

Circular

UNIVERSITY  OF MYSORE

DEPARTMENT OF STUDIES IN BOTANY
BOTANICAL SOCIETY

Cordially invite you to a Special Lecture on

**“Role of Botanists in Developing Urban Green Spaces and
Plant Conservation”**

By

Dr. U. M. Chandrashekara

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Kerala Forest Research Institute Sub Centre,
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Presided By

Dr. M. S. Sharada

Professor and Chairperson
Department of Studies in Botany
University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore

Venue: Linnaeus Hall, Department of Studies in Botany
University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore

Date: 19.03.2021

Time: 04:30 PM

ALL ARE INVITED

MSSK
18/03/2021
Professor and Chairperson
Department of Studies in Botany
University of Mysore
Manasagangotri, Mysore-575 001

Prof. Rajkumar H. Garampalli
Secretary-Botanical Society
Department of Studies in Botany
University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore

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STAFF, RESEARCH SCHOLARS AND POST GRADUATE STUDENTS

Face Mask and Maintaining Social Distancing is Mandatory

18/03/2021

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Role of Botanists in developing urban green spaces and plant conservation

Dr. U.M. Chandrashekara

Our country, India, is becoming an increasingly urban place. Despite the fact that urban areas are confined to only 2.34% of the total land area of the country, about 31% of the total Indian population is concentrated in urban areas. Furthermore, country's urban population is expected to increase significantly, from 377 million in 2011 to 590 million by 2030. With continuous urbanization, social security such as employment, education and safety in urban areas are under serious threat. At the same time, fast urbanization is also leading to fast replacement of natural ecosystems. Such a decline in natural ecosystems can cause adverse effects on sustainability and ecosystem health at urban landscape level and also increase the distance between people and natural spaces. To counter these trends, it is important to make sufficient provision of quality green space within urban areas. In several countries, there has been a growing recognition among people and urban administrator that green spaces form an important component of the complex urban landscape with significant ecological, social and economic functions. For instance, green space has significant ecosystem services, which are defined as 'the benefits human population derives, directly or indirectly, from ecosystem functions'. It can sequester carbon dioxide emissions and produce oxygen, purify air and water, regulate microclimate, reduce noise, protect soil and, maintain biodiversity and have recreational, cultural and social values. Furthermore, green spaces often have statistically significant effect on the sale price of house in close proximity to those resources. In general, it is recognized that urban green spaces such as parks, forests and farmlands can deliver a range of social and economic, as well as environmental functions and benefits to community. However, urban green spaces exist as broad variety of types spanning from the urban park to natural areas and buffer space between noisy infrastructure and other land uses. From such a degree of heterogeneity in the type of green space it follows that ecological, socio-cultural benefits generated by different green space provision vary greatly. Urban population is faced with health problems due to unique environmental condition of urban areas. It is also well-known fact that India's local health tradition can contribute considerably to treat several such ailments and the Indian health tradition largely rely on medicinal plants. In this context, medicinal plants garden can become an ideal value-added green space with several ecosystem services, such as, biodiversity conservation and contribution to human health care. Botanists have major role in assessing ecosystem services of urban green spaces, planning

and introducing innovations in green space development and identifying and suggesting suitable plant species on the basis of their ecology, physiology, use, aesthetic value etc. for creating new green spaces in urban and peri-urban areas.

Around 135 members had participated in the Special Lecture organized by the Botanical Society, DOS in Botany, Manasagangotri, University of Mysore, Mysore.

MSSH
30/12/2021

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