

## BIRDS CLUB

Birds Club International is a noncommercial organisation that aims at promoting global interest in birds, conservation of nature and the environments through public campaigns and education. Started in 2010, by National and International award winning Indian filmmaker, JayarajRajasekharan Nair, as part of Jayaraj Foundation, it is registered as a charitable organisation to revive and conserve environment, by tapping and utilising optimum natural resources with the focus on BIRDS to convey our message. Birds are beautiful, inspirational, appeals to all geographies and also serve as excellent flagships and vital environmental indicators of the climate and weather conditions of any place. By focusing on birds, and the sites and habitats on which they depend, the Birds Club International aims at improving the quality of life of birds, other species of insects and animals (biodiversity), and people at large. Birds play a number of roles in any ecosystem. They play a balancing role in the ecosystem and are part of cultural enhancement and part of tasks such as predation, pollination and seed dispersal. Birds Club Intl. aims at evolving rain groves in the rather dull concrete jungles of our world. These groves will build sustainable ecosystems which would also help in soil and water conservation. These would become homes to a number of birds' species, insects, animals and plants that help preserve nature. The vision of Birds Club International is to provide a forum for all across countries, to share their interest in birds and preserving the nature at its best, aiming at gradual and sustainable developments in the process. We strive to address, in all ways we can, a number of issues that affect us, our wildlife and habitats; by undertaking activities and projects, we seek to persuade people to revive, protect and preserve our environments. As much as we appreciate the beauty of birds and nature, it is as well a need of the hour to protect it as we are a part of this allembacing nature and our survival also inevitably depends on it; as also on the vital role we play in preventing to the extent we can, the adverse effects such as rising temperatures, climatic changes and so on.

Governmental order regarding the formation of Birds Club is No.G.3/32798/2016/ Coll. edn.dept. Dr.Elsamma Joseph Arakkal as it's state coordinator. As a principal of this college, she took initiative in the formation of a unit here by appointing Dr.Sijo Varghese and Sini.P.M.as it's District and college coordinators respectively. Birds Club of our College was trying to grow a fruit garden during the academic year 2017-18. For the realization of the same, on 15 September 2017, one Noni and 40 Rambuttan saplings were planted in front of our old Psychology Department. As it is hard to survive we added 25 saplings on 14 October, 15 saplings on 8 November, and 11 more on 6 December to our Rambuttan garden. Some of them survived, we hope more to survive in course of time. By the end of December, of the 91 saplings 20 Rambuttan and one Noni are showing the symptoms of growth. We are protecting these from weeds, drought and destruction. Unfortunately, due to scarcity of water almost all suffered from drought. Transplantation of plants was the main activity to help it's growth. As per the official communication to college, a water colour painting competition on the topic "kaadu" was conducted on 31 October 2017, at our college in collaboration with the Birds Club International. Third semester B.A.Economics students, Sabari.P and Arsha TR secured first and second position in the

competition. In the same month an attempt was made in order to collect reports from students on the topic “*Kerala’s Rivers-Dying Due to Pollution....?*” polluted rivers of Kerala. Unfortunately, there was no response from students regarding the same.

During the academic year 2018-19, Three students, namely, JeevaThomas, AjmalHameed.A, Adarsh C.S and Co-coordinator of Birds Club, Sini.P.M has participated in the First Rain International Nature Film Festival conducted by Birds Club International from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at Silver Tips Hotel, Munnar. It was aimed to encourage activities related to nature protection. Students got an opportunity to view the impact of man-made atrocities towards nature through films. They also got opportunity to interact with renowned personalities working in this sphere. The members could hear the experience of “The Forest Man of India”. A field visit to Eravikulam National Park helped the team to be familiar with the flora and fauna of that place. Students got an inspiration to shoot short film for the next fest from this. They participated in the rally held at Munnar Town for protecting the nature. The traditional dance of Tribals of Munnar was also performed in connection with this. Nature Photography Exhibition of Flora and Fauna was also organized in connection with the event.

During the academic year 2019-20, Birds club of our college in collaboration with Drishya Film Club of the same has decided to compete in the Birds Club International 2<sup>nd</sup> Rain International Nature Film Festival 2020 at Kumarakam on 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Krishnamohan M.N, Jeeva Thomas, Nishad.T.M, Adarsh C.S and Shyam.P.H participated in this. They had produced a documentary entitled “Nila” for the same purpose. It has won special jury Crystal Butterfly Prize. This documentary is available in YouTube.