GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

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International Day for Biological Diversity observed

Shillong, May 22nd, 2019: Along with the rest of the world, Meghalaya today observed the International Day for Biological Diversity under the theme: "Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health" at a function held at U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong. The programme was organized by the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board (MBB) and the Department of Forests & Environment, Government of Meghalaya.



& **Forests** Environment Minister, Shri Lahkmen Rymbui graced the programme as Chief The Guest. programme was organised in order to generate awareness among the people particularly the student community on the rich biodiversity of the State and the importance of preserving it.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Lahkmen Rymbui stressed on the need for maintaining a balance in the biodiversity for a sustainable ecosystem. As we are in an ecosystem where we are inter-dependent on each other, we have to renew our commitment to preserve our rich biodiversity, he said. Lamenting on the increased dwindling of rare species, the Minister said that there is a need to realize the value of organisms and species, understand the gravity of the situation and work together towards preserving the environment and our rich biodiversity for future generations.



During the function, the Chief Guest along with other dignitaries released Annual Report for the years 2015-2018, booklets and posters on Biodiversity, pamphlet on Biodiversity Heritage Site of Meghalaya, Khlaw Kur Syiem Kmielng (Umkon Village of Ri Bhoi District) and also distributed prizes to the winners of the photography, drawing and essay competitions.

Short documentary films titled, "Giant Steps to Conservation by a Small Village, Mawlyngbna" and "Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health" were also screened during the programme.

Earlier, Secretary, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, Shri M. B. K. Reddy gave a power-point presentation on the achievements of the MBB.

PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shri C. P. Marak and PCCF (T), Meghalaya, Shri Y. Shullai was also present on the occasion.