## Global Tiger Day, 2020

ENVIS RP on Geodiversity & Impact on Environment, School of Environmental Sciences, JNU celebrated the Global Tiger Day, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020. A webinar was organized to celebrate Global Tiger Day. Time duration of the webinar was one hour. Panelists included international experts and professionals working in the field of Wildlife and Environment Conservation.

These were- 1) Dr. G. Areendran, Director-IGCMC & Coordinator ENVIS, WWF, India, 2)Dr.K.Ramesh,Scientist, WII, India &Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, 3) Professor Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean SES, JNU and ENVIS-Coordinator, 4) Prof. P. K. Joshi, SES, JNU 5) Dr Usha Mina, Associate Professor JNU & Co-coordinator JNU ENVIS. Professor Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean SES, JNU and ENVIS-Coordinator moderated the panel discussion. It was attended by more than 200 participants, through Google-Meet platform and Facebook live broadcast. Also, the participants were from different parts of the country and included university students, researchers, faculty members and professionals.



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Webinar on Global Tiger Day July 29, 2020 (2:00pm-3:00pm)	
Speakers	Time
Welcome Address by <b>Prof Umesh Kulshrestha</b> Coordinator ENVIS and Dean,SES JNU	2:00 -2:10 pm
<b>Dr. K. Ramesh,</b> Scientist, WII, India & Adjunct Prof. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada	2:10-2:20 pm
<b>Dr. G. Areendran</b> Director-IGCMC & IT, WWF, India	2:20-2:30 pm
Prof. P. K. Joshi, SES, JNU	2:30-2:40 pm
<b>Dr Usha Mina,</b> Co-cordinator JNU ENVIS	2:40-2:50 pm
Concluding Remarks by Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha	2:50-2:55pm
Vote of Thanks by Ms. Swati Singh, Program Officer, JNU ENVIS	2:55-3:00 pm
Interview	

Fig.1: Poster and Schedule of the Webinar widely circulated on JNU ENVIS Website & Social media platforms

**Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean & ENVIS Coordinator, SES, JNU -** He welcomed all the eminent speakers and the participants. Gave a brief introduction of all the speakers. Highlighted the importance of the Global Tiger Day and Tiger as an important species for conservation of the whole ecosystem. According to the latest Tiger Census data released India has about 2964 Tigers. He then invited Dr.G.Areendran, Director-IGCMC & Coordinator ENVIS , WWF, India to deliver his talk.





Fig.2: Moderator of the Webinar: Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean & ENVIS Coordinator, SES, JNU & all speakers on the Panel.

**Dr. G. Areendran, Director-IGCMC & Coordinator ENVIS , WWF, India** - He talked about Tiger Conservation efforts by WWF-India and various landscapes where he is working. He said the aim of WWF -India is Conservation of Tiger Habitat. They are active partners in National Tiger Survey and Tiger estimation. Also work on mitigating Tiger-human conflict, environmental education for local communities, and TRAFFIC deals with wildlife crime. He talked about various landscapes where WWF India is working on Tiger Conservation.

- Terai Arc Landscape It covers the area of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Main activities include Tiger Monitoring, Radio Collar for Tiger and Elephants, Management of Human -Tiger Conflicts, Engagement with local tribes and their training and capacity building.
- **Brahmaputra Landscape** It includes Kaziranga and Manas in Assam. It is a river based landscape. Main activities include Mitigating Human-wildlife conflict. Here along with Tigers, Elephant conflicts are also managed. Other activities are protection, support, habitat restoration, training for local forest staff and help in providing infrastructure.
- Sunderbans Landscape Activities include monitoring for estimation of Tigers, supporting local forest department with training and infrastructure like smart cages. Providing local power sources and grid using solar power, clean energy. Sustainable technologies provided to local communities like aquaculture, nylon net for fishing etc.
- Western India Tiger Landscape It covers the state of Rajasthan and includes Banas river corridor. Activities include corridor management plans and community based activities.
- Satpura Maikal Landscape It covers Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra and more than 15 lakh square kilometers. This landscape has a good density of Tigers. Activities include working with local forest departments and training their local staff. Building landscape, resolving mining issues due to Western Coal Field. Engaging with local communities like promoting organic cotton and agricultural activities,

relief schemes for cattle killed by tigers. Target is to double the Tiger population by 2022.

