



International Mangrove Conservation Day (IMCD- 21)

26 July 2021



Mangroves are inter tidal marine ecosystem which are distributed in the tropical and sub-tropical climatic zones. They are one among the most productive ecosystems and are at present in a threatened state. The General conference of UN in 2015 had adopted 26th of July every year to celebrate the International Mangrove Conservation Day to create awareness of the significance of the ecosystem and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses. In this context, ICFRE in collaboration Tamil Nadu State Forest Department celebrated the IMCD 2021 at Pitchavaram on 26th July 2021. The program was conducted on both virtual and offline modes from IFGTB Coimbatore and Pichavaram Mangrove field station respectively. Dr. A. Rajasekaran Scientist, IFGTB welcomed the participants virtually from IFGTB, Coimbatore and Dr. S P Subramani CTO, IFGTB welcomed the gathering at Pichavaram. Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Director IFGTB delivered the introductory speech in which he emphasized the significance of International Mangrove Conservation Day and the status of mangroves in India. Dr. B. Nagarajan Organizing Secretory, updated the mangrove research activities being carried out by ICFRE Institutes. Shri. A. S. Rawat IFS, Director General, ICFRE delivered presidential address and highlighted the need of nursery technology for production of quality plantlets for the afforestation programs especially in critical ecosystems like mangroves and also dedicated the Automated Mangrove Incubator Nursery Technology (AMINT) to the Forest Department. DG, ICFRE congratulated the efforts made by IFGTB in developing the technology. The AMINT was received by Dr. M. Selvam IFS, DFO, Cuddalore. Smt. Kanchan Devi IFS, DDG (Education), ICFRE released the Book on “அலையாற்றி காடுகளின் அரிச்சுவடி” (ABC of Mangroves). Dr. Sudhir Kumar, DDG (Extension), ICFRE released a booklet on “சிறுகண்டல்” a species recovery research program on the Globally Nearly threatened Taxa *Ceriops decandra*. The event was concluded with the vote of thanks delivered by Shri. S. Senthilkumar IFS Group Coordinator Research IFGTB, Coimbatore. About 150 participants attended the program from different parts of the country through virtual and offline mode.

