

Echoes of Eco



November, 2017

Vivekananda Kendra- nardep Newsletter

Vol:9 No:9

Extracts from our book "Green Pathfinders - Part II"

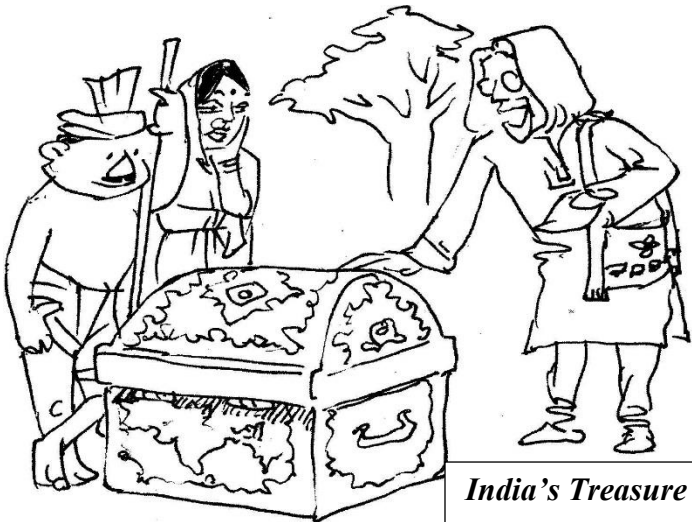
End - Angered

Shri.N.Krishnamoorthy

Prelude

Krish Phidol: What are you pundits doing to preserve the variety of birds and animals many of which help me in breeding better cattle, poultry or milch animals? In pollinating my fields and helping me in general?

Jnani Noval: The issue is much larger. The Bio-diversity, the variety of living beings was for long a neglected field. Now scientists and farmers are waking up. Governments, bodies of scientists, farmers, forest communities and other stake-holders are pooling their resources to preserve, individual living-beings, species, environments and habitats. Knowledge of inter- dependence of man, plants and animals is dawning slowly on our decision makers. And at last, the importance of local people in conservation efforts is being realized more and more, by the administrators. From outside, it seems Governments, fund providers and scientists are seized of the problem. They are laying down the rules, they provide technical and financial help to conserve nature.



India's Treasure of Bio - Diversity

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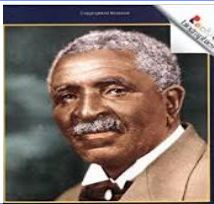


(O) Supreme one; (who is) the physical, astral (and) causal worlds (himself). (you are) the source of all, deserving all worship

(O) Radiant, divine one; (we) meditate (upon you)

Propel our Intellect (towards liberation or freedom)

Rig Veda (3.62.10)



"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these"

- George Washington Carver



Annapurna Duval: Can we help?

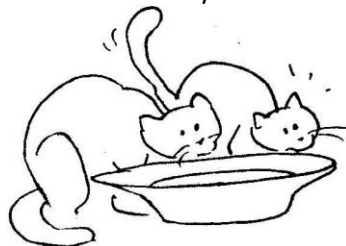
Jnani Noval: You can help! Women, rural people, farmers, forest tribes and people living in areas near conservation-sites have a lot to contribute. The government officials and scientists have conceded that earlier attempts to conserve life forms and sanctuaries failed because the local people were not involved.

Krish Phidol: Tell us how we can help!

Jnani Noval: The local people should not be considered a nuisance. They have the accumulated wisdom, the traditional wisdom, the knowledge of local areas. They instinctively relate to the season, the species, the land and build themselves into nature's schemes. They may not be able to talk in seminars, or read research papers but they have the wisdom gained by repeated exposure to field conditions, added up through generations. Scientists can also learn from them.

Annapurna Duval: What is there on the ground, as solid achievements born of this new-found awareness?

Jnani Noval: Protected areas, wild life refuges, sanctuaries and bio-reserves both marine and inland, have come up, in many parts of the country.



