. Rejikumar and BMC convenor Vikraman Nair attended the event.



## GOI- GEF-UNDP funded IHRML Project- Dissemination Workshop & Exhibition

Nava Kerala Mission & IHRML organized a two day dissemination workshop and exhibition of GOI- GEF-UNDP India High Range Mountain Landscape (IHRML) project at Kerala Arts & Craft Village, Vellar, Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram on June 29 & 30, 2022. Dr. T.N.Seema the Coordinator and project director detailed the special aspects of the project. A dissemination workshop was held as part of the event. MoEF & CC and the UNDP through funding from Global Environment Facility (GEF) had supported the implementation of IHRML Project which was meant for Anjunad and adjoining landscapes covering 2068.27 sq km belonging to 11 grama panchayats of Idukki, Ernakulam and Thrissur districts. KSBB had conducted two studies as part of the project and also updated the Kerala State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan. The dissemination workshop shared knowledge on the various activities spearheaded through the IHRML project. The officials of KSBB attended the function and participated in the exhibition where various knowledge products like awareness panels, books, booklets and brochures developed by KSBB as part of the projects were showcased. The major



attraction of the event was the small units from different panchayaths displayed in stalls with demonstration and sale of different organic, traditional and handcraft materials.



## RKI Project

### Medicinal plant nursery techniques

As a part of the Pampa Riverine Biodiversity Rejuvenation Project of Kerala State Biodiversity Board funded by Rebuild Kerala Initiative, ten selected people from Ranni- Angadi Grama Panchayath were trained in Medicinal plant nursery techniques at the campus of ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Thadiyoor on 27<sup>th</sup> June to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

This skill enhancement training consists of detailed classes on medicinal properties of plants, propagation methods and identifying plants suitable for commercial cultivation. Besides, plant propagation techniques; stem cutting, seed germination methods, tuber cuttings, potting mixture preparation, cover filling, and planting methods were included. The sessions were handled by Dr. Rincy K Abraham, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture), and Ms. Gayathri S, Programme Assistant (Lab) of KVK. The participants in this training were MGNREGS workers and VSS members of Ranni-Angadi GP.

The beneficiaries of this training will work at the medicinal plant nursery which is being constructed at Valiyakavu in Ranni Angadi Gram Panchayath as part of “Pampa Riverine Biodiversity Rejuvenation project. Ranni Angadi Gram Panchayath BMC aims to produce large scale production of medicinal plant seedlings through nursery and their marketing and manufacturing of value added products. The trainees were awarded with a Certificate in Medicinal plant nursery techniques issued by ICAR-KVK.



## Sustainable livelihood activities -





### Kuttichal Grama Panchayath

Kerala State Biodiversity Board initiated a project entitled “Implementation of stingless beekeeping practices for sustainable livelihood of selected tribal farmers at Kuttichal Grama Panchayath Thiruvananthapuram District” under the ABS scheme. The project aims at providing additional income to the tribal people through rearing stingless honeybees (meliponiculture). Twenty one tribal families of Kuttichal Gramapanchayath




benefitted from this training. The two days of training, exclusively on stingless beekeeping, dividing the colony, pure honey collection and management of the stingless bees were held. After training honeybee colonies was distributed to the trainees. Adv. G. Stephen MLA of Aruvikkara Constituency inaugurated the project on 22.06.2022 at the Interpretation Centre, Elephant Rehabilitation Centre, Kottur. Dr. C. George Thomas, Chairman, KSBB presided over the function and Member Secretary Dr. Santhoshkumar A.V. addressed the participants. President of Kutitchal Grama Panchayat, G. Manikandan, delivered the keynote address. KSBB Board members K.V. Govindan, Dr. K. Satheeshkumar and Dr. K.T Chandramohanan delivered lectures on diverse aspects of meliponiculture in connection with the workshop organized on “Sustainable Development in the Age of Climate Change”. General Secretary, Federation of Indigenous Apiculture, Dr. Stephen Devanesan, delivered a lecture on meliponiculture to the participants.

## Extension Education Awareness Activities

- AIR Harithavani programme aired on June 5<sup>th</sup> a talk on International Biodiversity Day by KSBB Principal Scientific Officer Dr. CS Vimalkumar. Listen to the audio by click the link. 
- An exclusive article written by Dr Santoshkumar AV (Member Secretary) on June 5<sup>th</sup> - Mathrubhumi daily newspaper. 
- Ministry of Ayush organized a three day (June 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 2022) exhibition at Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies, Neyyar Dam, Thiruvananthapuram. Kerala State Biodiversity Board took part in the event displaying awareness panels, brochures & booklets prepared by KSBB on our mandates and diverse programmes. The event brought together the leading organizations in the field of Ayush, in which scholars, students, researchers and public gathered.
- An article written by Dr Yamuna S (Principal Scientific Officer) KSBB on the online platform Research Matters. 
- An article in Keralakarshakan magazine (Malayalam), pages 38-41, June 2022 - Dr. Yamuna.S (Principal Scientific Officer) 

Kerala State Biodiversity Board  
- online certificate course -



**Registration site**  
<https://www.keralabiodiversity.org>

**Registration Link**  
<https://forms.gle/wKAskQe6DhGCFnWV8>

### Life science data analysis through R programming

**(Hands on online training on fundamentals of R programming and life science data analysis)**

- ✓ This certificate course is intended to students who are pursuing a graduation or post-graduation in life sciences, teachers and researchers. Preferences will be given to those who are engaged in the biodiversity related studies/ research.
- ✓ Duration : **8 Weeks**
- Registration Starts on : **6<sup>th</sup> July 2022**
- Registration ends on : **25<sup>th</sup> July 2022**
- Course launching : **1<sup>st</sup> August 2022**
- Target Group : UG & PG students, PhD students, Researchers, Teachers, Scientists etc.
- ✓ Course Fee : **1000/-**
- Course co-ordinator : **Dr. C.S. Vimal Kumar,**  
Principal Scientific Officer, KSBB  
Mob :- 9446701674

**CHAIRPERSON**  
Dr. C. George Thomas


**MEMBER SECRETARY**  
Dr. SanthoshKumar A.V.

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2. Agriculture Production Commissioner
3. Principal Secretary , Fisheries Department
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