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NAAC ACCREDITED 'A++' GRADE COLLEGE

2024-2025

INSTITUTION'S INNOVATION COUNCIL (Ministry of Education initiative)

Name of the Department/Society: Haritima: The Environmental Awareness Society and Srishti Chetna: The Zoological Society

Name of the Event: Wildlife Fiesta (Interactive talk and Wild-life quiz)

Date of the Event: 3rd October, 2024 (12:30 pm onwards)

Venue: Multipurpose Hall, C- Block

Teacher-In-Charge: Dr. Beena Bhandari

Convenor of the Department/Society: Dr. Pooja Arora and Dr. Monika Koul

Report

The event commenced with lamp lighting by the guests and our college faculty of Botany and Zoology Department to mark an auspicious start for Wildlife Fiesta, 2024. Our first speaker of the day, Mr. Baiju Raj delivered an inspiring talk on biodiversity and conservation, sharing his journey and emphasizing the need to protect nature's variety of species. He discussed the foundation of Wildlife SOS, a non-profit organization established in 1995 by Kartick Satyanarayan and Geeta Seshamani, initially focused on ending the exploitation of dancing bears and later expanding to rescue and rehabilitate various wildlife species.

Mr. Baiju credited his father for instilling in him a deep compassion for animals and inspiring his career in conservation. He encouraged the audience to learn more about species and their ecological roles through research, fieldwork, and citizen science. His insights highlighted the urgency of conserving biodiversity and the importance of individual and collective efforts in ensuring a sustainable coexistence between humans and wildlife.

Following him, Dr. Samir Kumar Sinha, Senior Director at the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), emphasized the importance of coexistence in wildlife conservation. As human populations expand into natural habitats, human-wildlife conflict (HWC) has increased, driven by habitat fragmentation, resource competition, and climate change. HWC often leads to crop damage, human-wildlife casualties, and ecological imbalances.

Dr. Sinha highlighted the need to foster harmony by integrating local communities, restoring wildlife corridors, and adopting innovative technologies like GPS tracking and early warning systems. Coexistence ensures biodiversity conservation, economic benefits through ecotourism, and long-term sustainability.

He stressed that conservation requires collaboration between humans and wildlife, advocating for a shift from conflict to coexistence to secure a balanced future. "Conservation is saving wildlife with people," he concluded.

A closing statement was given by Dr. Monika Koul, in which she gave her viewpoint towards the concerns for biodiversity, while appreciating our invited guests for their significant contribution to save wildlife.

Wildlife Fiesta also featured the much-anticipated quiz competition titled "Primal Pursuits." The event was skillfully conducted by Vice President Abhiraj and Coordinator Jesu, with the theme centered around wildlife conservation and awareness. The quiz comprised four rounds:

- The first two rounds were conducted in a pen-and-paper format and served as elimination rounds.
- The final two rounds were group-based, fostering teamwork and in-depth discussions.

Participants from various colleges, including institutions from South Campus, showcased their knowledge and enthusiasm for wildlife.

The competition concluded with the following winners:

- 1st Position: Shruti Kumari and Aparna Barla
- 2nd Position: Anurun Dey and Abhishek Mishra

The winners were felicitated with certificates during the distinction ceremony, marking the culmination of the event.

The quiz provided a platform for exchanging knowledge and fostering discussions on current wildlife issues. The event was meticulously organized under the leadership of President Raj Shekhar and the dedicated members of Haritima.

It was a memorable and enriching day, leaving participants inspired and more aware of wildlife conservation.





Geo-tagged pictures:









