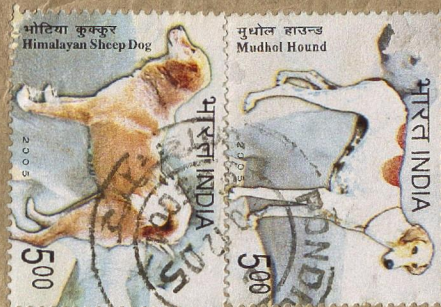


INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

P. B. 33

PONDICHÉRY-605 001.

INDE



Dr Ranjit Daniels

Director

Care Earth

No 5, 21st Street

Thillaianganagar

Chennai 600 061



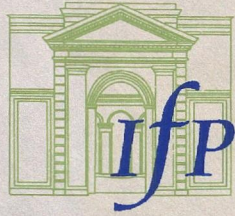


INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DE PONDICHÉRY
FRENCH INSTITUTE OF PONDICHERRY

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a brief presentation of the workshop
on the proposed book "The Western Ghats of India -
a biodiversity hotspot". Regards

Devi



7 November 2005

Dr. Ranajit Daniel
Director, Care Earth
No 5, 21st Street
Thillaiganganagar
Chennai 600 061

Dear Dr. Daniel

The French Institute of Pondicherry with more than three decadal experiences on biodiversity studies in the Western Ghats, is planning to bring out an edited volume on the Western Ghats by next year through a reputed international publisher. The book will have different chapters ranging from physical to biological aspects, human ecology and forest management. The contribution for each chapter is expected to be by eminent and experienced researchers and forest administrators.

In this context it is pleasure to inform that you are considered as one of the potential contributors on faunal chapter. In order to discuss the framework and modalities of the chapters in the book, I request you to kindly attend one-day workshop on 17th November 2005. The workshop will have two sessions; during morning session, each contributor will present briefly about his work and in the afternoon all the contributors would discuss together about the structure of different chapters and timeframe.

We will provide 2nd AC or equivalent for travel to Pondicherry and take care of local hospitality. We look forward to your participation at this important workshop.

Yours sincerely,

B.R. Ramesh
Director of Research

The Western Ghats of India

A biodiversity hotspot

Key words

PART I

General description of the Western Ghats

✓ Chapter 1: Physical factor (geomorphology and drainage)

✓ Chapter 2: Bioclimate (rainfall, temperature and length of dry season)

✓ Chapter 3: Biogeography and geological history

- Economic & Services.

- Religion +

Pilgrimage.

Pascal

- Mithun-Harj +

RVD

- Kistatus

e. 5000km²

PART II

Biological Riches

BR + JP.

✓ Chapter 4: Vegetation types (correlation with bioclimate, heterogeneity)

Chapter 5: Floristic richness, diversity and endemism

✓ Chapter 6: Wildlife habitats and pattern of animal richness and diversity

- Human-animal Conflicts.

Chapter 7: Forest Structure and Dynamics (wet evergreen forests and dry deciduous forests - case studies from permanent plots: Uppangala, Vargaliar and Madumalai)

- legal policy

Institutional framework.

Chapter 8: Reproductive Biology (pollination, dispersal, plant-animal interaction)

Part III Animals

PART III

Man and biodiversity

- T. Ganesh
Renee Borges.

Chapter 9: Human geography (demography, activities, development)

✓ Chapter 10: Human ecology (ethnic pattern, culture, dependency and socioeconomics)

dams!

Chapter 11: Status of forests (degradation, fragmentation and consequences)

Chapter 12: History of forest management (pre-colonial, colonial and post colonial)

Chapter 13: Forest administration, management practices and policies

EPILOGUE

Wetlands

Invasive Species

- Tools
- Threats.

Workshop on the proposed book 'The Western Ghats'

| | Participants | Affiliation |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 1 | Dr. Dilip Kumar | Addl. PCCF, KFD, Bangalore |
| 2 | Dr. Krishna Kumar | Conservator of Forests, TNFD, Chennai |
| 3 | Dr. Ajith Kumar | NCBS, Bangalore |
| 4 | Dr. Ranajit Danniell | Care Earth, Chennai |
| 5 | Dr. Kunhi Krishnan | School of Social Sciences, Kottayam |
| 6 | Dr. Parthasarathy | School of Ecology, Pondicherry University |
| 7 | Dr. Pascal, J.P. | ECO FOG, French Guyana |
| 8 | Dr. Couteron, P. | IFP |
| 9 | Dr. Grard, P. | IFP |
| 10 | Dr. Ramesh, B.R. | IFP |
| 11 | Dr. Bonn, F. | IFP |
| 12 | Dr. Pordie, L. | IFP |
| 13 | Dr. Karunakaran | IFP |
| 14 | Dr. Patil, S.G. | IFP |
| 15 | Dr. Balasubramanian | IFP |
| 16 | Dr. Ayyappan | IFP |
| 17 | Mr. Aravajy | IFP |
| 18 | Mr. Ramalingam | IFP |
| 19 | Ms. Anurupa Naik | IFP |

