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Dr. Kalesh Sadashivan
Naturalist, TNHS

Shri. Amithsen Upadheye
Wildlife Journalist

Ref: BMSIT&M/EC/GEN/2022/005

Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has published a Book Chapter titled "Environmental Stewardship by OIKOS (Eco-Club) in Biodiversity Management ", in the Book titled "Current Trends in Agriculture", published by Discovery Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi (India), during Jan 2022. The citation is as follows: Rajesh Gopinath, Environmental Stewardship by OIKOS (Eco-Club) in Biodiversity Management, Current Trends in Agriculture, pp. 156-166, 1st Edition, Discovery Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi (India), 2022, ISBN: 978-93-88854-82-5.

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Environmental Stewardship by OIKOS (Eco-Club) in Biodiversity Management

Dr. Rajesh Gopinath

ABSTRACT

Biodiversity today is fast degrading under the guise of humanity and its implications are heavily impending to impact entire biome, as the vital ecological functions performed by each organism far exceed the human comprehensibility. The context of loss in richness biodiversity can majorly be attributed to the rising rampant urbanisation and lack of awareness among urban populations about the need and significance for preserving biodiversity and common lifeforms. In this direction, an Eco-Club functioning within an education institute can undertake several steps to create awareness and thereby enhance every individual's sensitivity towards Biodiversity. The article outlines the diverse role that can be potentially undertaken by any Eco-Club in conserving environment and ecology; and hence this write-up offers constructive inputs to educational fraternity catering to any size, discipline or age-groups. The CSER initiative of an Eco-Club is mainly built around its potential for Capacity Building, with on/off-campus volunteering. Essentially, an Eco-Club is an example of Informal Education, which inherently hence makes it more effective than the formal mode of education restricted within the four-walls. The varied type of undertakings by "OIKOS", an Eco-Club based in BMS Institute of Technology and Management (Bengaluru) is presented herewith as for reference.

Keywords: Nature, Urbanisation, Biodiversity, Eco-Club, Ecology.

INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity refers to the variety and variability of life present in different ecosystems. Generally the richness of biodiversity essentially

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Vision

Environmental sustenance by constantly disseminating ecological and environmental knowledge to the society at large.

Mission

Inducing informal and formal environmental awareness programmes by Keystone Students Environmental Education Training.



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As an outreach activity of OIKOS, Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering) has delivered an Invited Talk on "Circular Economy : Paradigm Shift in Waste Management", on 17th January 2021; in the capacity of a Resource Person as a part of the FDP "Waste to Wealth", organised by the Department of Civil Engineering, KSSEM, Bengaluru

FDP on "Waste-to-Wealth"
"Circular Economy : New Paradigm in Waste Management"
KSSEM 17-01-2022 Bengaluru

Dr Rajesh Gopinath
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15, Mallasandra, off Kanakapura Road, Bangalore - 560109
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FIVE DAY ONLINE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
on
RESOURCE RECOVERY AND REUSE "WASTE TO WEALTH".
January 17th to 21st 2022
Organized by
Department of Civil Engineering

Opportunities

Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Source: © Rajesh Gopinath

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4. Dr. Vishwanath, Professor & Head DSATM, Bangalore.
5. Dr. Rajesh Gopinath, Associate Professor, BMSIT.

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Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has provided his expert services during the 3-day Annual Faunal Survey at Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary from 25th to 27th February 2022. The survey was in collaboration with the Kerala Forest and Wildlife Department. The Annual survey added 15 new records to Shendurney Fauna. A total of 153 species of birds were recorded in 3 days. With 7 new additions the total number of species recorded in the sanctuary has risen to 255 species. The butterfly assessment revealed a total of 191 species. Four species were new additions to the sanctuary checklist, thus making the current checklist for the sanctuary to 270 species. The volunteers also recorded Dragonflies and Damselflies from the region. A total of 64 species were observed in the survey even in this dry bout and it included 5 additions. The total number of species of odonates in Shendurney hence rises to 94 species. The survey also recorded presence of good number of Elephants, gaurs, tigers and smaller mammals like the endemic Nilgiri striped squirrel. 'Birds, Butterflies, Odonates and other fauna were observed and added to the inventory created for the sanctuary over the last 10 years, for the Management Plan.



ಸೊಂಕುಡುಗನಿಗಿಂತ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯಮೇಧಿಗಳು; 15 ಹಳಸು ಜೀವಿವಿಧಗಳನ್ನು ಕಂಡು

ಉದ್ಯಮಿಗಳಿಂದ ಆಯವಿದುಗಳನ್ನು ಉದ್ಯಮಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿ

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Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) and Miss Varsha G (Student Member) has published a Research Media Article "Bangaluru Nagarada Pakshigalamele Nagarikaranada Prabhava" in the Kannada Magazine "Kaadu Naadu", Vol. 10, March 2022.



ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ನಗರೀಕರಣದ ಪ್ರಭಾವ

ಬದನೆಕೆ

ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾನವ ವರ್ತನೆ (ಅಥವಾ ಬದಲಾಗಿ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮತೆ) ಅವರ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಬೀರುವ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಲಕ್ಷಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆಲವು ಛಾಯಾಗ್ರಾಹಕರು ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಜೀವಕ್ಕೆ ಅಡಾಯ ತರಲು ಬಹು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರಣರು, ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ವಲಸೆ ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳು. ಹೆಸರಪಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರಭಾವವಿಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಮರದ ಮೇಲ್ಭಾಗಗಳು ಕ್ಷೀಣಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಮನೆ ಮೇಲ್ಭಾಗಗಳು, ಛಾವಣಿಗಳು ಅವುಗಳ ಗೂಡಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಿಂದ ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಸದ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಅದರ ಓಡುಗಳು ಜನರ ಕಿರಿಕಿರಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದರ ಪ್ರವೇಶದ ತಡೆಗಾಗಿ ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಲೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಪು ಕೂರದಂತೆ ಕಿಟಕಿಯ ಜಾಗಗಳನ್ನು ಕ್ಷೀಣಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹೊಂದಿಸಿಯವಾಗಿ, ಈ ಮುಗ್ಧ ಹಕ್ಕಿಗಳು ಈ ಬಲೆಗೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿಕೊಂಡು, ತಮ್ಮ ರಕ್ತಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರಣವು ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕಳೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ, ಅತೀವ ಮಾನವಶಾಸ್ತ್ರೀಯದ ಪ್ರಭಾವದಿಂದ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಪ್ರಕೃತಿಯ ಪರಿನರದ ಸಮಶೋಲನ ಅಸ್ತವ್ಯಸ್ತವಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಹುಕಾಲ ಕಾರಣಗಳು, ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರವಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಒಟ್ಟಾಗುವಿಕೆಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಜಾತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಅಡಾಯದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಕೆಲವು ಜಾತಿಗಳು ಅಂತರ್ಗತವಾಗಿ ಬಂದಿರುವ ಪ್ರಾಕೃತಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಾದ ಸಂಯೋಗದ ಮಾದರಿ, ಮೊಟ್ಟೆ ಇರುವ ಮಾದರಿ, ಬೇಟೆಯ ಅನ್ವೇಷಣೆಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ವಿರಳವಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಇನ್ನೂ ಮತ್ತೆ ಕೆಲವು ವಿರಳವಾಗುವ ಕಾರಣವು ಅಜಾಗರೂಕತೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ, ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಮಹತ್ವ ಜಗತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮನುಷ್ಯನ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಮೇಲಿರುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವುಗಳ ಅನುಪಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ಪರೋಕ್ಷವಾಗಿ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಲೇಖನದ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದ ಕಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಆವೃತ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ರೂಮೇನಿಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಿದೆ Gopinath, Rajesh et al. (2021). Impact of Chaotic Urbanisation on Bengaluru's (India) Urban Avian Diversity. Transylvanian Review of Systematical and Ecological Research. 23. 81-94. ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಲೇಖನವನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಲಿಂಕ್ ನ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. <https://doi.org/10.2478/trser-2021-0007>

ಲೇಖಕರು : ಡಾ.ರಾಜೇಶ್ ಗೋಪಿನಾಥ್ (ಕೆ ಲಯಾಡೊನ್, ಓಯ್ಸಿಎಸ್) ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಿಎಂಎಸ್ ಇನ್ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಟೆಕ್ನಾಲಜಿ ಅಂಡ್ ಮ್ಯಾನೇಜ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-೭೮

ಕುಮಾರಿ ವರ್ಷಾ ಜಿ
ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಕೋ-ಆರ್ಟಿನೇಟರ್, ಓಯ್ಸಿಎಸ್, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಿಎಂಎಸ್ ಇನ್ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಟೆಕ್ನಾಲಜಿ ಅಂಡ್ ಮ್ಯಾನೇಜ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-೭೮

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As a joint initiative with an objective to sensitize students towards Nature and its Lifeforms, OIKOS (Eco Club) and Photography Club of BMSIT&M has organized a Nature Videography Competition on 21st March 2022 to commemorate the International Day of Forests. The output was a 5 minutes' video, which showcases the splendor of our college's green campus. The competition was restricted to inputs from BMSIT campus only.