**South Western Ghat Nilgiri Landscape** - It covers Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka. Activities include working with charitable groups. Training forest department, anti-poaching camps and providing field gear.

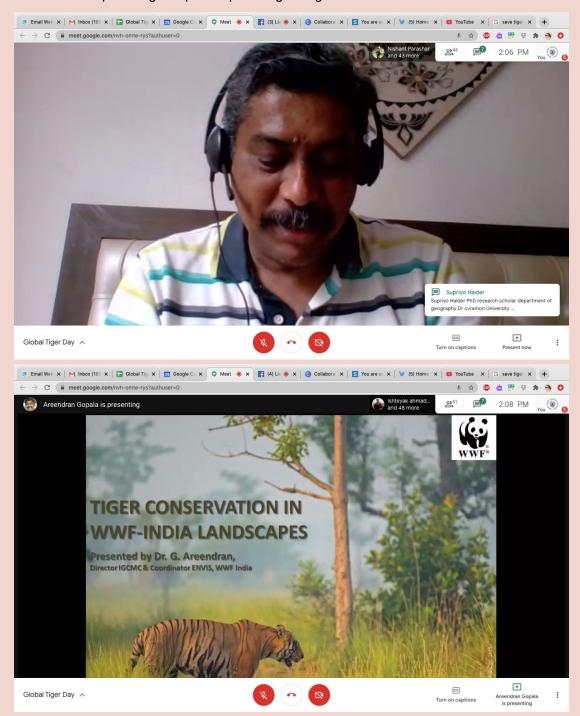


Fig.3: Dr. G. Areendran, Director-IGCMC & Coordinator ENVIS, WWF, India presenting on Tiger Landscapes.

Dr. K. Ramesh, Scientist, WII, India & Adjunct Prof. University of British Columbia,
Vancouver, Canada - He started his discourse with History of Tiger Day and said in
2010 at the St. Petersburg Declaration it was decided to Double the Tiger population by
2022 and Awareness about this Tiger through celebration of the day as Global Tiger Day.

He said this meeting is fulfilling both our International and National commitments. Tiger is celebrated as a symbol and represents our nature. Tiger conservation is not only species based but conservation of the whole habitat, it requires field based conservation efforts. Tiger has evolved to a tropical system and is highly adapted. Historically it was hunted by rulers and now we are left with only 6% of past numbers. India has 70% population of Tigers, we have it pretty well with our conservation efforts and great responsibility lies on us.

Livelihood related issues have led to a crashing decline in the number of Tiger populations. In Sariska Tiger Reserve the entire population of Tiger was lost due to poaching. Then a report by Dr. Sunita Narain "Joining the dot" played an important role and the National Tiger Authority was established. Large scale use of technology is required in Tiger conservation. Landscape approach Tiger Management including spaces



Fig.4: Dr. K. Ramesh, Scientist, WII, India and Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

**Prof. P.K. Joshi, SES, JNU -** He talked about the importance and history of the Day. India in Guinness Book of World record for largest Tiger census. He also said saving Tiger is more than just one species but for the entire range of species, for human well being and for our blue planet. Tiger is the top predator in the food web, average 3m long and 200kg, has the ability to co-exist with humans if enough prey and forest area is available. It is found from dry areas of Rajasthan to wet mangroves in Sunderbans, from far East in Russia to mountains, and can survive in any condition. It can walk 15-20 kms/day, is a focused hunter, has the highest degree of plasticity, follows paths of river bed. It teaches us ways of Sustainable

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living. He ends by saving a beautiful quote "Live like a Tiger, But let it live also".

