

## Capacity Building Workshop on Biological Diversity Laws and Rules at GNLU

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**Gandhinagar, March 14, 2019:** GNLU - Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development in collaboration with Gujarat Biodiversity Board, State of Gujarat conducted Capacity Building Workshop on Biological Diversity Laws and Rules, on 14th March, 2019 at its campus.

The programme was directed towards Capacity Building for District Conservator Forest, State of Gujarat on aspects of Biological Diversity Act and its implementation procedures.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri G.K. Sinha, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head of Forest Force, Gujarat State. Prof (Dr.) Bimal N. Patel, Director and Professor of Public International Law felicitated the dignitaries i.e., Shri G.K. Sinha, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head of Forest Force, Gujarat State and Shri K.C. Trivedi, Member Secretary, Gujarat Biodiversity Board, State of Gujarat.

During the inaugural session, while addressing the gathering Shri G.K. Sinha emphasized on the importance and awareness of biodiversity and forest. He said, the biodiversity and forest are not only important for satisfying the economic needs of the country, but also they fulfil the purpose and standard of our lives. He, also humbly requested the officers for giving their 100% in conservation and preservation for the natural resources of the state and giving it back to society, as fulfilment of moral duty.

G.K. Sinha expressed his concern over Registration of identification of fauna and flora in the State of Gujarat, where the officers' lack in the identification and only 7200 kinds of varieties have been registered as of data available of 2019, although the state has wide varieties of flora and fauna, but the identification process is yet not satisfactory.

He also motivated the officers for sharing their innovative ideas with upper level management for proper implementation of Biodiversity provisions in a pragmatic manner. The vote of thanks was given by Prof (Dr.) Shobhalata Udupudi, thanking the Director GNLU, Dr Bimal N Patel, the dignitaries, resource persons, officers, the centre members and organizing committee involved in the workshop.

The workshop was divided into four sessions, where the first session was took by Prof (Dr.) Shobhlata Udupudi, Centre Director of GNLU - Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development, on the overview of Biodiversity Act, 2002.

The second session was presided by Mrs. Aeshita Mukherjee Wilske, team leader, Access and Benefit Sharing Partnership Project, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra, who delivered the lecture on Implementation of State Rules and Notifications.



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The third session was taken up by Dr. Sanjiv Tyagi, Additional Principle Chief Conservator of Forest, Gujarat Forest Research Institute. The lecture was delivered on Issues, Challenges and Judicial Approaches towards implantation of Bio-diversity Laws in India. He mainly focused on the definition clause of the Biodiversity Act, 2002 & its implementation, he elaborately explained as to how the definition terms have impacted on the judgements delivered.

The fourth session was the group discussion on the recent orders/judgements delivered by various High Court of India and Supreme Court on the biodiversity act. Judgments like Divya Pharmacy (Baba Pharmacy), Ayush Drugs and M/S Vishwanath Papers

**Media Contact:**

Ashok Shah

Email: 9909960240, 8849110049