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An International Scholarly Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Hornbill Week: 8-days long Celebration - To conserve the 'Farmers of the Forest' 2nd – 9th December 2023

Jointly organized by

Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow

Department of Environmental Science, Integral University and
Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh

In the heart of India's North-East lies Nagaland, the stage for a thrilling 10-days Hornbill festival high up in the mountains. The festival first began in 2000 and is named after the hornbill, a culturally significant bird that symbolizes fidelity, beauty and grace in Naga folklore and ritual. The Hornbill Festival is not just a cultural event but also a celebration of unity, diversity, and heritage. It serves as a testament to the rich cultural tapestry of Nagaland and reinforces the importance of preserving and promoting indigenous traditions in a rapidly changing world. Secondly, this festival is celebrated to raise awareness and make some conservation efforts for these Forest Dwellers known as "Hornbills".

With the opening quote from Alan Clark; *"The more you know about a species, the more you understand about how better to help protect them"*.

The poster for Hornbill Week features a central image of a hornbill on a nest. To the right, it lists the organizing departments: Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow; Department of Environmental Science, Integral University; and Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh. It also lists the convener, Prof. M.A. Khalid, and event coordinators: Ruchira Nigam, Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, and Dr. Ruby Yadav. The event dates are 2nd - 9th December, 2023.

2nd - 9th December, 2023

Prof. Chitra Singh
Professor and Head
Department of Zoology
I.T. College, University of Lucknow

Prof. M.A. Khalid
Professor and Former Head
Department of Environmental Science
Dean, Student's Welfare, Integral University

HORNBILL WEEK
To conserve the 'Farmers of the Forest'

Convener

Event Coordinators

Ruchira Nigam
Research Scholar
Department of Zoology
I.T. College, University of Lucknow

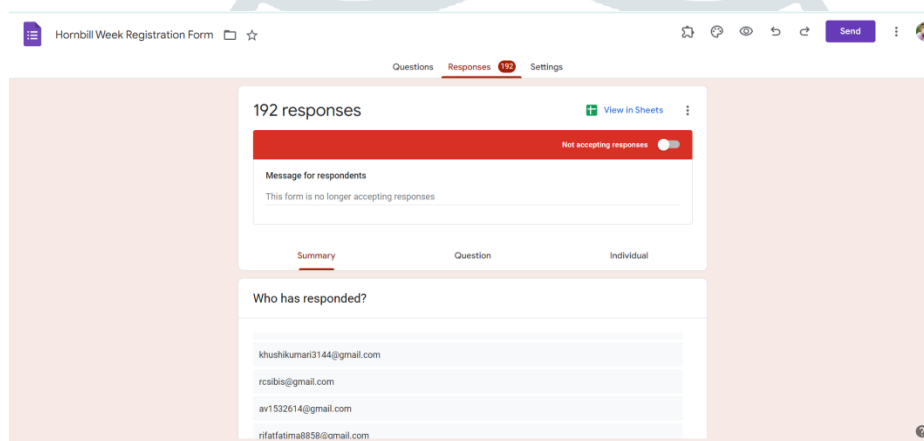
Asif Ahmad Siddiqui
Research Scholar
Department of Environmental Science
Integral University

Dr. Ruby Yadav
Assistant Professor
Head, Department of Zoology
Krishna Devi Balika P.G. College

Keeping the quote in mark, Hornbill Week was first time organized in North India which is a region that captivates the hearts of travelers with its undeniable charm and allure. Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow with Department of Environmental Science, Integral University and Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, joined hands and organized Hornbill Week **from 2nd – 9th December 2023**.

Hornbills known as the ‘farmers of the forest’ play a crucial role in dispersing hundreds of fruit tree species in the forests. They play an extremely important ecological role in the ecosystem as seed dispersal and indicate prosperity and balanced forest. But due to habitat destruction, urbanization, illegal wildlife trade and hunting these ‘forest engineers’ are facing population threats. The concept behind organizing Hornbill week was for spreading awareness among the college/university students and youth, forest officials, community members with the local people as well as taking conservation measures and becoming a Citizen Scientist.

Registration (online and offline) for this 8 days-long Hornbill week started from 20th November, 2023 in which we received 192 + 100 responses (online and offline) from school, college and university students, Research Scholars, and Professors.