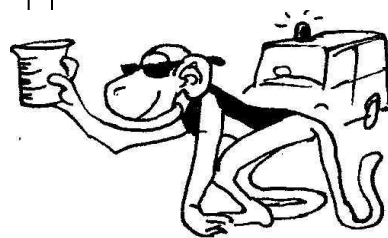
The lion, rhino and many other animal populations have actually gone up. The officials claim, disputably, an increase in the tiger population too! Their habitats, are given the status of Nationally Protected Areas. Various endangered species have been identified, and the intensities of dangers have been measured. Priorities are decided. Conservation bodies involve academics, politicians, field-scientists, area-specialists and the local people. Area-wise, category-wise, animal specific, protection measures have been taken up. Conservation has to be done, accommodating the local livelihood compulsions, tourist interests,

other economic considerations, such as collection of forest products or fishing. Dangers such as poaching, the bone and skin trade, and the lures of selling endangered animal parts/ products for medicines are being tackled, with the help of enactment of and proper implementation of conservation laws. Innovative methods of weaning people away from deforesting the area have been designed and are being implemented.

Krish Phidol: The problems are as complicated as life itself.

Jnani Noval: In spite of our sketchy designs, laws with sieve-like loopholes and their poor implementation, India has succeeded in remaining as one of the Mega Biodiversity Regions of the world. With much be knowledge and purposeful administrations and more funds, many developed countries have failed in saving their wild life species. India is winning in spite of constraints.

Annapurna Duval: India has an image of a nature-loving country and preservation of variety comes naturally to us.



Jnani Noval: When the culture itself is getting eroded all the consequent advantages will be also lost!

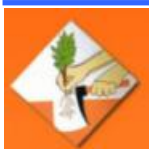
Annapurna Duval: And when Nature suffers, mankind also suffers! When my daughter goes away from my village, she forgets the folk songs, village jokes, rural slang and household arts.

Jnani Noval: The same thing happens when birds/animals have their environment destroyed or degraded. Their songs are forgotten, their calls and cries lose their diversity, they become less cooperative and more quarrelsome.



"Anything will give up its secrets if you love it enough. Not only have I found that when I talk to the little flower or to the little peanut they will give up their secrets, but I have found that when I silently commune with people they give up their secrets also - if you love them enough"

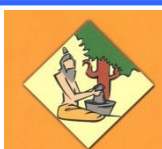
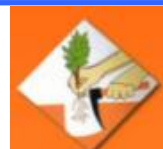
- George Washington Carver



**Happenings this month:
Sustainable Agriculture**



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Sustainable Agriculture**



**Happenings this month:
Holistic Health**

Training programme on "Terrace Garden" was held at J.C.Bose Nursery on 4th November. 04 farmers attended the training. Shri.S.Rajamony was the resource person.



Discussion is on ... during training



Bio-pest repellent plants exhibited during the training

Training programme on "Preparation of Growth hormones and bio-pest repellents" was held at Technology Resource Center on 25th November. 07 farmers attended the training. Smt.S.Premalatha and Shri.S.Rajamony were the resource persons.



Class room session - Preparation of Growth hormones and bio-pest repellents training

Workshop on "Traditional Siddha Varma Bone Setting Practices" was held at Technology Resource Center from 13th November. 39 Vaidyas attended. Dr.V.Ganapathy and his team acted as resource persons.



Practical demonstration during Varma Bone setting workshop



Camp participants at our terrace - J.C.Bose nursery



Dr.V.Ganapathi explaining about Siddha Varma chikitsa

Green health home worked for 4 days and treated 125 patients.



"I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in"

- George Washington Carver



Happenings this month:
Renewable Energy



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Renewable Energy



Happenings this month:
Networking

One-day training programme on "Agricultural farm waste - No! it is a wealth and it is a Bio-energy" was held at Technology Resource Center on 8th November. 66 members attended. Sri.V.Ramakrishnan was the resource person.



Prayer by the SHG members before the start of the session



Shri.Vijayaraghavan interacting with the participants



Beneficiary standing near the fixed type Bio-methanation plant

Training programme on "Bio-methanation plant" was held at Technology Resource Center on 25th November. 01 member attended. Sri.Periyaswami was the resource person.



Attentive participants during training on Solar Energy

Training programme on "Solar Energy Device" was held at Kuzhithurai on 15th Nov. 62 member attended. Shri.V.Ramakrishnan was the resource person.. The programme was sponsored by Govt. Polytechnic, Konam.

