

**PRO-Media Coordinator's Office
Jamia Millia Islamia**

July 27, 2020

Press Release

JMI organises online extension lecture on 'Mangrove Ecosystem'

The Department of Architecture, Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) organized an online extension lecture titled Mangrove Ecosystem by Mr. Laxmikant Deshpande on 27 th July 2020.

Mr. Deshpande works as Senior Manager for mangrove conservation and environmental sustainability with Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd. He drives research conservation and awareness initiatives on mangroves, biodiversity, water and solid waste management. Besides the Mangroves app, Laxmikant conceptualised and coordinated 'Many Secrets of Mangroves', India's first children story book on mangroves.

He has been a consultant for Maharashtra Forest Dept, Sahyadri Nisarga Mitra, GIZ, CERE and other organizations. His areas of interest and expertise are climate change, biodiversity conservation, wetlands and mangrove ecosystem of Mumbai, solid waste management and corporate social responsibility.

He has also been nominated for 'Darwin Scholarship on Biodiversity Monitoring and Education' offered by the Field Studies Council for Environment Education, UK which he successfully completed and now, recognized as Darwin Scholar internationally.

There were close to 300 registrations for the lecture by students and faculty members of architecture, urban regeneration, ekistics, recreation architecture, political science, geography etc. The lecture was especially arranged for the students of M.Arch Urban Regeneration, Ekistics & Recreation Architecture who work on cities and regions of the country rich in diverse forms of ecosystems. The coastal belt of India is a witness to such fragile ecosystems and the students learn to develop ecological regenerative framework for the same as part of the course curriculum.

Prof. Hina Zia, the Dean of Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics, JMI in her welcome note emphasised on the importance of conservation of diverse fragile ecosystems across the country broadly mentioning the kind of approach that planners and architects have taken towards their rejuvenation.

Prof. Zia also invited Mr. Deshpande to the faculty when the pandemic situation is over, so that the university can benefit from the immense research and conservation approach of Mr. Deshpande towards mangrove ecosystems.

The session was moderated by Iqtedar Alam, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, JMI.

The lecture began with a detailed discussion on mangrove and the kind of value systems associated with the same. The characteristics of the mangrove environment along with the diverse adaptation techniques were highlighted by Mr. Deshpande. The biodiversity, both flora and fauna, was greatly discussed building on the importance of such ecosystems in our cities and regions.

Mr. Deshpande emphasised on the ecological, social, cultural, economical and even religious values that are associated with the mangroves. The components of The Economics of Ecosystem & Biodiversity (TEEB) such as ecological infrastructure, ecosystem services, economic valuation, externality, equity and ecosystem management was called out with examples.

The threats to the mangrove ecosystem were discussed with emphasis on the role of the government and the local stakeholders towards its conservation and rejuvenation. The lecture concluded on the note that it is the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures, which is the fundamental duty mentioned in section 51(a) of the Indian Constitution.

Ahmad Azeem

PRO-Media Coordinator

Resources for an Architect...

- Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966
- Coastal Regulation Zone Notification by MoEF&CC
- Indian Green Building Council
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)
- Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA)



CII- Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre, Hyderabad-
d Green Building in India.

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Mangrove Flora



Meswak



Apple Mangrove



Apple Mangrove



Orange Mangrove



River Mangrove



Red Mangrove



Grey Mangrove



Milky Mangrove



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The Economics of Ecosystem & Biodiversity (TEEB)

- **Ecological infrastructure:** Any area which delivers services such as freshwater, micro climate regulation, recreation, etc, to a large proximate population, usually cities. This is sometimes referred to as green infrastructure.
- **Ecosystem services:** The direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human wellbeing. The concept “ecosystem goods and services” is synonymous with ecosystem services.
- **Economic valuation:** The process of expressing a value for a particular good or service in a certain context (e.g., of decision-making) in monetary terms.
- **Externality:** A consequence of an action that affects someone other than the agent undertaking that action and for which the agent is neither compensated nor penalized through the markets. Externalities can be positive or negative.
- **Equity:** Fairness of rights, distribution, and access. Depending on context, this can refer to resources, services, or power.
- **Ecosystem management:** An approach to maintaining or restoring the composition, structure, function, and delivery of services of natural and modified ecosystems for the goal of achieving sustainability. It is based on an adaptive, collaboratively developed vision of desired future conditions that integrates ecological, socioeconomic, and institutional factors within a geographic framework, and defined primarily by natural ecological boundaries.

Godrej

Presentation (Laxmikant Deshpande)

Godrej Mangrove Project

- Largest private mangrove forest by Godrej Group conserved since 1940s
- 16 mangrove, 208 bird, 85 butterfly, 82 spider, 79 spider, 31 reptile and Wild Boar, Jackal, Mongoose, along with 22 fish, 7 prawn, 13 crab, lobster species in Thane creek
- Managed by Research, Conservation, Awareness approach
- ISO 14001:2015 certified forest with 9000+ visitors in FY 2018-19
- Know more on www.mangroves.godrej.com



वास्तुकला एवं एकिस्टिक्स संकाय
Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics