

## International Day for Biological Diversity celebrated at TFRI

UNITED Nations General Assembly proclaimed International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated at Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur on Saturday. Dr. Avinash Jain welcomed the key speaker R. Sreenivasa Murthy, retired. IFS and Former Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board. He further informed that the theme of the year "We're part of the solution" is part of the momentum generated from previous year theme "Our solutions are in nature".

Dr G Rajeshwar Rao, ARS, Director TFRI, welcomed the guest and gave brief introduction of the key note speaker R. Sreenivasa Murthy. Emphasizing on his efforts to increase tiger population from 0-32 in Panna, Ghariyal population in Chambal areas and various other field achievements, he concluded by enumerating various state and national level awards received by Murthy for his tremendous contribution and work in wildlife.

R Sreenivasa Murthy delivered a very interactive talk concerning the theme of the day with the current pandemic and other natural disasters around the world. Elaborating motto of Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board i.e., "Live in harmony with Nature" he reminded to leave the self-absorbed lifestyle while caring for life around in order to take care of oneself. Proceeding with the history of the day, introduction to biodiversity, types of biodiversity with elaborate examples from forest, he spoke about the importance and need to manage air water and land resources. Very intriguingly he suggested to maintain clean air, food, land and water to live a better life ahead while commemorating lines from the national song Vande Matram. Around 40 scientists, officers, staff members and scholars participated in the celebration through virtual mode and the vote of thanks was presented by Deepika Jangham.