The prizes winners and YouTube Link is as follows:

1st Prize: Mr JP Jai Puneeth - Dept. of EEE

<https://youtu.be/ZIBHfB0b3K8>

2nd Prize: Ms Rajeshwari - Dept. of CV

<https://youtu.be/lyyyKjYkhGc>

3rd Prize: Mr Mayank Malhotra - Dept. of CSE

<https://youtu.be/aZx2403mPOq>



BMS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

NATSHOT
THEME: NATURE @ BMSIT
VIDEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

PRIZE DETAILS
1ST PRIZE ₹ 3000.00
2ND PRIZE ₹ 2000.00
3RD PRIZE ₹ 1000.00

REGISTRATION FEE
FREE (FOR ECO-CLUB MEMBERS)
₹100.00 (NON ECO-CLUB MEMBERS FOR MEMBERSHIP)

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY
OIKOS AND THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



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Naturalist, Belvai

Dr. Kalesh Sadashivan
Naturalist, TNHS

Shri. Amithsen Upadheye
Wildlife Journalist

Ref: BMSIT&M/EC/GEN/2022/005

Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has published a Media Article titled "Unusual Sighting of A Medium-High Altitude Butterfly 'Anomalous Nawab' At Lower Altitude".... Is Climate Shift To Be Blamed?"; in the Website of Think Wildlife Foundation, on 13th April 2022. Link of article as Blog is available at <https://thinkwildlifefoundation.com/?p=3045>

OIKOS Faculty members Dr. Rajesh Gopinath and Prof Shimna Manoharan, along with Student members [M Likhith, PG Bhuvan, Ranuva Kailash and M Akash] have published their environment-based Research Paper "Augmentation of Soil-Moisture Retention with Natural Hydrogel Extracted from Fenugreek Seed Husk for Loamy Soil with Real-Time Monitoring Using FC-28 Sensors, in the International Journal "ECS Transactions, Vol. 1, Issue 1" in April 2022; with the following citation: Rajesh Gopinath et al. 2022 ECS Trans. 107, 1139. The DOI is [10.1149/10701.1139ecst](https://doi.org/10.1149/10701.1139ecst).

As part of its Outreach, OIKOS has bestowed upon the Its Inaugural "Green Stewardship Award" to renowned Environmentalist and Film Actor Shri Suresh Heblikar; on 22nd April 2022, as part of the 52nd Anniversary of World Earth Day celebrations. A memento and citation was presented to the Dignitary. The honor was in due recognition of his valuable efforts in Environmental Outreach, Activism and Services".



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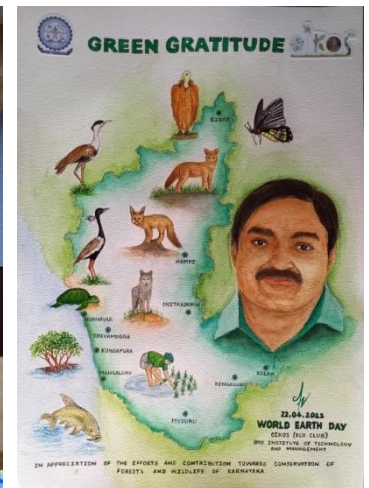
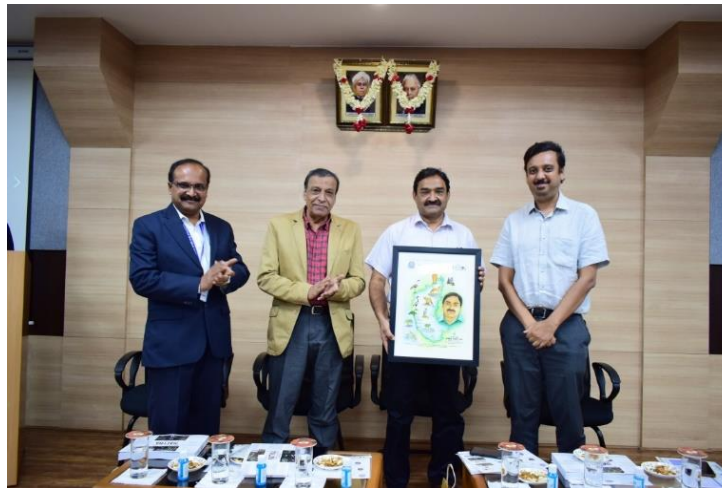
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Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

