

Report
On
World Wetland Day- 2016
Celebrations at Pong Dam Wetland (Govt. Sen. Sec. School,
Nagrota Surian, District Kangra, H.P.) on 02-02-2016



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

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Report on World Wetland Day, 2016 Celebrations at Pong Dam Wetland (Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Nagrota Surian, District Kangra, H.P.)

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. Khajjiar 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. Local people

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 competition for school children.**
- 2. Declamation contest in senior & Junior categories.**

At Pong Wetland site the celebrations were carried out at **Government Senior Secondary School, Nagrota Surian, District Kangra**. Around 150 students, teachers of different schools participated in the Pong Wetland celebration. Sh. Shamsheer Singh, Principal, GSSS, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra 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, Amlala
3. D.A.V. School, Nagrota Surian
4. Adarsh Bharti Public School, Nagrota Surian
5. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Barial
6. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Spail
7. Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Sakri
8. Govt. High School, Kathol

Activities carried out during the celebrations

Painting competition

A Painting competition was organized amongst the students from different schools on wetland conservation theme. The School children actively participated in 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 10 students was registered in both junior and senior categories.



Declamation contest 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 said the wetland convention was held on 2nd February 171 in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shore of the Caspian sea. This year the World wetland theme is :wetlands for our future: sustainable livelihood”. He said the theme focused on the vital role of wetlands for the future of humanity and specially their relevance towards achieving the new sustainable development goals. He said the wetlands provide

importance hydrological functions such as ground water recharge, water quality improvement and flood control. 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.Sandeep Sharma, District Science Supervisor o/o of the Deputy Director of Elementary Education Dharmshala, distt. Kangra made his presentation on environment Conservation and protection of wetlands. He said various plant species have great medicinal values found in the periphery of the wetlands. He also said the number of the households having income from the Pong dam wetlands like fishery. Fodder, agriculture etc. So there is need to protect the wetlands.



Sh. Shamsheer Singh Principal, GSSS, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra chief guest of the function in his address to the participants briefed about the Role of Wetlands in conservation of environment and human needs. 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 helps in birds biodiversity conservation. He appreciated the efforts of state council to spread the message of conservation and protection of wetlands in H.P.

Prize Distribution

The prizes were distributed by the Chief guest Sh. Shamsheer Singh Principal, GSSS, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra to the winners in the different categories.

The names of the winners are as follows:

The Judgment of the competitions was made by the following judges:

1. Dr. Nishant, Assistant Professor, Govt. College, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra
2. Dr.(Mrs.) Monika Sharma, Assistant Professor, Govt. College, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra
3. Dr. Narender Sharma, Assistant Professor, Govt. College, Nagrota Surian, Distt. Kangra

Painting Competition:

Junior Category

1. Ms. Shewta , GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 1st prize
2. Ms. Ruchi, GSSS, Amlala – 2nd prize
3. Ms. Anjali , GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize
4. Ms. Jaswant Kaur , GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 4th prize

Senior Category

1. Ms. Samriti Dhiman, ABP, Nagrota Surian– 1st prize
2. Mr. Rohit , GSSS, Spail – 2nd prize
3. Ms. Irza Bhardwaj DAV, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize
4. Mr. Rohit Dhiman, ABP, Nagrota Surian– 4th prize

Declamation Competition:

Junior Category

1. Ms. Niharika, DAV Nagrota Surian, – 1st prize
2. Ms. Aarti , GHS, Katholi – 2nd prize
3. Ms. Anshu GSSS, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize
4. Ms. Shruti, ABP, Nagrota Surian– 4th prize

Senior Category

1. Ms. Shivani, GSSS, Nagrota Surian, – 1st prize
2. Ms. Nitiksha , GSSS, Barial – 2nd prize
3. Ms. Ananya DAV, Nagrota Surian – 3rd prize
4. Ms. Saloni ABP, Nagrota Surian– 4th prize



Prize Distribution function at Pong wetland on 2-2-2016

