



# **PERSPECTIVES ON BIODIVERSITY OF INDIA**

## **Volume III**

Editors

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## Preface

Biodiversity is the foundation for life and for the essential services provided by ecosystems and it underpins peoples' livelihoods and sustainable development in a variety of sectors. According to the UN Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), biodiversity is essential to sustaining the living networks and systems that provide us with health, wealth, food, fuel and the vital services our lives depend upon. The Convention, of which India is a signatory, covers all ecosystems, species and genetic resources, linking traditional conservation efforts to economic goal of using biological resources sustainably, and setting principles for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from use of genetic resources.

There is a growing recognition that humankind, as Albert Einstein observed, “cannot solve problems in the same way of thinking that led to their creation.” A new way of thinking, a paradigm shift is required to keep the web of life in tact so that it can continue to provide the essential raw materials for sustainable development. United Nations declared the period 2011 – 2020 to be “the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011-2020”. The Decade is intended to be a vehicle to support and promote implementation of the objectives of this synergistic Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to mainstream biodiversity issues into broader development planning and in the economic sectors. Indian Biodiversity Congress (IBC) is the largest get together of scientists, conservationists, environmentalists, civil society groups and local communities in India, a platform to discuss the current status of biodiversity in India and an inclusive colloquium to forward strategies and policies to conserve the rich biodiversity heritage of the country.

The Fourth Indian Biodiversity Congress (IBC 2017) at Puducherry had the focal theme “Climate Change and Biodiversity”. The event was a great success and the papers presented in the National Seminar are now compiled in the form of third volume of Perspectives of Biodiversity Volume III.

Papers presented in this volume under various subthemes such as Biodiversity characterisation and documentation, Marine Biodiversity, Biodiversity of Puducherry, Agro-biodiversity and poverty alleviation, Ecosystem services and development, Livestock biodiversity, Biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization through technology, Medicinal plant conservation and sustainable utilization , Biodiversity education & extension, Culture, indigenous technical knowledge and local traditional practices related to biodiversity, Policy legislature and biodiversity strategies and urban and landscaping.

We welcome comments from the readers and I congratulate CISSA for bringing out this volume rich in diversity of topics.

15-08-2018

Vandana Shiva  
Chairperson, IBC

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