Fig.5: Prof. P. K. Joshi, SES, JNU

**Dr Usha Mina, Associate Professor JNU & Co-coordinator JNU ENVIS**- Congratulated WWF India & WWI for successful Tiger census. She said the Tiger census shows how India has balanced conservation and economic growth. India is taking the path of Sustainable development. India has 6 Tiger reserves. Tiger is an umbrella species so protecting it also protects numerous other species. Tiger reserves not only protect Tigers but also helps in mitigating climate change, floods and other natural disasters. It ensures ecosystem services are provided.

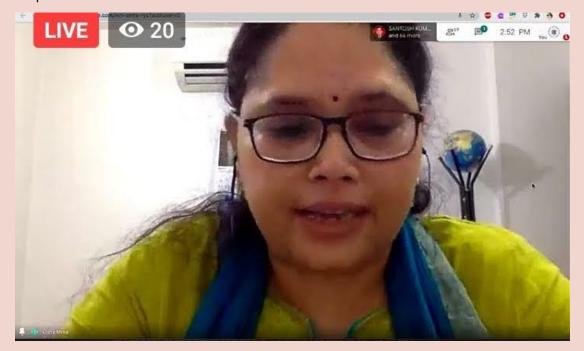


Fig.6: Dr Usha Mina, Associate Professor JNU & Co-coordinator JNU ENVIS

Concluding remarks were given by **Prof. Umesh Kulshrestha, Dean & ENVIS Coordinator, SES, JNU** 

E-Release of Awareness Poster prepared by JNU ENVIS RP on 'Subspecies of Tiger' by guests Dr. G. Areendran & Dr. K. Ramesh . Vote of Thanks was extended by Ms. Swati Singh, Programme Officer, JNU ENVIS RP.



Fig.7: E-Release of Infographic Poster on 'Subspecies of Tiger' by guests Dr. G. Areendran & Dr. K. Ramesh

Session came to an end with distribution of e-certificate to all the participants. Very positive feedback was received from the participants.

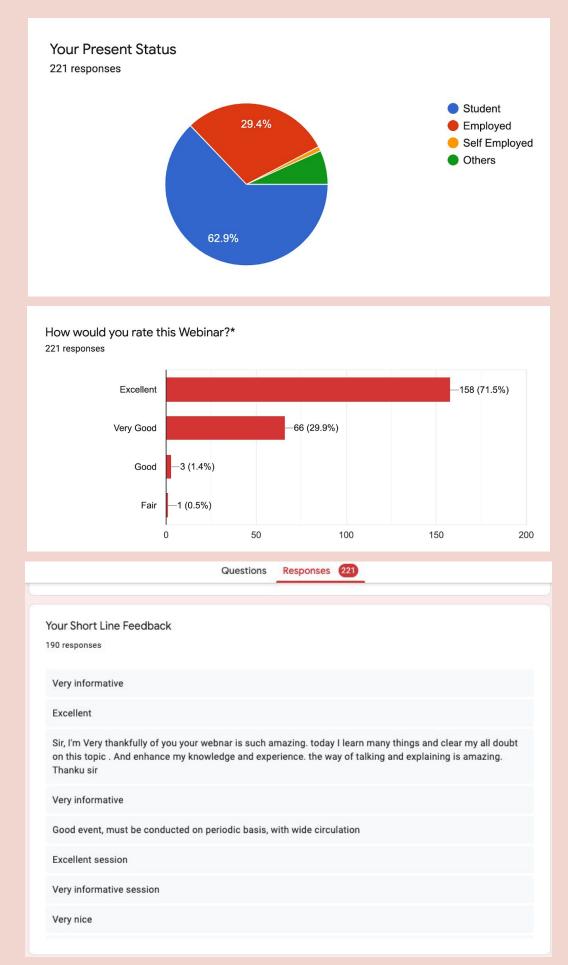


Fig.8.: Graph on Feedback