Hornbill Week Registration Responses (Online)

The program schedule for the week-long celebration was planned and proposed by Prof. Chitra Singh, Program Convener, Head, Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow and Prof. Monowar Alam Khalid, Program Convener, Former Head and Dean Students’ Welfare, Integral University. The team was led by Ms. Ruchira Nigam, Event Coordinator, Research Scholar, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow and Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, Event Coordinator, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Science, Integral University, Lucknow with the support of Dr. Ruby Yadav, Event Coordinator, Assistant Professor, Head Department of Zoology, Krishna Devi Balika P.G. College with a team of volunteers (Students, Research Scholars, Local people).

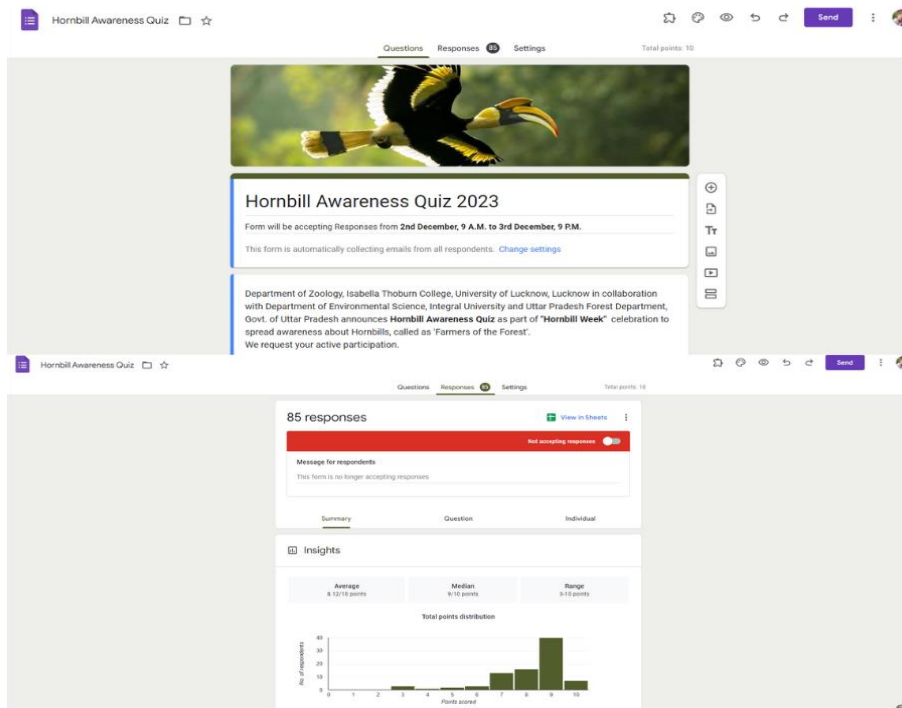
Event Schedule:

Date	Event Name	Theme Based
2 nd December 9:00 am – 3 rd December 9:00 pm, 2024	Online Quiz Competition	Hornbill Awareness
3 rd December 9:00 pm – 6 th December 12:00 am, 2024	Poster Competition (Online and Offline)	Hornbills: “Farmers of the Forest”
2 nd December - 6 th December, 2024	Awareness Campaign through Field Visits (Bakhira and Sohagi Barwa Wildlife Sanctuary)	Hornbill Conservation and Awareness
7 th December, 2024	Signature Campaign (Offline)	
8 th December, 2024	Awareness Campaign in Local communities	
9 th December, 2024 (from 09:45 am – 2:15 pm)	Online Session (via Google meet)	Invited Guest Lectures focused on Hornbill Diversity, Nest and Habitat Preferences, and Citizen Science

Activity 1: Online Quiz Competition (2nd December 9:00 am – 3rd December 9:00 pm, 2023)

The primary objective of the online quiz competition was to educate participants about the Hornbills with their identification, general characteristics, behavior, threats faced by them and conservational efforts that can be done for these '*Forest Resonators*'.