As part of its Outreach, on 22nd April 2022 (52nd Anniversary of World Earth Day celebrations) OIKOS has honored Shri Sanjai Mohan (Retd. PCCF & HoFF, Karnataka Forest Department) with a Token of Green Gratitude in the form of a portrait to celebrate his illustrious Green service for the Karnataka Govt. The uniqueness of the portrait (painted by OIKOS student member Ms Madhumita - Dept. of AIML) was the fact that it presented in it the face of the dignitary alongside the Karnataka Map, featuring within it the Places wherein he was posted during his long tenure. Also, the depiction of species for which Shri Sanjai Mohan had worked for, w.r.t. their conservation was showcased



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YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb84HFNJ--PtRWHjytuUJ0Q>

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Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has authored the Handbook on Flora and Fauna of the Green Campus of BMSIT&M. The repository is titled Natyra with ISBN-978-93-5593-203-7, and its 1st and 2nd Volume; detailing records of Lepidoptera and Odonata, was released on 22nd April 2022 by the Office Bearers of OIKOS and eminent Personalities namely Shri Suresh Heblikar and Shri Sanjai Mohan, with appreciation messages by various Naturalists, Experts, Scientists and Shri Basavaraj Bommai (Hon. Chief Minister for State of Karnataka).

The event was covered live by Prajaa TV and the visual media release can be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Rs04r8jQJho>. The glimpse of the Handbook and the Function can be on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/hgGaHkeqchM>. The media reports of the release was unveiled in leading News daily namely Hosa Digantha & Vijay Karnataka (Kannada Dailies) and in English Newspapers, namely City Highlights, IBC World News and The New Indian Express. On this occasion, all the contributors of Natyra were honored.

A copy of the Handbook is available in OIKOS library and the College Central Library (Reference sections)

BMS Institute of Technology and Management
Avalahalli, Bengaluru 560064
ecoclub@bmsit.in

Cordially Invites one and all for the Release of NATYRA
A Handbook on Flora and Fauna of BMSIT&M
Volumes 1 & 2

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GUESTS OF HONOUR

 Shri Suresh Heblikar Renowned Environmentalist Eco Watch	 Shri Sanjai Mohan PCCF & HoFF (Retd.) Forest Department, Govt. of Karnataka
--	---

SPECIAL GRATITUDE

 Shri Basavaraj Bommai Hon. Chief Minister Govt. of Karnataka
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Activity Report for Jan-June 2022



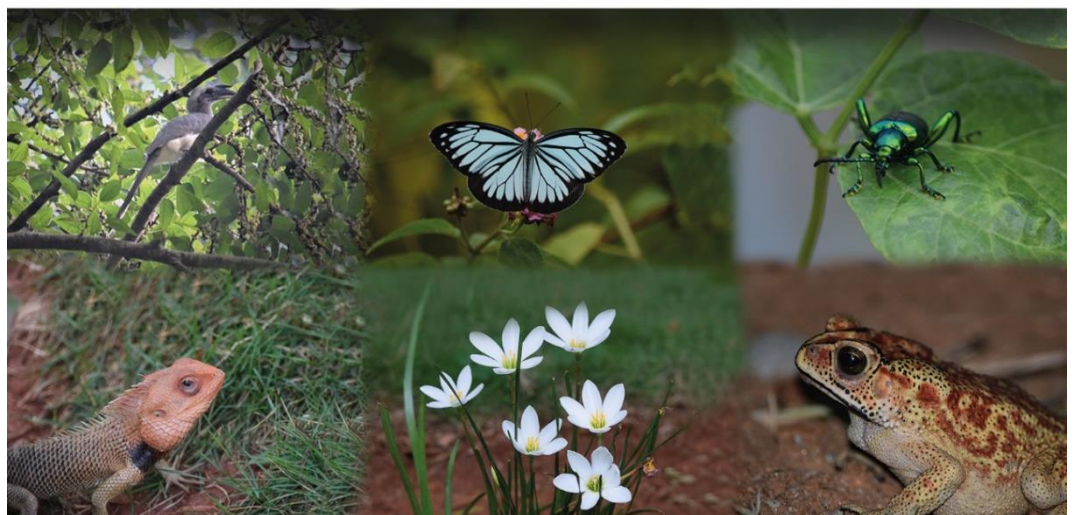
**BMS INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT**



NATYRA

A Handbook on Flora and Fauna of BMSIT&M

Dr Rajesh Gopinath



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On 22nd April 2022 (52nd Anniversary of World Earth Day celebrations) OIKOS has conducted the Farewell Function for its Final year active student coordinators/members, as part of its tradition.



