





ICFRE-INSTITUTE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY (ICFRE-IFB), HYDERABAD

Report on "World Environment Day" by ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

World Environment Day (WED) 2025 was observed on June 5 with focus on the urgent global issue to solve pollution under the theme "Beat Plastic Pollution". As the world producing over 430 million tonnes of plastic annually, much of it short-lived and quickly becoming waste, the campaign urges individuals, communities, and governments to take action. This includes reducing plastic use, avoiding single-use plastics, and adopting eco-friendly alternatives. World Environment Day 2025 highlights the importance of collective action in addressing plastic pollution. It aligns with international efforts to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment etc.

In this regard, ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad has organized a series of the run-up events/activities/awareness programs on the occasion of World Environment Day. As a part of this, ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad organized a total 18 activities and involved 168 stakeholders in Telangana & ICFRE-CEC, Vishkapatanam, Andhra Pradesh organized 09 activities and involved 64 stakeholders from 22nd May to 04th June 2025 regarding the plastic pollution. Apart from this a painting competition was also organized to the school children & online lecture on Influence of microplastic contaminates on soil properties on 04th June 2025. The plantation drive was organized at institute campus on 05th June 2025. The details are as follows. The entire program was coordinated by the Extension Division Team of ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad.

Glimpses of the run-up events on plastic pollution by ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad, Telangana













Glimpses of the run-up events on plastic pollution by ICFRE-CEC, Vishkapatanam, Andhra Pradesh













Online lecture as a part of WED run-up events

As part of the World Environment Day celebrations, an online lecture on "Influence of microplastic contaminates on soil properties" by Dr. Arjun Singh, Senior Scientist (Microbiology), ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Regional Research Station, Lucknow was organized by ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad on 04.06.2025. A total of 18 participants attended the lecture. In his talk, Dr. Arjun Singh enlightened the audience about the possible sources of microplastic contaminates in agricultural ecosystems, classification of microplastics, effect of microplastics on the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soil and the effects of microplastics on the gut microbiome of earthworms. He concluded the talk by highlighting the possible measures for reducing the microplastic contaminates in agricultural soils. The talk was followed by a discussion wherein the audience clarified their doubts on microplastic contaminates with the presenter.

Glimpses of the Online Lecture Program









Painting Competition as a part of WED

In the lead-up to **World Environment Day** (**WED**) **2025**, the ICFRE–Institute of Forest Biodiversity (IFB), Hyderabad, organized a pre-campaign painting competition on **4th June 2025**. The event was centered around this year's WED theme: "Ending Plastic Pollution."

A total of **16 students** from Classes 1 to 8 enthusiastically participated in the competition. The program was coordinated by **Smt. R. Asha Kumari**, **CTO**, ICFRE-IFB Hyderabad and **Dr**. **Suraj**, **Scientist-B**, ICFRE-IFB Hyderabad, who introduced the students to the importance of World Environment Day and the critical need to reduce plastic pollution. The coordinators explained the significance of protecting our environment and encouraged the students to reflect this awareness creatively through their paintings.

Participants were guided to portray themes related to environmental conservation and propose visual solutions to combat plastic pollution through their artwork. After completion, the submitted paintings were evaluated by an expert panel based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and the effectiveness of the message conveyed.

Based on expert recommendations, three students were declared winners:

First Prize: Mr. I. Lokesh (Class 8)

Second Prize: Ms. Ananya (Class 7)

Third Prize: Ms. Varshini (Class 1-B)

All other participants received consolation prizes in appreciation of their efforts and creativity.

The prizes were distributed by **Shri E. Venkat Reddy**, **IFS**, **Director**, **ICFRE-IFB**, **Hyderabad**, who congratulated all the students and emphasized the importance of youth engagement in environmental protection efforts.

The event served as a meaningful step toward raising environmental awareness among school children and promoting the global message of reducing plastic waste for a healthier planet.

Glimpses of the Painting Program













Plantation Drive as a part of WED

As a part of the program the planation drive was inaugurated by **Shri E. Venkat Reddy**, IFS, Director, ICFRE-IFB at institute premises. Director, ICFRE-IFB mentioned the importance of program and #**Ek_Ped_Maa_Ke_Naam** campaign. During the plantation program all Scientists, Technical and Administrative staff participated in the tree planting activity on 05.06.2025. A total of 60 native tree saplings were planted such as *Azadirachta indica*, *Ceiba pentandra*, *Dalbergia latifolia*, *Ficus virens*, *Hardwickia binata*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Mitragyna parvifolia*, *Madhuca longifolia*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Spathodea campanulate*, *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Terminalia chebula* etc.

Glimpses of the Plantation Program



