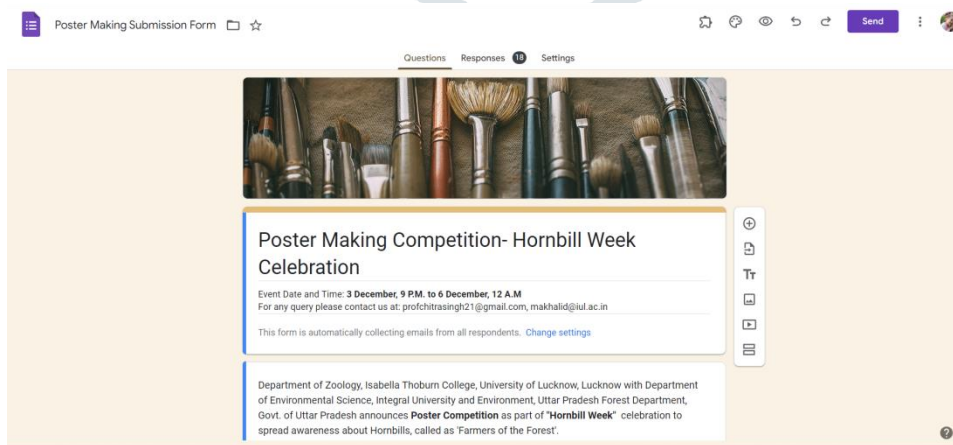
We received a total of **85 responses** from students, youth and Research Scholars.



Response of Online Quiz Competition

Activity 2: Online & Offline Poster Competition (3rd December 9:00 pm – 6th December 12:00 am, 2023)

The Poster Competition under the theme of **Hornbills: “Farmers of the Forest”** received an **active response of about 80 participants** (both online and offline) from Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti Language University, A.P. Sen Memorial Girls Inter College, Shantih Shiv Narayan Gupta Aryavart Shikshan Sansthan, Isabella Thoburn College, Integral University, University of Lucknow, Rameshwaram Institute of Technology and Management, Christ Church College, and City Montessori School, Asharfabad Branch. Students from **Wildlife Institute of India** also marked their presence by presenting an outstanding poster on Hornbill preferring its Nest and Roosting Trees. All the students, Youth and Research Scholars participated in the Poster Making Competition with great enthusiasm and outlining the Importance of Hornbills through their artistic, appealing and meaningful posters.



Online Poster Competition Responses



Poster Competition Submissions

After the successful Online & Offline Poster Competition, the winners and participants of the school, college and university were felicitated with the certificates and prizes from their Principal and Department Head.



Poster Competition Winners and Participants felicitated by certificates and prizes

Activity 3: Awareness Campaign through Field Visits - Bakhira and Sohagi Barwa Wildlife Sanctuary (2nd December - 6th December, 2023)

A Conservation and Awareness Campaign through Field Visits at Bakhira and Sohagi Barwa Wildlife Sanctuary from 2nd December - 6th December, 2023 was successfully completed by Ms. Ruchira Nigam, Research Scholar, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow and Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Science, Integral University, Lucknow. The primary focus of the awareness campaign was to sensitize the Forest officials and the local communities residing in the forest and nearby areas about the important ecological role played by the Hornbills in the ecosystem and maintaining the forest balance. They also distributed educational and awareness materials like brochures, pamphlets, fliers to them.



Field Visits at Bakhira and Sohagi Barwa Wildlife Sanctuary

Activity 4: Signature Campaign (7th December, 2023)

The Signature Campaign was organized in 2 schools; Navyug Kanya Mahavidyalaya (NKM), Rajendra Nagar and Karamat Husain Muslim Girls P.G. College (KHMG P.G. College), Nishat Ganj on 7th December, 2023. Team was led by Ms. Ruchira Nigam and Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui with a team of volunteers. The main aim of the Campaign was to create mass awareness and take collective actions to conserve these **‘Forest Dwellers’**. Prof. Richa Shukla with Dr. Chitij Shukla, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, (NKM) and Dr. Nagma Sultan with Mrs. Asra Bibi Siddiqui, NSS Programme Officers, KHMG P.G. College were the Teacher coordinators of this Campaign. The whole campaign was supported by both the college principals. Approximately 200 - 250 students, teachers, professors and college Principal actively took part in the Signature Campaign and united behind common conservation goals and amplified their voices for Hornbill conservation.



Signature Campaign at Navyug Kanya Mahavidyalaya, and Karamat Husain Muslim Girls P.G. College

Activity 5: Awareness Campaign in Local communities - Sitapur and Hardoi (8th December, 2023)

A Second Conservational and Awareness Campaign in Local Communities on 8th December, 2023 were successfully conducted by Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Science, Integral University, Lucknow at Sitapur and Hardoi. Awareness campaigns in the local communities proved to be an impactful way to educate people about threats faced by Hornbill species, and also promote positive behavior change, with fostering a sense of community engagement. Through campaigning in the local communities we were able to conduct research to understand the demographics, interests, awareness and concern levels of the local community.



Awareness Campaign in Local communities - Sitapur and Hardoi

Activity 6: Online Session (Invited Guest Lecture) on 9th December, 2023 from 09:45 am – 2:15 pm

8 days-long Hornbill Awareness week celebration concluded with the Online Session of Invited Guest Lecture Series held on 9th December, 2023 from 09:45 am – 2:15 pm.

Event Schedule:

			
Hornbill Week 2023			
2 nd - 9 th December, 2023			
Jointly organized by Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow Department of Environmental Science, Integral University Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh			
Programme Schedule for Online session on December 9th, 2023, Saturday			
Saturday Dec 9, 2023 · 09:45 am – 2:15pm (India Standard Time - Kolkata)			
Time (IST)	Speaker	Themes	
09:45 A.M.-10:00 A.M.	Prof. M.A. Khalid Former Head, Department of Environmental Science Dean, Student's Welfare, Integral University	Opening Remarks /Welcome Address	
10:00 A.M.- 10:15 A.M.	Prof. Chitra Singh Head, Department of Zoology Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow	Introduction to the Online Lecture Series on the occasion of Hornbill Week.	
10:15 A.M. – 10:25 A.M.	Ms. Ruchira Nigam Research Scholar Department of Zoology Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow	About the Event /Brief on Hornbill Week Release of Hornbill Awareness Materials (Brochure, Pamphlet, Calendar 2024).	
10:25 A.M. – 10:35 A.M.	Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui Research Scholar Department of Environmental Science Integral University	Release of Hornbill Awareness Materials (Brochure, Pamphlet, Calendar 2024)	
10:35 A.M. – 11:10 A.M.	Mr. Sanjay Pathak, IFS APCCF/ GM, Production, U.P. Forest Corporation CCF and Former Field Director, Dudhwa National Park Uttar Pradesh Forest Department Government of Uttar Pradesh	"Hornbill: Status and imperatives for its conservation"	
11:15 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	Dr. Raju Kasambe Assistant Director – Conservation Bombay Natural History Society Mumbai, Maharashtra, India	"Life of Indian Grey Hornbills - are they adapting to urban life?"	
12:05 P.M. – 12:40 P.M.	Ms. Preeti Pandey Range Forest Officer Bakhira Range, Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	"Man, bird conflicts: A leaf from Bakhira diaries "	
12:45 P.M. – 01:20 P.M.	Mr. Rudra Banerjee Research Scholar CSIR-NBRI	"Nature as classroom: understanding environment through the lens of our surroundings"	
01:25 P.M. – 1:55 P.M.	Dr. Ruby Yadav Assistant Professor Head, Department of Zoology Krishna Devi Balika P.G. College	Concluding Remarks	
02:00 P.M.– 2:15 P.M.	Prof. Chitra Singh Head, Department of Zoology Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow	Vote of Thanks	

Opening Session: Online Session of Invited Guest Lecture Series was inaugurated and guests were welcomed by the enlightening words of Prof. Monowar Alam Khalid, Program Convener, Former Head, Department of Environmental Science, Dean Student's Welfare, Integral University. He told about the whole idea and concept behind the purpose of organizing 8 days-long Hornbill Awareness week celebrations.

2nd Session: Focused on the Introduction to the Online Lecture Series on the occasion of Hornbill Week by Prof. Chitra Singh, Program Convener, Head, Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow; followed by Ms. Ruchira Nigam, Event Coordinator, Research Scholar, Isabella Thoburn College, pursuing Ph.D. on Hornbills presented a presentation focusing on the Brief Overview of the 7 days on-ground activities held during the Hornbill Week celebration. She quoted a famous quote by Mother Teresa "*Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies*"; and it's about the small things in the fight to get better day by day.

3rd Session: Release of Hornbill Awareness Materials like Brochure, Pamphlet, Hornbill Species Calendar 2024, was successfully released by Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, Event Coordinator, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Science, Integral University. He also mentioned about the challenges with its solutions which helped the team to approach the specific needs and dynamics that makes a positive difference. Mr. Praveen Rao Kohli, IFS and ret'd. PCCF was a blessing and support for us throughout this 8-days long journey.

1st Plenary Session: Mr. Sanjay Pathak, IFS, APCCF/GM, Production, U.P. Forest Cooperation, CCF and Former Field Director, Dudhwa National Park, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh gave a very informative presentation titled "Hornbill: Status and imperatives for its conservation". His session outlined the conservational aspects for the Hornbill species as well as the Action Plans on which in-site activities make a great success.

2nd Plenary Session: Dr. Raju Kasambe, Assistant Director- Conservation, BNHS, Mumbai discussed about the "Life of Indian Grey Hornbills - adapting to urban life". His session was focussed on how these '**Forest Dwellers**' are transforming their life to '**Urban Dwellers**' as well as the threats faced by them in their daily lives. He also mentioned the small conservation steps which an individual can take for their existence.

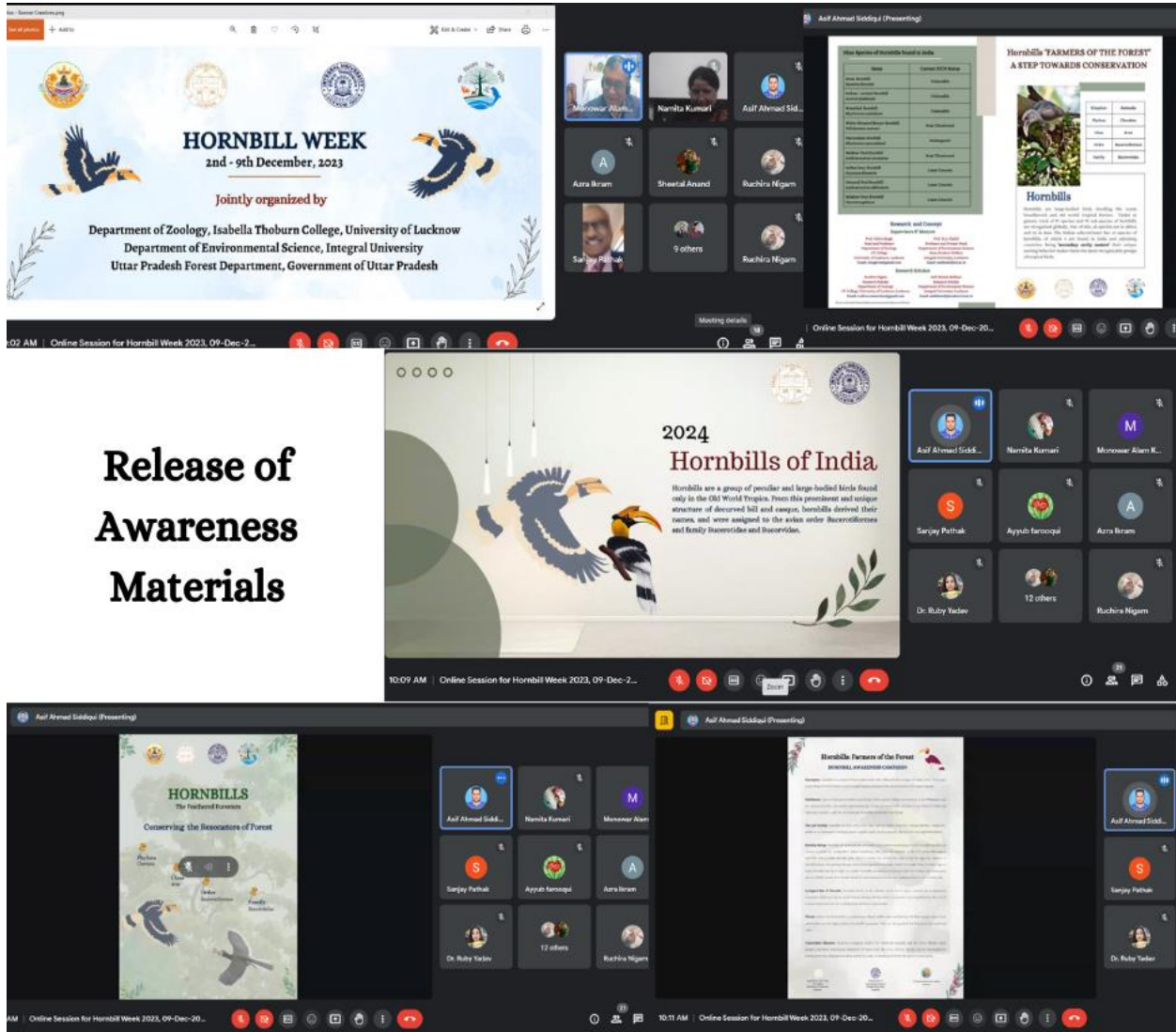
3rd Plenary Session: The session took an interesting turn when Ms. Preeti Pandey, Range Forest Officer, Sant Kabir Nagar Forest Division, Bakhira delivered a lecture on "Man, bird conflicts: A leaf from Bakhira diaries" giving a clear picture of the conflicts between humans and birds that are a growing concern in many parts of the world, arising from the overlap of their habitats and activities which needs to be addressed as it requires a balanced approach that considers the ecological role of birds and the safety, health, and economic interests of humans.

4th Plenary Session: The last lecture by Mr. Rudra Banerjee, Research Scholar, CSIR-NBRI, made the group focus on how Nature can be considered as classroom through the lens of our surroundings.

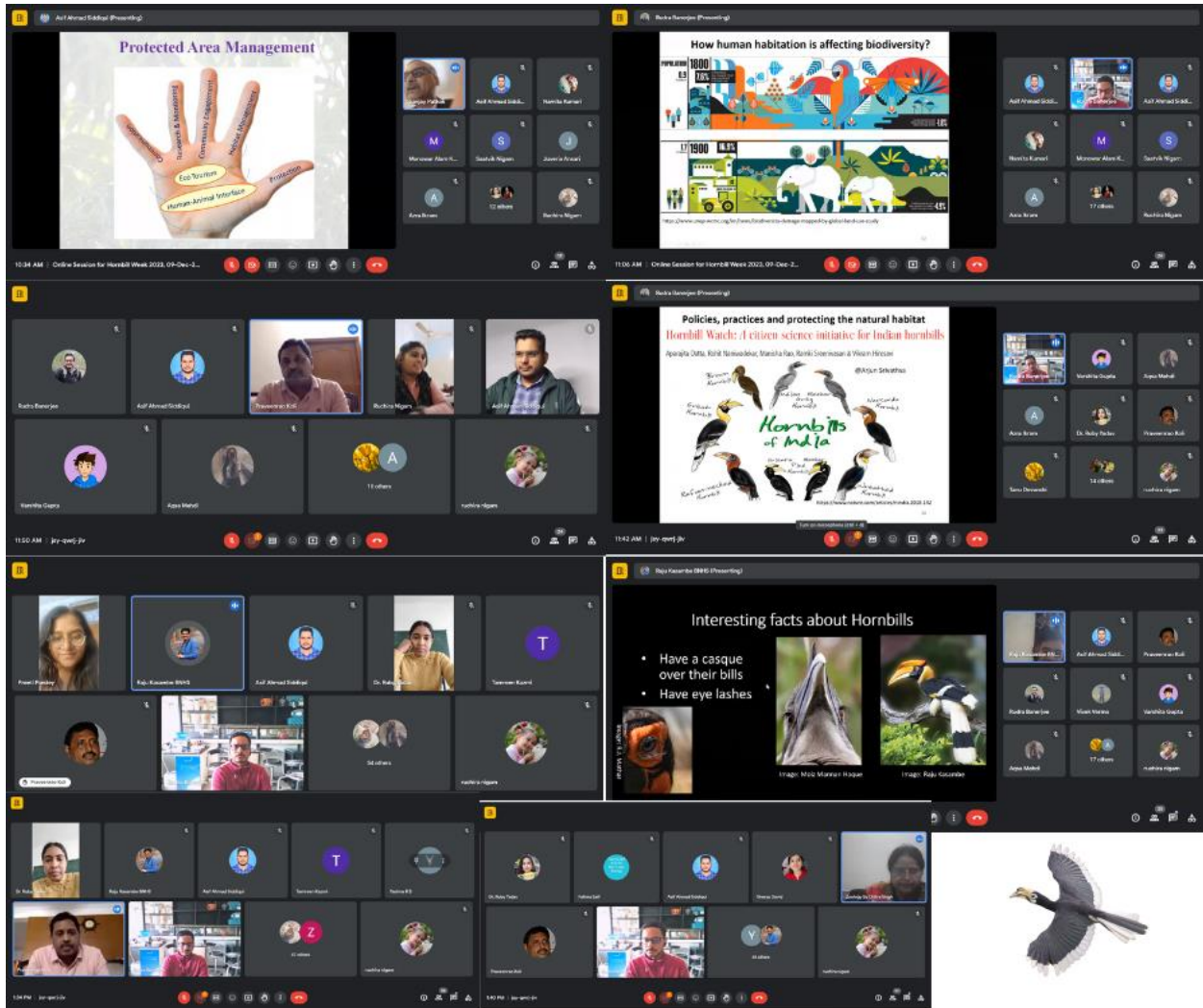
Concluding Session:

- The Online Session of Invited Guest Lecture Series was concluded by Dr. Ruby Yadav, Event Coordinator, Assistant Professor, Head Department of Zoology, Krishna Devi Balika P.G. College highlighting the outcomes, success and impact created through this Awareness Campaign and 8-days long Hornbill week celebrations as well as encouraged long-term behavior change and community involvement through these Green Days Celebrations.
- Prof. Chitra Singh, also gave her concluding remarks by thanking and acknowledging Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, all the schools with principals and teachers, universities, participants and the volunteers who showed their active responses and participation as well as worked very hard throughout this 8-days long Hornbill week celebrations.

- Ms. Ruchira Nigam at last quoted that these collaborative efforts can amplify our message and reach a wider audience by partnering with local governmental/non-governmental organizations, Government Officials, Schools, Colleges, Universities and community leaders so that even the largest avalanche is triggered by our small collective actions.



Release of Awareness Materials (Brochure, Pamphlet, Hornbill Calendar 2024)



Glimpses of Online Lecture Series

Hornbill Week News in Local Newspapers - Dharasakshi and Anytimenews

The 8-days long Hornbill week celebration started from 2nd December 2023 - 9th December 2023 was also covered by the 2 local newspapers.

<https://anytimenews.live/hornbill-week-organized-for-the-first-time-in-north-india-from-2-to-9-december-2023/>

<https://www.dharasakshi.page/2023/12/2-9-2023.html>

Home > अपना लखनऊ

उत्तर भारत में पहली बार 2 से 9 दिसंबर, 2023 तक हॉर्नबिल सप्ताह का आयोजन

DHARA SAKSHI - December 11, 2023



लखनऊ। 2 से 9 दिसंबर 2023 तक 8 दिवसीय हॉर्नबिल सप्ताह, जूलाँजी विभाग, इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज, लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा पर्यावरण विज्ञान विभाग इंटीग्रेल युनिवर्सिटी और उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के साथ संयुक्त रूप से 9 दिसंबर, 2023 को सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ। हॉर्नबिल सप्ताह 2023 उत्तर भारत में मनाया जाने वाला पहला कार्यक्रम है जो नागालैंड राज्य में मनाए जाने वाले हॉर्नबिल पक्षी उत्सव की थीम पर आधारित है। यह विचार सुश्री रुचिरा निगम (रिसर्च स्कॉलर, जूलाँजी विभाग, इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज, लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय) द्वारा साझा किया गया था, जो यूपी के तराई क्षेत्र में हॉर्नबिल प्रजाति पर पीएचडी कर रही है।