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A research article titled "Land of the Dying Lakes" of Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering) has been published in the Cover Page of the News Media "Bangalore Mirror", on 4th May 2022.

Bangalore Mirror
BENGALURU, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2022
www.BangaloreMirror.com
12 Pages PRICE ₹8

TEMP Max 32 | Min 22 | Humidity 83% | Scattered thunderstorms
Sensex 56,373 | Nifty 17,059 | Gold 50,813 | Silver 82,723 | Dollar 76.49 | Euro 80.48 | GBP 95.72

WALKABLE (PAGE 4)
GALA LAND (PAGE 10)

'Between 2000 and 2019, Bengaluru lost 450 acres of wetland from 42 waterbodies — 243 from Bellandur, 32 from Varthur lakes'

LAND OF THE DYING LAKES
Eutrophication and encroachment, major factors, says study

Hail a pet cab
Real-life experience inspires man to start a taxi service for pets

Jiffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Variable rate of eutrophication can be due to a synergy of anthropogenic influences such as failure to incept stringent policies, lack of decentralised STPs... — Dr. Rajesh Gopinath, lead author of study

Bengaluru has lost as much as 450 acres of wetland from 42 prominent lake areas in the last 20 years, a study has revealed. According to the recent study by a city-based researcher, out of the 42 lakes, 41 had been encroached with an average reduction of 10.33% in the physical area. Bellandur and Varthur lakes have witnessed the highest decline in area due to encroachment. The study was conducted with the help of Google satellite images of the 42 prominent lakes between 2000 and 2019 distributed throughout Bengaluru to analyse the extent of the impact.

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On the occasion of "International Day for Biological Diversity" (i.e 22nd May 2022), a news article about the Bio-diversity of BMSIT&M Green Campus has featured in the Bangalore Mirror Newspaper. As also showcased in Natyra (Handbook on Flora and Fauna of our Green Campus), the article depicts the perfect sync of the Green Campus with Bio-diversity Theme for 2022; i.e. 'Building a shared future for all life'. This article was written by Dr Rajesh Gopinath, with Photographic Inputs by Mr Ozwin Dsouza.

City
13 A slice of tradition
Bite into these age-old flavours from the state that will never go out of style

BangaloreMirror | 2
Sunday, May 22, 2022
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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Gimme a Key
Catch Western Music Festival 'Gimme a Key' this weekend at Jagriti Theatre. Gimme a Key returns for its third edition to a braver, brand-new world. This festival has celebrated the work of some of the best talent in the country - musicians, instrumentalists, singers, and songwriters. Some of the artists are Cinema of Excess, Michael Diaz, and Joey Shamma who have been a big part of the local music scene for years.
Where: Jagriti Theatre: When: May 22, 7.30pm
Tickets: bookmyshow.com/events/gimme-a-key/ E100328164

02 Calling all lawyers
The School of Legal Studies at CMR University, Bengaluru, will organize the National Moot Court Competition, their flagship event. The virtual inauguration of the event will be done by Hon'ble Justice Ms BV Nagarath, Judge - Supreme Court of India as the Chief Guest. A total of 20 colleges will be participating in the competition, two preliminary rounds will be judged by eminent judges, legal professionals and professors of law.
Where: OMBR Layout campus; When: May 22

03 Support these artisans
Danika brings the most authentic experience of Indian handicrafts by bringing a confluence of more than 100 craft groups and craftsmen from 20+ states across India within one arena. The Bengaluru Danika Bazaar will offer a wide range of lifestyle accessories, silver jewellery, and adornments, metal crafts, carved furniture & decorative products, pottery & ceramics, basketry & fibre crafts, leather products, traditional paintings, a variety of hand-woven, embroidered, block printed textiles and more.
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel
When: May 27 - June 2, 10.30 am - 8.30 pm
Info: 9180292970/9742807152

What's brewing? A green revolution
Schools, colleges, science and research institutes are building large expanses of greenery that comprises diverse plant and bird species

I Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

From chirpy peahens to countless insects and birds, education campuses in the city are a treasure trove of biodiversity. Schools, colleges and research institutes are going all out to build and maintain their own pocket of greenery.

From in-situ plant conservation to apiculture and avian conservation, these campuses are serving as invaluable pockets of greenery that provide homes to an endless list of flora and fauna.

BMS Institute of Technology and Management (BMSIT&M) is one such campus of over three acres laden with tall and thick canopy, hedges, shrubs, plants and climbers. The campus boasts of more than 620 tree species, including 100 flowering and about 60 non-flowering plants. Floral biodiversity is also maintained on the campus primarily through plant species from Lalbagh Botanical Garden, University of Agricultural Sciences (GKVA) and the Western Ghats.

