



ENVIS Centre on Conservation of Ecological Heritage and Sacred Sites of India



**C. P. R. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE
1, ELDAMS ROAD, ALWARPET,
CHENNAI - 600 018, TAMILNADU, INDIA.**

CPREEC ENVIS CENTRE

- The ENVIS Centre at CPREEC was established in April 2004 by the **Environmental Information System (ENVIS)** of the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)**, Government of India and assigned the responsibility for being the focal point for the thematic area of *Conservation of Ecological Heritage and Sacred Sites of India*.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

- Expanding the subject data base by introducing new sacred elements – Sacred seeds, Sacred caves and Green Pilgrimage
- Provided comprehensive information including images and videos for better user engagement
- Included maps and tabular data for the benefit of the target group.
- Used social media sites like Facebook and Blogs to increase awareness about the subject area and also to disseminate information.
- Brought out Seven books, pamphlets, panels and newsletters for better dissemination of the information and for increasing awareness among masses through compelling content and images.

NUMERICAL DATA

- 3502 - Sacred groves
- 271 - Sacred mountains
- 300 - Sacred waterbodies
- 9 - Sacred seeds
- 203 - Sacred caves
- 37 - Green pilgrimage
- 360 - Sacred sites
- 18 - Sacred gardens

INFORMATION PRODUCTS

- **BOOKS**

- Ecological Traditions Of 7 States (*Gujarat, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, & Chhattisgarh and West Bengal*)
- Plant & Animal Diversity in Valmiki's Ramayana
- Sacred Groves Of Tamil Nadu and Their Management
- Sacred Plants of India
- Green Pilgrimage for a Clean India
- **Pamphlet** – CPREEC ENVIS pamphlet
- **Brochure** on the Restoration of Sacred Groves
- **Quarterly ENVIS Newsletters**

SEMINARS

- A seminar on **Ecological Traditions of Madhya Pradesh** and Chhattisgarh was organized in collaboration with the Barkatullah University, and Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (MPSBB), Bhopal on April 7, 2012.
- Organized a seminar on “**Ecological Traditions of Rajasthan**” in collaboration with Krishi Avam Paristhitiki Vikas Sansthan (KRAPAVIS), Alwar, Rajasthan on **March 20, 2013**. Dr. Nanditha Krishna inaugurated the workshop and eminent speakers presented their papers.

OUTREACH

- **Exhibitions**

- The exhibition on **Sacred Groves of India** was put up at the Third Indian Biodiversity Congress held at SRM University Campus, Kattankulathur from **December 18 to 20, 2014**.
- Exhibition on **Sacred Plants of India** was put up at the Vennirul Art Gallery, Chennai from July 12 to 26, 2014. Several schools had brought their students to visit the exhibition.
- An exhibition titled **“GREEN PILGRIMAGE”** was put up at Chennai from February 18 to March 1, 2014

OUTREACH

- The Hon. Director spoke on **Role of Sacred Groves in India's Environmental History** during the Annual Dr. C. Meenakshi Memorial Lecture at Women's Christian College, Chennai on **October 7, 2011**.
- The Hon. Director delivered the special address on **Sacred Animals of India** on **October 15, 2011** at the Annual Day celebrations of the Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan Senior Secondary School at OMR, Chennai and.
- The Joint Director delivered a lecture on **Trees: Cultural and Ecological Significance** for the students of ENVIRO Club Women's Christian College, Chennai on **February 27, 2012**.

OUTREACH

- The Hon. Director presented a paper on **Ecological Traditions of India to protect Biodiversity** at the International Conference on Natural History & Indian Biodiversity organized by the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), Hyderabad on **October 4 & 5, 2012**.
- The Research Officer and Education Officer participated in the **3rd Sacred Grove Festival** organized by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS) at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from **December 15 to 17, 2012**. They accompanied a team of 8 members and performed depicting rituals in a Sacred grove in Tamilnadu.
- Mr. M. Amirthalingam, Research Officer delivered a lecture on **Ecological Heritage and its uses** during the Conference, Towards a Sustainable Future, organized by SAM ECO at Ethiraj College, Chennai on **April 27, 2013**.

OUTREACH

- Dr. Nanditha Krishna, Hon. Director participated as a Panel Member and presented a paper on **Green Pilgrimage: Hinduism and the Environment** at the Green Pilgrimage Network held from **July 25 to 29, 2013** in Trondheim, Norway, organized by the Municipality of Trondheim, Nidaros diocese, Alliance of Religious and Conservation (ARC) and the National Pilgrim Centre (organized under the Directorate of Cultural Heritage).
- Delivered Keynote Address on "**Culture, Heritage and the Environment**" at the 9th Kerala Environment Congress (KEC-2013) held at Trivandrum, Kerala, organized by Centre for Environment Development, Trivandrum, on October 9, 2013.
- Delivered a talk on '**Captive Elephants**' at a Panel Discussion on 'Climate Change and Human-Wildlife Interaction' organized by Centre for Media Studies (CMS), in association with Pondicherry University, between 3.00 and 5.00 p.m. on October 9, 2014.

Thank You