यह कार्यक्रम लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय के इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज के जन्तु विभाग की प्रमुख प्रोफेसर चित्रा सिंह और इंटीग्रेल विश्वविद्यालय के पर्यावरण विज्ञान विभाग के पूर्व प्रमुख प्रोफेसर एम.ए. खालिद, डीन, छात्र कल्याण के मार्गदर्शन और योगदान द्वारा सम्पन्न किया गया। आयोजन को सफल बनाने के लिए श्री आसिफ अहमद सिद्दीकी, शोध छात्र, पर्यावरण विज्ञान विभाग, इंटीग्रेल विश्वविद्यालय और डॉ. रूबी यादव, सहायक प्रोफेसर व प्रमुख, जन्तु विभाग, कृष्णा देवी बालिका पी.जी. द्वारा सार्थक प्रवास किए गए। पक्षियों की प्रजातियों के शिकार, पकड़ने और अवैध व्यापार के खिलाफ करामत हुसैन गर्ल पीजी कॉलेज और नवगुण कन्या महाविद्यालय जैसे स्कूलों, कॉलेजों में ऑनलाइन किन्न प्रतियोगिता, पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता और हस्ताक्षर अभियान, जैसी- विभिन्न जागरूकता गतिविधियाँ आयोजित की गईं, जहाँ बहुत सारे उत्साही छात्रों ने भाग लिया। छात्रा मोडनुदीन चिश्ती भाषा विश्वविद्यालय में पोस्टर प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया, जहाँ छात्रों ने अपने कलात्मक दिमाग का प्रदर्शन किया। सुश्री रुचिरा निगम और श्री आसिफ अहमद सिद्दीकी के नेतृत्व में टीम द्वारा 3 दिसंबर से 8 दिसंबर 2023 तक लखनऊ, सीतापुर, हरदोई एवं बखिरा और सोहागी बरवा तन्वाजीत अभ्यारण्य में समुदाय और वन अधिकारियों के लिए एक जागरूकता अभियान भी चलाया गया।



टॉप न्यूज़ | शहर खबरें | राज्य खबरें | देश | विदेश | राजनीत | मनोरंजन | अपराध

Breaking News | अभी देखें

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ATN-Editor | December 14, 2023 | लखनऊ | Leave a comment | 73 Views

लखनऊ। 2 से 9 दिसंबर 2023 तक 8 दिवसीय हॉर्नबिल सप्ताह, जूलाँजी विभाग, इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज, लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा पर्यावरण विज्ञान विभाग इंटीग्रेल युनिवर्सिटी और उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के साथ संयुक्त रूप से 9 दिसंबर, 2023 को सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ।



हॉर्नबिल सप्ताह 2023 उत्तर भारत में मनाया जाने वाला पहला कार्यक्रम है जो नागालैंड राज्य में मनाए जाने वाले हॉर्नबिल पक्षी उत्सव की थीम पर आधारित है। यह विचार सुश्री रुचिरा निगम (रिसर्च स्कॉलर, जूलाँजी विभाग, इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज, लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय) द्वारा साझा किया गया था, जो यूपी के तराई क्षेत्र में हॉर्नबिल प्रजाति पर पीएचडी कर रही है।



यह कार्यक्रम लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय के इसाबेला थोर्न कॉलेज के जन्तु विभाग की प्रमुख प्रोफेसर चित्रा सिंह और इंटीग्रेल

Hornbill Awareness Materials QR Codes



Hornbill Calendar



Hornbill Brochure



Hornbill English Pamphlet



Hornbill Hindi Pamphlet



Hornbill Bi-fold Pamphlet

Submitted by:

Ms. Ruchira Nigam, Research Scholar, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow

Mr. Asif Ahmad Siddiqui, Research Scholar, Integral University

Dr. Ruby Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Krishna Devi Balika PG College, Uttar Pradesh

Prof. Monowar Alam Khalid, Former Head and Dean Students' Welfare, Integral University

Prof. Chitra Singh, Head, Department of Zoology, Isabella Thoburn College, University of Lucknow

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