



## World Wetland Day 2024

World Wetland Day was celebrated at Nandankanan on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024 at State Botanical Garden. A group of 50 students from Godisahi Govt High School, Godisahi, Cuttack participated in the celebration along with their Headmaster and teachers. The programme was inaugurated by Deputy Director Nandankanan, Assistant Conservator of Forest (State Botanical Garden) and Assistant Conservator of Forest (Sanctuary Management) in presence of Headmaster of Godisahi Govt High School, Range Officers, Forest Guard, Forester, Education Officer, Assistant Education Officer and Zoo Volunteers and Zoo Interns. Each participant received a badge made on the theme of World Wetland Day, 2024.



The programme started with an introduction to what is a wetland, its importance and why is it celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> February every year. Deputy Director, Sri Sanath Kumar gave a message that forest department alone cannot save the wetlands; it is the collaborative efforts of every individual to save and preserve the wetlands.



An act on this year's theme of World Wetland Day 2024 i.e. Wetlands and Human Being was enacted by Zoo Volunteers who gave a message how our habits are affecting wetlands and our role in saving the wetlands.



Slogans on wetlands were repeated by the students to inculcate a sense of responsibility towards their role in conservation of wetlands.



After a short refreshment break, interesting activities like on-the-spot drawing competition, slogan Competition and quiz competition was organised where Zoo Volunteers, Education Officer and Assistant Education Officer coordinated all the events. The students were divided into teams and with a leader and team name based on the Ramsar sites present in Odisha, namely Ansupa, Satkosia, Hirakud, Chilika, Bhitarkanika.



After all the competitions, an Origami session was conducted which is an art of paper folding that create various shapes. The students were taught to make wetland animals frog, fish and bird through paper folding(origami).



The students were exposed to see the biodiversity of wetland and observe birds around wetland behind the amphitheatre with the help of binoculars.



At the end, prizes were distributed to the winning team and the best performers in all the competitions. The students and teachers expressed their views on wetland day and the event was wound up with a zoo visit.