Construction of Biogas Plant

Fixed type - Kanyakumari 1 cum - 12

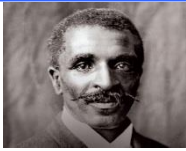
District Mission Committee Meeting, Dept. of Agriculture was held on 9th November at Collectorate, Nagercoil. Shri.S.Rajamony attended.



Training programme on "Herbal plants cultivation" was held at Vivekanandapuram on 24th Nov. 64 member attended. Smt.S.Premalatha was the resource person.. The programme was sponsored by Govt. Polytechnic, Konam.



Practical demonstration during training



"Reading about nature is fine, but if a person walks in the woods and listens carefully, he can learn more than what is in books, for they speak with the voice of God"

- George Washington Carver



Visions of Wisdom



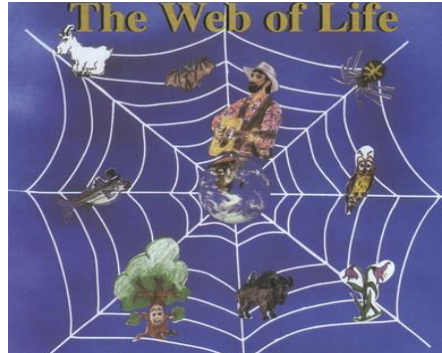
Art of Living

The plea for simplicity has nothing to do with morals, but rather with aesthetics. Art depends on the careful use of sounds and colours and the same might be true of the art of living - it depends on the careful use of material things.

There is a formula which everybody knows - the underlying relationship between austerity and hedonism. The US philosopher, Henry Thoreau, I guess knew all of that 180 years ago, as he said: "Simplify your life. Don't waste the years struggling for things that are unimportant. Don't burden yourself with possessions. Keep your needs and wants simple and enjoy what you have. Don't destroy your peace of mind by looking back, worrying about the past. Live in the present. Simplify!"



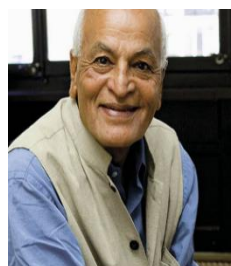
Wolfgang Sachs
Researcher, Writer &
University teacher in
Germany



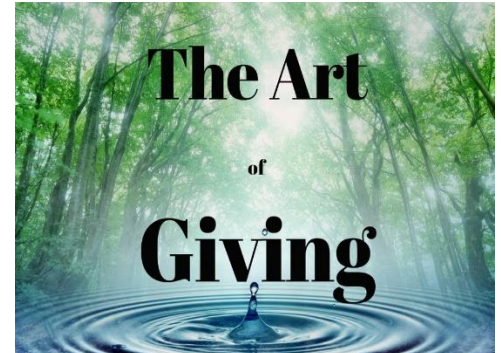
Ubuntu: 'I am because we are'

My existence is a network of influences. I exist in a web of relationships: in reciprocity, mutuality and community. I am because earth, air, fire and water are. I am because my parents, my teachers and my friends are. I am because Buddha, Krishna and Christ are: they are part of my thinking. Shakespeare is, therefore I am. Beethoven is, therefore I am. Van Gogh is, therefore I am. Gandhi is, therefore I am. You are therefore I am. Worms are, therefore I am.

Buddhists call it co-dependent arising. Hindus call it Soham: "That is I," and "I am that." In South Africa they call it Ubuntu: "I am because we are".



Satish Kumar
An Indian activist and
editor of Resurgence &
Ecologist magazine



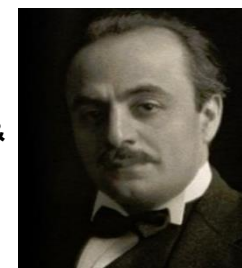
Art of Giving

There are those who give little of the much which they have--and they give it for recognition and their hidden desire makes their gifts unwholesome.

And there are those who have little and give it all. These are the believers in life and the bounty of life, and their coffer is never empty.

There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward. And there are those who give with pain, and that pain is their baptism. And there are those who give and know not pain in giving, nor do they seek joy, nor give with mindfulness of virtue; They give as in yonder valley the myrtle breathes its fragrance into space.

Through the hands of such as these God speaks, and from behind their eyes He smiles upon the earth.



Kahlil Gibran
A famous Lebanese
writer, poet, and
visual artist.