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MESSAGE

International Day for Biological Diversity, 2022

Tripura being a part of North-East India, belongs to one of the two “Hot Spot” of India amongst 18 recognized in the World. Hot Spots are selected on the basis of evidences of present day distribution, diversity and linkages of crop plants/ horticultural plants, with the past; Hot Spots are the original homeland for progression and distribution of such plants.

In Tripura, where more than 80% population reside in rural setting surrounded by varied biodiversity elements, food security assurance to all and sundry is one of the biggest contributions of the biodiversity.

Biodiversity constitutes variety of life forms which include plants, animals and micro-organisms. This even includes their genes and the ecosystems of which they are a part. Tripura is one of the few states of the country which is blessed with 70 % of the geographical area covered with forest & biodiversity. This biodiversity has taken million of years to develop. It is our responsibility to gift the future generation a green Tripura by wise use of the biodiversity.

It is high time that all of us truthfully be grateful for our dependency on biodiversity and own it not only for consumption alone, but also encourage and conserve it to prevent biodiversity loss. The loss to biodiversity will lead to the long-term or permanent qualitative or quantitative reduction in its components and their potential to provide goods and services at global, regional, national, local level and finally at individual levels.

Every year Tripura Biodiversity Board (TBB) observes the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) on **22nd May**. The theme for this year's IDB is “*Building a shared future for all life*”. This year TBB will commemorate the IDB on 22nd May, 2022 through different programmes like, planting of trees, Essay Competition, Photography Competition, Art Competition, Green Newspaper Award & Green Journalist Award, Biodiversity awareness Rally, Enjoying Urban Biodiversity through Bird Watching & Butterfly Watching etc. for creating awareness among the people on the importance of conserving our precious biodiversity.

Biodiversity remains the answer to several sustainable development challenges from nature-based solutions to climate, health issues, food and water security, and sustainable livelihoods. Biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better.

Therefore, on the eve of International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB), 2022 on 22nd May, I appeal for proactive contribution/ participation of every citizen of the State in increasing and safeguarding of our precious biodiversity.

“Biodiversity-Nature's Gift- Conserve it”

Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha