

**Report on World Wetlands Day, 2015 Celebrations at Pong Dam Wetland
(Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Nagrota Surian, District Kangra, H.P.) on**

02-02-2015



**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY
AND ENVIRONMENT, SHIMLA**

34-SDA COMPLEX, KASUMPTI, SHIMLA-171009

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Introduction:

2nd February each year is celebrated as World Wetlands Day. It marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2nd February 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea named as **Ramsar Convention**. Each year since 1997, Government Agencies, non-governmental organizations, and groups of citizens at all levels of the community have taken advantage of the opportunity to undertake actions aimed at raising public awareness of the wetland values and benefits in general and the Ramsar Convention in particular.

The State of H.P. has three designated Ramsar wetland of International importance namely Renuka, Chandertal and Pong Dam Wetlands. Beside these, the State has two wetlands of National importance i.e. Khajjar and Rewalsar wetlands.

The State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Shimla in association with Forest Department and Education Department organize the World Wetland Day at Pong Dam Wetland, District Kangra, H.P.

Objectives

- Creating public awareness of the wetland values.
- Creating awareness among the students about the importance, and uses of Wetlands
- Managing freshwater and Health of wetlands.
- Conserving Health of Forests in Wetland catchments.

Target Groups:

1. Students
2. Teachers

3. PRIS'
4. Forest Department

Activities undertaken to celebrate the Event:

The State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Shimla in association with Forest Department and Education Department has organised the following activities at Pong Dam Wetland during the celebration:

1. Painting/poster/Salogan making competition for school children.
2. Declamation contest in senior & Junior categories.
3. Screening of Wild life movie and lectures .

At Pong Wetland site the celebrations were carried out at **Government Senior Secondary School, Nagrota Surian, District Kangra**. Around 200 students, teachers of different schools and official from Forest Department participated in the Pong Wetland celebration. Sh. ARM Reddy, Chief Conservator of Forests, Hamirpur was the Chief guest at the celebrations. The following schools participated in the celebration:

1. Government Senior Secondary School. Nagrota Surian
2. Government Senior Secondary School, Barial
3. Government Senior Secondary School, Amlala
4. D.A.V. School, Nagrota Surian
5. Adarsh Bharti Public School, Nagrota Surian
6. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Ghar Jarot
7. Little angel School, Fatehpur
8. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Sakri
9. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Lunj
10. Govt Sen Sec. School, Harsar
11. GHS, Dhar Dhangar
12. Sarvodya Model High School, Dehra

13. Shivalik Public School, Nagrota Surian
14. Galaxy Public Sr. Sec. School, Nagrota Surian

Activities carried out during the celebrations

Painting competition

A Painting competition was organized amongst the students from different schools on wetland conservation theme. 84 students were registered for the painting competition.



Painting Competition at Pong Dam wetland

Declamation competition

Declamation competition was also held in the premises of the school. The students threw light on the conservation and importance of the Wetland sites in the State. In this

competition, participation of 19 students was registered in both junior and senior categories.

Screening of Documentary related to Pong Dam Wetland conservation:

In the premises of the school, a documentary film regarding Pong dam wild life sanctuary was showed by Department of Forests (Wild Life) to the participants. Sh.D.S. Dadwal, ACF(WL), Dharmshala briefed the participants about the values of Wetland. The students took a keen interest in the watching the documentary along with other staff and officials of the different schools which were present. The bird watching activity was also carried with students.

Presentation and lectures on Wetlands.

Sh. Ravi Sharma, Senior Scientific Assistant from State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Shimla made his presentation on the values of Wetlands he briefed the participants that the state has three Ramsar Wetland which include Pong Dam wetland and two national wetland. The Wetland play important role in mankind like rejuvenate the water resources, livelihood to the local people, wild life protection, irrigation etc.

Sh.Sher Singh Rana Principal, Government Senior Secondary School, Nagrota Surian shared his experience on environment Conservation. He told the school has an Eco Club and different activities organized by our school's time to time.

Ms. Arti Gupta from WWF-India also briefed the activities of the organization.

Sh. ARM, Reddy, Chief Conservator of Forests, Hamirpur chief guest of the function in his address to the participants briefed about the values of wetland and role of wetlands in eco system. He told the Pong reservoir is an ideal habitat for migratory birds. Lakhs of birds migrate every year from Central Asia and Siberia to Pong Wetland during winter. The Protection of Migratory birds is our duty so that the ecological balance should be maintained.

Prize Distribution

The prizes were distributed by the Chief guest Sh. ARM Reddy, Chief Conservator of Forests , Hamirpur to the winners in the different categories.

The names of the winners are as follows:

Painting Competition:

Junior Category

1. Mr. Rohit Dhiman, ABP, Sugnara, Nagrota Surian – 1st prize
2. Ms. Anjali , GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 2nd prize
3. Ms.Vishal Shivalic Public School, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize

Senior Category

1. Mr. Anirudh Guleria , GSSS, Amlala – 1st prize
2. Ms. Samriti Dhiman, ABP, Nagrota Surian – 2nd prize
3. Ms.Ankita GSSS, Sakri– 3rd prize

Declamation Competition:

Junior Category

1. Ms. Ananya DAV School Nagrota Surian – 1st prize
2. Mr. Uday, Little Angel School, Fatehpur – 2nd prize
3. Ms. Anshu , GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize

Senior Category

1. Ms. Navika, DAV Nagrota Surian, – 1st prize
2. Ms. Palak , GSSS, Barial – 2nd prize
3. Ms.Shagun GSSS, Amlela – 3rd prize

Slogan Competition:

Junior Category

4. Ms. Shruti Pathania, Galaxy Public School, Nagrota Surian – 1st prize
5. Ms Aksha, Little Angel School, Fatehpur – 2nd prize
6. Mr. Tushar , ABP School, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize

Senior Category

4. Ms. Sunanyaka Galaxy Public School, N. Surian, – 1st prize
5. Ms. Neha , GSSS, Barial – 2nd prize
6. Ms.Arshiya DAV N. Surian – 3rd prize



|Prize Distribution function at Pong wetland on 2-2-2015