Program on 17th November 2005

| Time (hrs) | Program | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 9.30 - 9.45 | <i>Tea</i> | |
| 9.45 - 10 | Welcome address and introduction to the proposed Book | Dr. Pierre Couteron |
| 10 - 11 | Introduction and brief presentation by the invited participants and selected personnel from IFP | Dr. Dilip Kumar Dr. Krishna Kumar Dr. Ajith Kumar Dr. Ranajit Danniell Dr. Kunhi Krishnan Dr. Parthasarathy Dr. Pascal, J.P. Dr. Couteron, P. Dr. Grard, P. Dr. Ramesh, B.R. |
| 11 - 12.30 | Preliminary discussion on the structure of topics in the book | |
| 12.30 - 14 | <i>Lunch</i> | |
| 14 - 17.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frame work of the book • Contents • Contributors • Time frame | |

- 1) P4 — adequacy
- 2) Human animal conflict
- 3) Resilience in relation to length of dry season.

Topics

The WH of India: A Δ hotspot

Part I — General description

Part II — Biological Richness

Part III —

- Long history of ^{top class} Science
- Advertisement
- General patterns — unique patterns.

Geology
Biogeography

Human
impact &
management
policy.

Workshop on the proposed book '*The Western Ghats of India – a biodiversity hotspot*'

Minutes of the meeting held on 17.11.05 at French Institute of Pondicherry to discuss the project regarding preparation of a book on the Western Ghats.

Participants:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Dr. Dilip Kumar | Addl. PCCF, KFD, Bangalore |
| 2. Mr. Krishna Kumar | Conservator of Forests, TNFD, Chennai |
| 3. Mr. Srnivasa Murthy | Conservator of Forests, TNFD, Chennai |
| 4. Dr. Ajith Kumar | National Center for Biological Sciences, Bangalore |
| 5. Dr. Ranjit Daniels | Care Earth, Chennai |
| 6. Dr. Kunhi Krishnan, K | School of Social Sciences, Kottayam |
| 7. Dr. Parthasarathy, N | School of Ecology, Pondicherry University |
| 8. Dr. Pascal, J.P. | ECOFOG, French Guyana |
| 9. Dr. Couteron, P. | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 10. Dr. Ramesh, B.R. | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 11. Dr. Borne, F | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 12. Dr. Karunakaran, P.V | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 13. Dr. Patil, S.V | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 14. Dr. Ayyappan, N. | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 15. Mr. Aravajy, S. | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 16. Mr. Ramalingam, S | French Institute of Pondicherry |
| 17. Ms. Anurupa Naik | French Institute of Pondicherry |

The meeting started at 9.45 AM. Dr. Pierre Couteron welcomed the gathering and briefly presented the objective of the workshop and the need for a book on Western Ghats. After his presentation the participants introduced themselves and presented their field of expertise and possible contribution for the book. Some of the issues which could be included in the book and highlighted in the presentation are, forest economics and valuation, the linkage between materialistic information on biodiversity and human aspect, the need for systemic problems to be addressed, human ecological scenario, biodiversity outside the forests, to utilize the information with forest departments, the past, present and future views of forest departments on Western Ghats, human impacts on biodiversity, fragmentation, adequacy of PA network, ecosystem approach, human-animal conflicts and regeneration study conducted by forest departments.

Based on above presentation and discussion, it was generally agreed that the book should give more emphasis on biogeography and ecology on one hand, and on the other about forest management and conservation backed with historical account and human ecology. It is also agreed upon that the book should be technical to semi-technical and catering the needs of researchers and students for future research prospects and also as a reference book for scholars and biodiversity managers.

Later Dr. Ramesh made a presentation on the utilization of biodiversity information for the conservation planning and management and Dr. P. Couteron talked about the permanent plots and monitoring being conducted by FIP in Uppangala since 1999.