"We call our green spaces an oxygen hotspot. We try to focus on the in-situ form of conservation. As an outcome of these efforts, the rate of carbon sequestration per tree is higher on our campus than in most public green spaces in the city. Our in-house natural pollinators such as bonnet macaques, bats, birds, bees, moths and butterflies play an important role in maintaining the diversity," said Dr Rajesh Gopinath, Professor, BMSIT&M.

IM Bangalore is also home to some rare bird species. The institute recently planted around 25 varieties of fruit trees on campus to meet the food requirement of the birds. "A peahen is the latest addition to the rich avian diversity. The campus is home to reptiles and squirrels too. We also ensure that no tree on the campus faces the axe. The tree transplanting work has been taken up by the in-house staff of IMB over the last two years. In 2018, as many as 30 trees were transplanted on the campus by BMRC," said Mahesh Patil, horticulture officer, IMB.

The campus has also started honeybee rearing on a part of the campus to train the gardeners so that they can take up beekeeping as their livelihood in their villages. It is not just the higher education grounds. For instance, Greenwood International School has come up with various flowering and fruit plants to sustain its bee hive population.

"We have preserved four beehives on campus to help increase their population and avoid their habitat loss. Since bees also play a vital role in pollination, we have let them be. Local flowering plants have been planted across the campus along with fruits and vegetables to sustain the bee population," informed Aloisius DMello, Principal, Greenwood International School.

"These campuses say the advantages of having biodiversity-rich spaces are many. A thick green expanse is not just the best way to calm and rejuvenate yourself, but it also acts as an urban cool island.

"The amount of thermal comfort it provides is far better than any air-conditioner can offer. Ecologically, a greater diversity brings in stronger climate resilience and a stable self-sustaining ecosystem. It is only due to the wide floral diversity, that our campus can sustain more than 100 plus species each of butterflies and moths, about 60 avian species, close to 35 species of Odonata, and several other lesser-known insects, mammals and reptiles," added Dr Gopinath.

As an outcome of these efforts, the rate of carbon sequestration per tree is higher on our campus than in most public green spaces in the city

— Dr Rajesh Gopinath, Professor, BMSIT & M

Wake up call on just wages
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to Basavaraj Horatti, who recently quit as the legislative council chairman and joined the BJP, an elected representative need not spend Rs 20,000 per month towards telephone expenses.

"I used to get Rs 14,000 per month for the phones installed at my residence at Hubballi and in Bengaluru. I opted for a package from a private telecom service provider to ensure my telephone bill to be around Rs 2,000 or even Rs 4,000 per month. I can't criticise other elected representatives for drawing Rs 20,000 per month towards telephone allowance. They have to stop drawing a full amount of Rs 20,000 per month on their own," said Horatti, adding that the government faced Rs 5,000 towards telephone allowance in 1988.

PR Ramesh, Congress MLC, said an elected representative maintains one or two mobile phones, one phone at the legislator's house and one phone at his residence and the other phone at his office. One more phone connection would be with the M.L.A. or MLC's personal assistant.

"I am of the opinion that telephone expenses will be around Rs 20,000 per month for an elected representative," said Ramesh.

Meanwhile, social activists demanded that the government should not sanction the amount without seeking telephone bills from the elected representatives.

"Though the elected representatives are eligible to avail a telephone allowance, the government has to take lower tariffs offered by private telecom service providers into consideration before giving Rs 20,000 towards telephone expenses per month. I want the elected representatives to draw whatever they spent to maintain their mobile phones. They have to return excess money than the amount spent on telephone bills to the government," said Sai Datta.

Describing the decision to sanction Rs 20,000 towards telephone expenses of an elected representative as not only misleading the public but also a white collar crime, Ravi Krishna Reddy of Karnataka Rashtra Samiti said that elected representatives are simply pocketing tax payers' money. "Where is the need for elected representatives to spend Rs 20,000 per month when private telecom service providers are ready to provide suitable packages that allow unlimited incoming and outgoing calls and also access to the unlimited internet?" wondered Reddy.

The pay package
With effect from April 2022, representatives are entitled to get a salary of Rs 40,000 per month apart from Rs 60,000 constituency allowance, Rs 60,000 towards touring the constituency, Rs 20,000 towards wages for personal assistance and office assistance, Rs 5,000 towards postal expenses and Rs 20,000 towards telephone expenses. So, the total amount an elected representative is entitled to is Rs 2,05,000 monthly.

