



International Biodiversity Day-2024 celebrated at IUST

Awantipora 24 May. The Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) celebrated the United Nations mandated International Day for Biological Diversity 2024 on 22 May, 2024. The event was organised by Mantaqi Centre for Science & Society

(MCSS) in collaboration with Nature Interpretation Centre (NIC), Biodiversity Park, Centre for AYUSH Science and Centre for Renewable Energy & Sustainable Technologies, IUST and supported by Dean of Students, Technology Innovation in Renewable Energy & Climate Change



(TIR&CC), CIED and Landscaping Division, IUST, Awantipora. The purpose of the IBD is to enhance understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues and to increase recognition of the significant challenges human activities pose to biological diversity. The theme of the IBD-2024 “Be part of the Plan”, is a call to action for all stakeholders to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, also referred to as “The Biodiversity Plan”. The “Biodiversity Plan” offers opportunities for cooperation and partnerships among diverse actors and sets goals and concrete measures to stop and reverse the loss of nature by 2050. During the event a “Nature Walk” was organised in which students and staff from departments/ centres/ offices participated. In addition, the students were taken to the Carolus Linnaeus Memorial Biodiversity Museum housed in the Mantaqi Centre for Science & Society of IUST. The students were briefed about the role, Biological diversity plays in maintaining life on Earth, its relevance and importance, various threats and challenges it is facing, and need to work for its conservation and sustainable utilisation.





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The role of Biodiversity Museums in imparting, education, generating awareness, and conservation of endemic species, was highlighted. In addition, plantation drive under the theme “Donate, Plant & Own a Tree” was conducted. The plantation drive



among others was attended by Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath, Director, NIT, Srinagar/Vice Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir, Prof. Rajan Rawal, CEPT University, Ahmedabad, Prof. A. H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, Prof. A. R. Trag, Former Vice Chancellor, IUST, Prof. Ashok Aima, Former Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, Dr. Waseem Bari, Registrar/ Controller of Examinations, IUST, Mr. Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer, IUST, Dr. S. Iqbal Quraishi, Deputy Registrar, Estates, Mr. Syed Suhail Rafiq,



Deputy Registrar, Establishment, Mr. Gh. Nabi Bhat, Executive Engineer, Mr. Mudasar Ahmad Mir, Assistant Registrar, Recruitment, Mr. Javaid Ahmad Khan, Assistant Registrar, Academics/ I/c Public Relations & Media Centre, IUST, besides staff from various departments/centres. The IBD-24 was coordinated jointly by Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Qureshi, Research Officer, MCSS/ Coordinator, NIC, Biodiversity Park and Dr. Arsheed Ahmad Ganaie, Coordinator, Centre for AYUSH Science, IUST.

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