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DR. T. V. RAMACHANDRA/DR. M. D. SUBASH CHANDRAN

CES/TVR/Lake/ /2014

Date :17/6/2014

To

Dear Sir,

Sub : Students participation in documentation process of “MY VILLAGE WATER RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED BIODIVERSITY” & COMPETITION REGARDING

Fresh water bodies are very critical natural resources on which the entire life on the earth depends. Human progress involving agriculture, industry, power generation etc. is very dependent on availability of water. The fresh water bodies support rich biodiversity from algae to flowering plants as well as fishes, frogs, reptiles, birds, mammals and numerous kinds of invertebrates.

In the Indian culture water is one of the *Panchabhutas*; rivers, streams, springs and lakes are considered sacred. In ancient times the kings of India created huge number of water bodies for the prosperity of their kingdoms. These were associated with rich biodiversity. The surrounding catchments had forests and other natural vegetation. During the recent times, unfortunately, water bodies are perishing or getting degraded due to filling them up for construction sites, dumping of wastes, pollution, infestation with weeds and so many other human activities. Even the forests in their catchments have been cut down creating soil erosion and siltation. The death or degradation of water bodies will mean death of civilizations. Water scarcity is a major problem today in both cities and villages.

The time has come to save our water bodies. With this objective our Centre has been conducting conference on water bodies every two years from 1998. We are glad to inform you that the next such conference ‘**Lake 2014**’ will be held at Sirsi in Uttara Kannada during **13-15 November, 2014**. Scientists, research scholars and NGOs from all over the country will be participating in this conference.

The specialty of **Lake 2014** is that we have decided to devote one entire day for high school, pre university and degree college students. To be eligible to participate the students have to carry out simple studies on water bodies and their surrounding environments in their own villages and submit their reports to us using the model format enclosed. The best reports for each standard (8th, 9th and 10th) and at PUC and degree level will be given prizes separately. Prizes are at two levels: 1. For the best study reports. 2. For the oral presentation of selected reports. The winners will be honored with **Sahyadri Young Ecologist** award.

Our purpose of involving students is mainly for: 1. To create awareness on the importance water bodies and wetlands in the student community. 2. To create awareness among the village community regarding protection and management of water resources. 3. To develop student's personality and interactive skills. 4. To provide rare opportunities to students to learn in the field about plants, animals, water bodies, importance of biodiversity conservation etc.

The students are required to work under the guidance of teachers. The teachers also have the option of working on specific issues of their interest related to water bodies and associated life. The teachers who make significant contribution in this regard will be given special recognition during **Lake 2014**.

Training for teacher guides: Teachers who are sponsored by the institutions to guide students will be given special training for one day in the district itself. (Travelling expenses and hospitality will be provided to the participants).

We request you to encourage the institutions in your educational district to participate in this unique scientific conference that will be held for the first time in Uttara Kannada itself. Two formats are enclosed for this purpose: 1. Your institutions' participation may be confirmed by filling up **Format-1** before 15th July, 2014. 2. The **Format-2** is the model to be followed for the field study. The Final report (using format-2), should reach us by end of September, 2014. Taluk level presentations by students will be conducted during October 2014. Students selected and the teachers who guided them will be invited to take part in the **Lake 2014**.

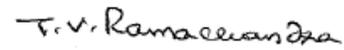
Details of the symposium is available at <http://ces.iisc.ernet.in/energy>

<http://wgbis.ces.iisc.ernet.in/energy/lake2014/index.php>

About competition at: <http://wgbis.ces.iisc.ernet.in/energy/lake2014/student-corner.php>

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours sincerely,



Dr. T V Ramachandra

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FORMAT- I

ಶಾಲೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: ವಿಳಾಸ :
ಉಸ್ತುವಾರಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕ/ಕಿ ಹೆಸರು : ಮೋಬೈಲ್ ನಂ:

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡ ಗ್ರಾಮ	ತಾಲೂಕು	ವಿಧ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ/ನಿ ಹೆಸರು	ತರಗತಿ

Participation may be confirmed by filling up Format-1 before 15th July, 2014.

Note: Please contact for any assistance: Dr. Prakash Mesta, mobile: 9342470560,
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