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Naturalist, Belvai

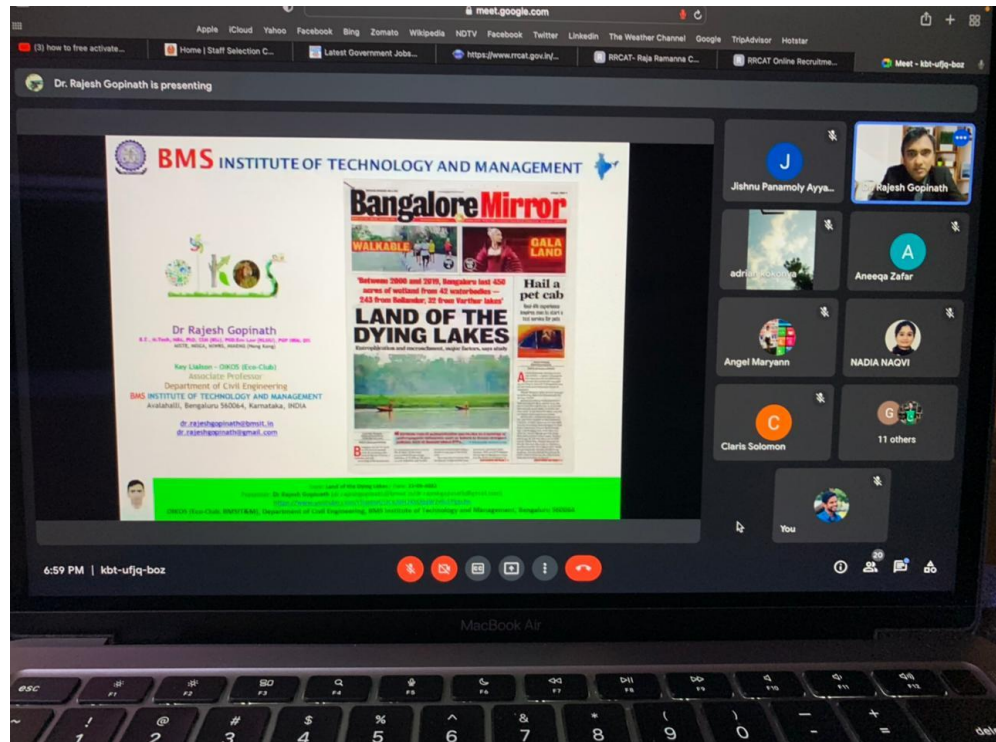
Dr. Kalesh Sadashivan
Naturalist, TNHS

Shri. Amithsen Upadheye
Wildlife Journalist

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Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

As an outreach activity of OIKOS, Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Key Liaison-OIKOS & Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering) has delivered an Invited Talk on "Need for Conservation of Lakes", on 21st May 2022; in the capacity of a Resource Person during the Global Youth Summit: Raise Your Voice; conducted by ECOR Foundation on the occasion of International Biodiversity Day.



On 3rd June 2022, "E-waste Collection Drive" was successfully accomplished by OIKOS, in collaboration with authorized recyclers E-parisara Private Limited. More than 300 kg of obsolete Electrical and Electronic wastes was handed over as part of this exercise, in complete compliance with E-waste Rules 2016.



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Also, on 3rd June 2022, "Reusable Study Materials Collection Drive" was successfully accomplished by OIKOS, in collaboration with the NGO "Humanity is Religion". The activity was in compliance with 12.5 AICTE activity points and supported by NSS team of BMS Institute of Technology and Management. The activity was coordinated by Mrs Chetana (Dept. of CSE).



Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering & Key Liaison-OIKOS) was invited as a resource person on the occasion of World Environment Day celebrations (05-06-2022) by Kempe Gowda Parisara Samrakshane Vedhikey, Yelhanka. The program was organised in collaboration with Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Hasiru Sene. Other dignitaries included Renowned Environmentalist Shri Suresh Heblikar, Shri Vishwanath S (Expert on Water Management) and Shri Bhaskar Rao (Ex-Commissioner of Police-Bengaluru). On this occasion, Dr Rajesh Gopinath addressed the need to re-establish the missing connection of Nature with Humans to ensure further sustainability.

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering & Key Liaison-OIKOS) has delivered an Expert Talk titled "Are you an Environmental Steward?", June 23rd, 2022. The forum was organized by the NDLI Club of BMS Institute of Technology & Management.

