

CELEBRATION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS DAY 2011

Central Indus Wetlands Complex

16th May, 2011

INTRODUCTION

World Migratory Birds Day, 2011, like other sites of the PWP, was celebrated in the Central Indus Wetlands Complex (CIWC) at Kot Addu, District Muzafargarh in collaboration with local partners “Rights and Rights” and “Saiban Welfare Foundation”, local NGOs. The theme of WMD for 2011 was “Land Use Changes from a Bird’s-eye view”. A total of about 100 participants including students from 03 different schools, journalists, teachers, local hunters, representatives from 04 different partners NGO’s, local community members and representatives of government line departments. The aim of organizing the function were

- i) To raise awareness among students, local hunters and local people regarding the importance of sustainable utilisation of wetlands and their associated biodiversity and ;
- ii) To educate the hunters and local people about the importance of migratory birds and highlight the potential threats, that the migratory birds are facing in the area.

The participants were enthralled with PWP’s migratory bird’s documentary and presentations on migratory birds through multimedia and student speeches. The local hunter’s representatives highlighted the potential threats and decline in population of migratory birds. The livestock department representative in his speech highlighted the role of migratory birds in scavenging the pesticides and its importance for livestock and human health. Among the school children of 8 students participated from 03 different schools. The students with first five positions were given prizes for their acknowledgement and encouragement. All the participants of the event were provided with awareness material (posters, newsletters) prepared by the Pakistan Wetlands Programme. At the end, the participants were served with refreshments arranged by local partner organisation “Rights and Rights” Kot Addu.



the speech competition were held and a total



OBJECTIVES

The World Migratory Birds Day was celebrated with the following objectives.

- To recall and celebrate like other parts of the world the World Migratory Birds Day;
- To raise awareness among people regarding the functions and roles of migratory birds in ecosystem sustainability;
- To provide an awareness activity to local schools/students and public;
- To mobilize the local community and hunters about nature conservation and their possible role in protection and conservation of migratory birds;

PARTICIPANTS

A total of 30 students from the following schools of Kot Addu participated in speech competition.

1. Science and Science Public School, Kot Addu
2. Learners House Schools System, Kot Addu
3. Govt. High School for Boys, Kot Addu.



GUESTS

Mr. Mian Amjab Abbas Qureshi (Ex-senator), Kot Addu accepted the invitation as the chief guest as participated in the event. Dr. Abdul Hameed (Deputy Director, Livestock and Dairy Development Department Punjab), Mr. Mohammad Qasim Larr (Local Poet), Mr. Amjab Baloch (SPO), Mr. Hafeez Khan Chandia (Local Hunter), Mr. Mian Zulfiqar Qureshi (Advocate), Faheem Nawaz Khan (Coordinator, SPO), Mr. Nawaz Khan Bhutta (Field Supervisor, Punjab Wildlife Department, DG Khan), Mr. Jehan Zeb (Local Hunter), Mr. Mobeen Ahmad Khan Gormani (Local Hunter), Barrister, Malik Mohammad Yousaf Hinjra (Influential), Mrs. Rani Waheeda Malika (Chairperson, Madni Women Welfare Society, Kot Addu).



JUDGES

The following judges were selected for the competitions

- Mr. Yousaf Jamal
- Zafar Ali

PROCEEDINGS

Recitation and Naat

Mr. Mohammad Yousaf from TMA Kot Addu recited few verses from the Holy Quran. Usama Javed, from Science and Science Public School. Kot Addu recited Naat.

Welcome and opening remarks

Mr. Zafar Ali, Senior Site Officer CIWC, and Yousaf Jamal President Rights and Rights welcomed the participants. They highlighted the importance of celebrating the World Migratory Birds Day. Mr. Zafar from CIWC further briefed the audience about the efforts of WWF-P for conservation and protection of natural resources. He shared the intervention of PWP/WWF-P in CIWC for the conservation of wetlands and sustainable utilization of natural resources.



Guest speakers

Dr. Abdul Hameed from Livestock and Dairy Development Department Punjab appreciated the joint effort of WWF-P, Rights and Rights and SPO for organizing the event and creating awareness among the masses about the rising issues with migratory birds. He further explained in details that among all the birds' species found worldwide 40-45% is migratory. He explained how the migratory bird's role is important for human, livestock and ecosystem health.

Mr. Amjad Khan Baloch from SPO shared his views about the importance of migratory birds and showed his organization interest in organizing such awareness events in future in collaboration with WWF-P and other local partners.

Mr. Hafeez Khan Chandia, representative of the local hunters association shared his experiences with the audience about the migratory birds and hunting ethics. He elaborates the hunter's association efforts and consciousness towards the conservation and protection of migratory birds.

Mr. Jehan Zeb Khan and Mobeen Ahmad Gormani Sb, representatives of local hunters association highlighted the declining in migratory bird's population. They also stressed on strengthening/enforcement of the hunting rules and regulation in the area.

Mr. Mian Zulfiqar Qureshi (Advocate), Faheem Nawaz Khan (SPO), Mr. Yousaf Hinjra (Local Influential), Mrs. Rani Waheeda Malika (President, Madni Women Welfare Society, Kot Adu) and Mian Abbas Qureshi stressed in their speeches for active attention towards protection of migratory birds.



Prizes/Positions

As per decision by the judges, the following students won the 1st, 2nd & 3rd positions in the speech competitions.

Speech Competition

Total Participants: 8

Winners of speech competition:

1st. position: Nishat Fatima (Learners House School System, Kot Adu)

2nd. position: Mohsin Javed (Science and Science School, Kot Adu)

3rd. position: Mudassir Jamal (Science and Science School, Kot Adu)