After these brief introductory presentations, Dr. P. Couteron presented an outline of the book with probable 13 chapters in three parts and detailed discussions were held on this. Part I, deals with general description of the Western Ghats with three chapters has been approved without any major change. It was opined by Dr. Ajith Kumar and Dr. Ranjith Daniels that the biological riches (Part II) have to be divided into two parts to give equal importance to fauna similar to flora, and the participants agreed up on this and suitable modifications have been made in the format. Accordingly, PART III was introduced with the title Fauna with four chapters viz., Mammals, Birds, lower vertebrates and invertebrates. Part III of the tentative format deals with the Man and Biodiversity with five chapters have been modified as Management and Conservation. The first two chapters of the tentative plan have been retained and the remaining three chapters have modified. The importance of plantations (commercial- tea, coffee, cardamom) has also come up in the discussion and the same has been incorporated in the chapters with the approval of the participants. It was also discussed and decided to include case studies and specific information in boxes with contributors name.

At the end of the session, the probable publishers, funding agency (ies) and royalty were also discussed and it was decided that suitable decision would be taken on these issues in the later meetings.

The revised format, theme, contributor names and time frame for completing the task were discussed and approved by the participants of the workshop are given Table 1.

| | Chapters | Themes | Contributors |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| PART I - General description | | | |
| 1 | Geological History & Physical features | Rocks, soil and drainage, climate history | G. Bourgeon, Y. Gunnel & K. Anupama |
| 2 | Bioclimate | Rainfall, temperature and length of dry season | J. P. Pascal |
| 3 | Biogeography | The distribution of biological elements (flora and fauna) WGs and comparison with other geographical regions | V. M. Meher-Homji & R. Daniels |
| PART II - Flora and vegetation | | | |
| 4 | Vegetation types | Vegetation types and relationship with bioclimate | B. R. Ramesh & J. P. Pascal |
| 5 | Floristic richness, diversity and endemism | General account of flowering plants and lower group of plants; particular emphasis on arborescent species. | B. R. Ramesh, Parthasarathy & J. P. Pascal |
| 6 | Forest structure and dynamics | Case studies (Uppangala, Varagalair, Mudumalai, Linear Increment Tree plots in Karnataka) | P. Couteron, R. Péliissier, Parthasarathy & R. Sukumar |
| 7 | Reproductive biology | Phenology of flowering & fruiting, pollination, dispersal | K.S. Bawa, T. Ganesh, Subadra Devi & Rani |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | and plant-animal interaction | Krishnan |
| PART III – Fauna* | | | |
| 8 | Faunistic richness, diversity and endemism | An overview (emphasis on invertebrates and lower vertebrates can go as boxes) | Ajith Kumar & R. Daniels |
| 9 | Mammals | | Ajith Kumar |
| 10 | Birds | | R. Daniels |
| PART IV- Management and conservation | | | |
| 11 | Human geography | Demography, landuse, agrforestry and infrastructure developments | Rajan Gurukkal, Dr. Kunhi Krishnan, S. V. Patil, S. Patil (Anthropological Survey of India-Mysore) & F. Borne |
| 12 | Human ecology | Ethnic pattern, culture, dependency and socio-economics (NWFP, traditional farming) | Rajan Gurukkal & Kunhi Krishnan, S. Patil (Anthropological Survey of India-Mysore) |
| 13 | Forest management-history, practices and policies | Pre- and post independence | Rajan Gurukkal, Dilip Kumar, C. K. Sreedharan, V. K. Uniyal, Kunhi Krishnan |
| 14 | Biodiversity conservation and management | Status of conservation PAs & out side PAs | B. R. Ramesh, N. Krishna Kumar, Srinivasa Murthy, D. Loseen, S. Sukumar, X (KeFD) & Y (KaFD) |
| | Epilogue | | Editors |

Time frame:

Synopsis – End of January 2006

Meeting after Synopsis preparation – end of February '06

1st draft – August '06

Symposium – October '06

Improved draft – December '06

The workshop came to an end at 5.30 PM with a thanks note by Dr. P. Couteron.

**Note:*

Based on the discussion held between J. P. Pascal, P. Couteron and B. R. Ramesh, as a follow up of the above meeting, slight modification has been made regarding Part III- Fauna. Instead of having separate chapters on invertebrates and small mammals, they can be included as boxes in the chapter no. 8. As the information available on birds and large mammals is quite exhaustive, they can be easily linked up with some of the other chapters in part II and III. By doing so we presume that the book becomes more cohesive in understanding the distribution, ecology and conservation of biota. However, the changes made (rather suggested) is subject to the approval of designated contributors.