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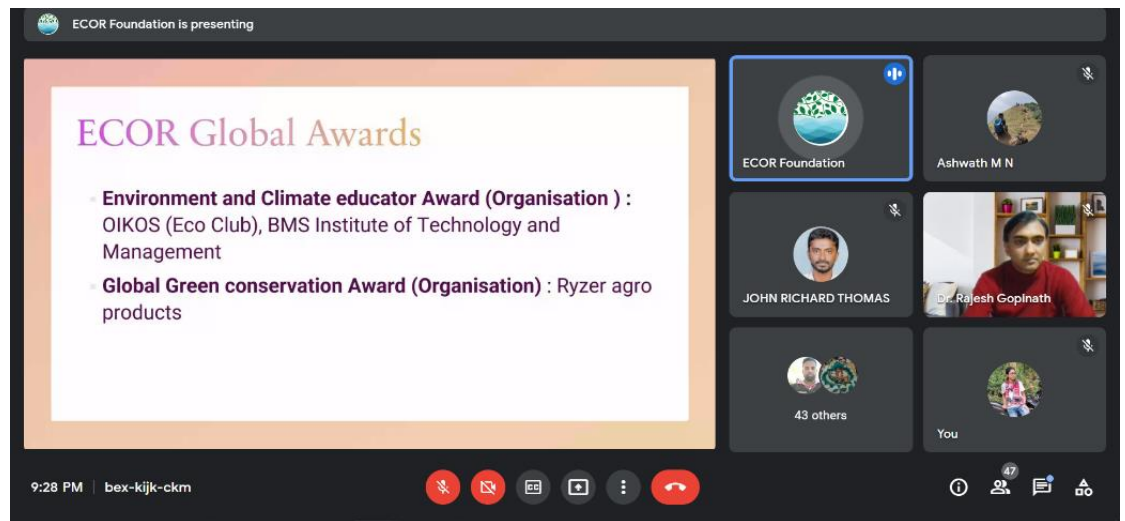
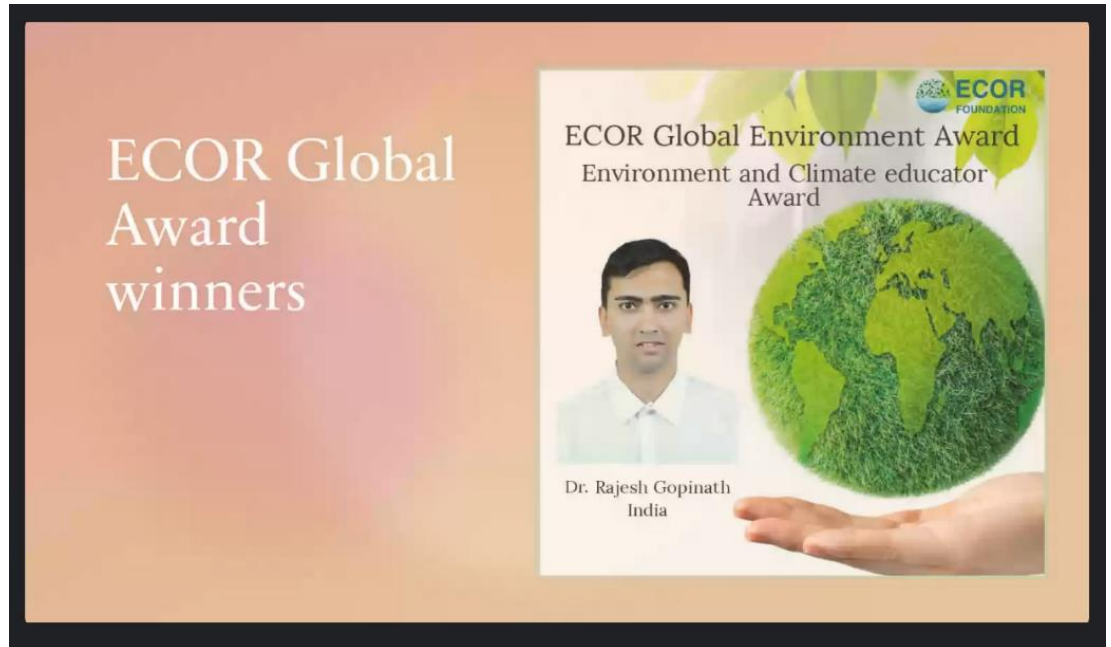
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Activity Report for Jan-June 2022

Dr Rajesh Gopinath (Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering & Key Liaison-OIKOS) has been awarded with the "Environment and Climate Educator Award [under Individual Category] on 12th June 2022, by EcoR Foundation (an Environmental Conservation and Social Service NGO). The award was announced online during the eve of MILIEURA (International Virtual Conference). Also, on this date, OIKOS (Eco Club, BMSIT&M) was awarded with the Environment and Climate Educator Award [under Organization Category].



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