

मंत्री
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन,
सूचना एवं प्रसारण और
भारी उद्योग एवं लोक उद्यम
भारत सरकार



MINISTER
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE,
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
HEAVY INDUSTRIES & PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

प्रकाश जावडेकर
Prakash Javadekar



MESSAGE

I am happy to inform that 2020 is the “**SUPER YEAR FOR BIODIVERSITY**” as the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity with 20 global Aichi targets adopted in 2010 ends in 2020 and all the countries together are in the process of preparation of Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

The UN proclaimed, May 22, is celebrated as International Day for Biodiversity and this year, the theme for the International Day for Biodiversity is “**OUR SOLUTIONS ARE IN NATURE**”. Therefore, protecting our nature is very important especially in the present context of COVID 19 as it shields us from various catastrophes including zoonotic diseases. So it is very true that “**Nature Protects, if She is Protected**”.

In nature, biodiversity encompasses the variety of life forms on earth. It forms the web of life of which we are an integral part and upon which we so fully depend. We derive our supply of food, medicines, energy and many industrial products from biological resources. Biodiversity also maintains ecological balance and continues evolutionary processes in the nature.

India is a storehouse of traditional knowledge, therefore conservation of biodiversity is crucial not only because it provides several goods and services necessary for human survival, but also because it is directly linked with livelihoods helps in improving socio-economic conditions of millions of our local people, thereby contributing to sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

॥ प्लास्टिक नहीं, कपड़ा सही ॥

Sustainable development and poverty alleviation is of utmost priority for the Government under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi.

The Biodiversity Management Committees constituted through Panchayat Raj Institutes help in the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of natural resources and effectively implement Access and Benefit Sharing Mechanism for the sharing benefits arising from use of bioresources with local communities.

Considering the present condition of social distancing, I urge all the citizens to celebrate the International Day for Biodiversity through social media by sharing favourite photographs of nature or by sketching nature on a piece of paper and show to all in your family to create wider awareness on the importance of conserving biodiversity.

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(Prakash Javadekar)