

Children brought alive biodiversity on art papers at state level painting contest organized at Patna Zoo

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PATNA: Over 2,000 children from different government and public schools across the state participated in state level painting contest held at Patna Zoo on Monday. Organised by Bihar State Biodiversity Board, Department of Forests, environment and climate change, the event was intended to create awareness among school children about importance of bio-diversity in ecosystem and also about the need for their conservation.

Participants were given different themes like 'Bees in the Backyard', 'My Garden, My Planet' and 'Protect Our Wetlands' and were asked to depict crucial role of pollinators like bees in ecosystem,



importance of conserving local biodiversity and to show impacts of pollution on aquatic life and importance of clean water for biodiversity. The panel of judges included DK Das, Birendra Bariar and Syamal Das.

"Awareness about significance of biodiversity in ecosystem is very important.

Children need to be made to realise need of biodiversity conservation," Dr Bharat Jyoti, chairman, Bihar State Conservation Board, said. This contest is meant to get an idea about awareness level among children, he added.

To sensitise people towards biodiversity conservation 'World Biodiversity

Day' is celebrated every year on May 22. This year theme of the event is 'Be a Part of the Plan', he added.

DK Das, a senior artist who has earlier held exhibitions of his paintings at the National Forest Academy, Dehradun, said, that most of the participants displayed a good understanding of biodi-

versity conservation. "The way they depicted topics given to them, indicates that young generation is growing aware about the need to conserve biodiversity," he pointed out.

Syamal Das, who has won Maya Kamath Memorial Award, said that participants were divided into three categories. "Interestingly girls who participated in the event, seen to be very talented," he said. Even the children in Section A did well in the contest, he added.

Patna Zoo director, Satyajit Kumar, said results of the contest would be announced on World Biodiversity Day. "Winners will be given trophies at the function Forest department has planned on that occasion," he said.