

Report on 3rd Prakriti Program at Visakhapatnam

Forest Research Centre for Coastal Ecosystem Via Yoga Village, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh



January 6, 2020

FRC-CE, Visakhapatnam continued to interact with students of Kendriya Vidyalaya for the 3rd time among a cluster of 9 schools under patronship of **Mr. D. Jayaprasad**, IFS, Hyderabad, Director, IFB. In compliance of MoU signed between ICFRE and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, to promote awareness about forest and environment, Forest Research Centre for Coastal Ecosystem (FRC-CE), Visakhapatnam conducted “Prakriti: A scientist-student connect initiative” among students of Kendriya Vidyalayas located at Visakhapatnam. On 6th January 2020 **Dr S. Chakrabarti**, Scientist-G and Head of FRC-CE guided a ‘Research Outreach’ team comprising of **Smt T. Anusha**, **Shri Lakshman Rao** and **Shri Srinivas** to organize an interactive training at Sri Vijayanagar KV 1 near Industrial Estate on biodiversity and ecological issues.



Shri P.K.Purohit, Principal of KVS welcomed the team with utmost enthusiasm and encouraged the students with an introductory speech.

Smt T. Anusha, Technician FRC-CE briefed about the “PRAKRITI” program and FRC-CE and its contribution towards environment and society. She also elaborated different aspects of biodiversity, threats and conservation of biodiversity. During her presentation and discussion with students, she talked about mangrove forests, their importance and also regarding sacred groves along with Nakshatravanas present in Jharkand. Moreover she also explained how our ancestors painted an animal or bird along-with one God signifying its importance and barring hunters from killing them.



The programme continued with a talk delivered by Dr. S. Chakrabarti, on connectivity between plants and humans, a conceptual point that plants should be regarded as a part of human body. He elaborated that our respiratory system is directly linked with plants for gaseous exchange, though we are not physically connected. He urged, students should perpetuate the concept to common people, that cutting trees is nothing but cutting our body.

Later he initiated an interactive session in which he explained that every small creature has got an important role in maintaining ecological balance which helps us directly or indirectly. He took the example of spider and narrated its unique features. Student were made knowledgeable about life cycle and diversity of spiders in India, as well as the

varied feeding habits including communal feedings by social spiders. He also pointed out that, spider as a bio-control agent can kill harmful insect pests of crops.



After the presentation a video regarding biodiversity was played twice for students as a part of quiz to identify flora and fauna present in the video and make a note of it. Later a pictorial quiz was conducted which has 25 species of flora and fauna to identify. After the quiz, prizes were announced and presented to the winners.

Prize distribution was followed by Vote of thanks by Smt T. Anusha acknowledging their team, Institute head and extension head of the program. Later a vote of thanks is given by one of the physics teacher in the school. The

teacher expressed that “so many new concepts were learnt by teachers also along with students today as a part of Prakriti program. A total of 152 students from class 9th and 11th along with 5 teachers of the school participated in the program.



Winners were Ms. Farhana (XIA), Ms. Shivani Mishar (XIB) and Amisha Patnail (IXA).



The interaction were overwhelming and each presentation was applauded. After the program, all students were fully satisfied and they were confident and showed full enthusiasm for care and protection of the environment and forests.