



Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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D.O.No. 14/33/2005-CSC(BC)

Dated: 3rd June, 2009

Dear *Dr. Djoghlaif,*

This relates to the celebration of the International Biological Diversity Day (CBD) in India this year. As in the past, we had requested the Governments of all our federal States, Centres of Excellence, specialized agencies, National Biodiversity Authority and concerned Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture, to commemorate IBD and celebrate the Day in a befitting manner, interalia using the outreach and information material on the theme of invasive alien species available on CBD's website. We hope to receive detailed reports from them by the end of this month, when a consolidated report would be sent to you. In the meantime, I am happy to inform about some of the activities which were undertaken on the occasion.

The main celebration was organized by this Ministry, National Biodiversity Authority and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi on 22nd May, 2009. During this function, presentations were made by experts on invasive alien species – plants, animals and pests. A souvenir document on Invasive Alien Species – Threat to Biodiversity, containing seven papers was released. In addition, the National Biodiversity Authority, with the support of the Ministry of Environment and Forests has produced a film on invasive alien species, which was released and shown to the audience on 22nd May, 2009. The Hindi version of the National Biodiversity Action Plan, 2008, which was formally released in Feb, 2009 during the National Workshop for the Fourth National Report, was also released on the International Biological Diversity Day. I am happy to enclose a copy of the souvenir, film on invasive alien species and the Hindi version of NBAP for your perusal and record.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests also organized a brain-storming meeting of scientists and experts on invasive alien plants at Chandigarh on 22-23 May, 2009.

Regards,

Yours sincerely

A.K. Goyal
03.06.2009
(A.K.Goyal)

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