

Launch of “Story Book on Biodiversity”

National Biodiversity Authority, Government of India, Chennai

13 January 2014, India International Center, New Delhi

6:00 – 7:30 PM

The diversity of life on Earth (Biodiversity) is the life insurance policy for life. No human being can survive without this diversity that provides for the food, feed, medicines and livelihoods for survival. The contributions of such diversity are the most critical asset for all advances in development in any country. No country on this Planet can progress without water, fresh air, soil, plant and animals.

However, we are now deeply rooted in environmental, generational amnesia when it comes to recognizing and using these resources sustainably so that we all can have a progressive future. According to conservation psychologists, children and youngsters across continents are already feeling the brunt of damages to our environment, ecosystems and biodiversity contained therein. Youth and children in India are today engaged in some of the most progressive and innovative approaches in conservation and sustainable management of our resources.

In an attempt to bring youngsters and children closer to their local environs and biodiversity, the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) established a ‘Communicating Biodiversity’ initiative recently and has now partnered with Shristi Art School to come up with a ‘Story Book on Biodiversity’ focusing on contemporary issues of disappearing diversity and the reasons for the same.

This, first of its kind by NBA, publication will be available both as printed and e.book formats to reach to better audience. The stories told in this book were thoroughly researched and presented in a manner and form youngsters can relate the issues to themselves and their immediate surroundings.

The book has nine illustrated stories told in a simple, elegant and impactful form and format and was intentionally printed and produced in a black and white format so that the impact of the visuals and the story are enhanced. This book will be made available to all primary and middle schools in India and depending on the feed-back received will also be translated to regional languages.

NBA is also planning to come up with another edition of ‘Stories on Biodiversity’ soon, but this time the stories will be ‘told’ by the children of local and indigenous communities on what they aspire and know about the life around them.

This publication is a significant contribution that NBA is making towards achieving the global biodiversity target on increasing the awareness on biodiversity adopted by 193 countries at the Tenth Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10) in 2010.

In addition to this publication, NBA is also working on developing a series of short animation films for small children on local biodiversity such as ants, bees, earthworms and the like where these life forms tell the stories of their contributions to making the Planet a place to live in.

Until the time we colonize a second Earth, we need to remember that the Earth we inhabit is important to be protected and its carrying capacity to withstand loss of life forms in reaching a tipping point when

we all will be considered as significant contributors to the loss and the future will look us at having a dubious distinction of worst ancestors.

For More Details about the launch and for copies of the Publication, please contact

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