



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2023

ICFRE-INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS & TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE

International Museum Day–2023 (IMD-2023) was celebrated in ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore on 18.05.2023 at Edu Centre, **Gass Forest Museum (GFM)**. The theme for IMD 2023 was “**Museums, Sustainability and Well-being**”. Coimbatore cherishes presence of several museums of which Gass Forest Museum is special in many ways. The GFM is one of the largest and oldest of its kind in our country situated in the Forest Campus of Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding. GFM has been engaging the public mostly students directly on crucial scientific insights and thoughts to steer them to help conserve forests and restore biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems.

On the eve of the celebration, 30 participants comprising of students and public participated in the International Museum Day celebration at GFM. Dr. S. Saravanan, Head, Extension, welcomed the participants. Shri. G. R. Madhavaraj, IFS, DCF, Extension, briefed the overview of the International Museum Day and its importance. He emphasized that Museum is the only place that can give us supreme knowledge about our civilization and the history of the earth which reflects on the past and understand the values in the present to make our future better and the museum is the mirror. He stressed the role of museum which plays in shaping and creating sustainable futures and promote well-being for all at all ages. He also highlighted the various nature connect programmes under PRAKRITI organized by ICFRE-IFGTB.

Dr. R.Yasodha, Group Co-ordinator Research, IFGTB, addressed that museums are the perfect place to build a community and spread harmony among all. It is the cauldron

where various cultures and communities unite. She also highlighted that the world is on the way to innovating new technologies and techniques for digital transformation and accessibility. This innovation in the museums can be used for making the knowledge of museums more accessible to all. She advised to spread the news in requesting the society to visit the nearby museums in Coimbatore to create more awareness of our culture and civilization. The inaugural ended with the formal vote of thanks by Smt. B. Sunitha, CTO and Curator of GFM.

Documentaries on the current themes on Environment and Nature Education were screened to the participants. Participants visited the GFM and Shri. P. Chandrasekaran, ACTO explained about the century old GFM significance. He explained about the rich collection of exhibits that ranges from animals, birds and reptiles. Apart from wildlife exhibits, participants were given exposure to Arms used in olden days, wood crafts, and huge collection of insects, cultural artefacts and many more. Later on participants were taken to Insect museum, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and learned about insects, their evolution and life cycle, contribution to Planet earth and more importantly their role for sustenance of the Human race.

DIRECTOR, ICFRE-IFGTB



