

National Symposium-cum-Workshop on Biodiversity and its Utilization and Conservation in Central India (In Blended Mode)

CONFERENCE REPORT

Overview

The National Symposium-cum-Workshop on Biodiversity and its Utilization and Conservation in Central India (In Blended Mode) took place at the Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (A Central University), Koni, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh on 21-22 February 2022. The event was organized for participants to exchange their experiences in the field of Biodiversity research for a dynamic of productive collaboration on the one hand. On the other hand, the participation of eminent national researchers in this symposium provided an opportunity to exchange and update the state of knowledge and research approach and thus, opened multiple opportunities for collaboration with Central Indian researchers. The broad objective of this event was to bring all interested in research in central India on a single platform to share their experiences.

Conference Format

The two-day conference comprised 5 Technical sessions, with 2-3 Invited speakers per session followed by paper presentations where each speaker was given 5 Minutes for presentation and 2 minutes for question and answer.

The conference was structured to foster discussion between participants around the core themes of Biodiversity and its conservation. Each day of the conference also allotted one hour for lunch, and 30 minutes for morning and afternoon tea to allow participants to continue their discussions after each session. Time was allocated at the end of each day for a group reflection on the day's discussions.

Conference Themes

1. Floral and Faunal Diversity and its Conservation
2. Agri Diversity: Its Utilization and Conservation

3. Forest Genetic Diversity
4. Microbial Diversity
5. Enumerating and conserving ecosystem, species and genetic diversity
6. Implications of biodiversity loss
7. Reducing pressures on biodiversity and promoting sustainable use
8. Enhancing the benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services
9. Impact of climate change on Biodiversity
10. Indigenous Traditional knowledge, its Diversity and Tribal Livelihood.

Registrations

Registration for the conference was open to students, academics, and government officials working on and researching Biodiversity and its conservation in India. However, the nature of the conference meant that it was unsuitable for the event to be advertised or open to registration by the general public. Instead, invitations were sent directly to contacts in relevant fields, who were also asked to promote the event to other potentially interested parties within their organization. In total 105 registrations were received for the conference. This included 94 abstract presentations and 11 Complimentary Conference attendees.

Keynote speakers and Invited speakers included Prof. S. P. Singh Department of Biosciences, Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujrat and Prof. Uma Shankar, Department of Botany, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya. And Invited speakers were Prof. Yogesh Dubey (Ecosystem & Wildlife management, IIFM, Bhopal), Dr. Nitin Kulkarni (Director, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi), Dr. H.S. Ginwal Dean, Academics and Head, Tree Improvement Division, FRI Deemed University, Dehradun, Prof. G.P. Singh, Department of Geophysics B.H.U. Varanasi, Dr. Manoj Dubey, Joint Director Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Bengaluru, Prof. S. K. Dubey, Professor Department of Botany, B.H.U., Varanasi, Dr. Ram Bhooj, Ex. Regional Director, UNESCO, New Delhi, Prof. R. Uma Shankar, Department of Bioscience and Bioengineering, IIT, Jammu.

The conference was inaugurated by Honorable Vice Chancellor Prof. Alok Kumar Chakrawal and conference proceeding was released. The conference ends with valedictory session.

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