

## U P STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD, LUCKNOW

# BIODIV NEWS



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### Editorial

#### Esteemed Readers,

This quarter saw the celebration of the International Day for Vulture Awareness. Vultures are an ecologically vital group of birds that face a range of threats in many areas that they occur. Populations of many species are under pressure and some species are facing extinction.

The International Vulture Awareness Day has grown from Vulture Awareness Days run by the Birds of Prey Programme of the Endangered Wildlife Trust in South Africa and the Hawk Conservancy Trust in England, who decided to work together and expand the initiative into an international event.

The International Vulture Awareness Day (IVAD) 2019 was celebrated by U. P. State Biodiversity Board in collaboration with Institute for Wildlife Sciences, ONGC, Department of Zoology, Biodiversity and Wildlife Conservation Lab, University of Lucknow.

**-Editor**

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## 1- International Day for Vulture Awareness 02<sup>nd</sup> Sept. 2019

Vultures are most important scavenger and play an important role in clearing animal carcasses and municipal dumps. Vultures are large birds' carrion eaters. By consuming the carcasses of diseased animals, vultures prevent the spread of life-threatening diseases such as rabies and anthrax among animals and humans.



There are 22 kinds of vultures which includes 15 types of Old World vultures and 7 types of New World vultures. Due to a lot of variations in geographical and environmental gradient 9 species are reported to be present in India (Ali and Ripley, 1987): King vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*), Cinereous vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Himalayan Griffon vulture (*Gyps himalayensis*), Long-billed vulture (*Gyps indicus*), Slender-billed vulture (*Gyps tenuirostris*), White-backed vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*), Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) (Ali et al., 1995).

Vultures are known to colonize wooded as well as open habitats with agriculture and tree cover (Robinson 1994; Donazar *et al.* 2002a,b). On the basis of forest and vegetation cover, Uttar Pradesh (UP) has been divided into three major eco-zones: The Tarai (moist deciduous forests), the Gangetic plains (agriculture landscape) and the Bundelkhand (dry deciduous forests) including Vindhyan regions (Islam & Rahmani 2004). **There are 8 species of vultures in Uttar Pradesh.**

The International Vulture Awareness Day has grown from vulture awareness days run by Birds of Prey Programme in South Africa and Hawk Conservancy Trust in England, who decided to work together and expand the initiative into an International event. This day is dedicated to vulture conservation so as to publicize the conservation and importance of vultures to wider audience and highlight the important work being carried out by world's vulture conservationists.

The International Vulture Awareness Day is celebrated each year on the first Saturday of September. The aim is to carry out the conservational activities by the different institution participating in it from different countries.

The International Vulture Awareness Day (IVAD) 2019 was celebrated by U. P. State Biodiversity Board in collaboration with Institute for Wildlife Sciences, ONGC, Department of Zoology, Biodiversity and Wildlife Conservation Lab, University of Lucknow. On this occasion various competitions like Poster Competition on topic "Feeding Vultures" and Quiz competition at Riverside Academy School, Gomtinagar, and Institute for Wildlife Sciences, ONGC were organized. The results and photos of following events are here as follows:

## RESULTS

Event : Quiz

Group A :

S.N	Name	Class	Institute	Position
1.	Abhaditya Parth	7	Lucknow Public College	I
2.	Vansh Malik	8	St.Clare's Convent School	II
3.	Saubhagya,	7	Lucknow Public College	III
4.	Pranay Srivastava,	8	Lucknow Public College	Consolation

Group : B

S.N	Name	Class	Institute	Position
1	Eklavya Verma	10	St. Clare's Convent School	I
1.	Anuj Yadav	12	Riverside Academy	I
2	Harsh Shukla	11	St. Joseph Mont. School	II
2.	Gagan Singh	11	Riverside Academy	II
3	Shubh Sharan	12	Lucknow Public College	III
3	Srishti Gupta	10	Riverside Academy	III
4	Aryan Raj	12	St. Clare's Convent School	Consolation
4.	Arushi Agarwal	11	Riverside Academy	Consolation
4.	Muskan Yadav	11	Riverside Academy	Consolation
4.	Neha Singh,	12	Riverside Academy	Consolation
4.	Niralee Singh	10	Riverside Academy	Consolation

GROUP C

S.N.	Name	Class	Institute	Position
1	Diksha Tiwari	B.Sc. III	Isabella Thoburn College	I
2	Nandini Sharma	B.Sc. III	I.T. College	II
3	Prakriti Verma	B.Sc. III	I.T. College	III
4	Shikha Tripathi	B.Sc. III	I.T. College	Consolation





Poster competition at ONGC



Distribution of Certificates



Certificate distribution by Hon. Mrs. Malti Ma'am



Certificate distribution to participants



Group photograph with children of Robin hood  
Army



Valuable words shared with children





Certificate Distribution to participants



Discussion with school children on vultures



Certificates distribution



Participants from different schools



Attending the lecture attentively by children



Students from different schools attending the lecture.





Discussion by Professors.



Participants from Robin hood Army,  
Lucknow

### Glimpses of Some of the Posters made by Winners



Adit Singh , Class VII  
Red Rose School , I –Prize



Saloni Singh, Class VI  
Riverside Academy School  
II- Prize



Nistha Sinha ,Class VII  
City Montessori School, III –Prize



Sana Ayub ,Class VIII  
St. Clare's Convent School  
Consolation



## 2- Newspaper Clippings

i) International News

ii) National News

iii) State News

### **Editorial Board**

**Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IFS, UPSBB, Lucknow;  
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K. K. Tiwari, UPSBB, Lucknow.**