

APPEAL FROM THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE FOR WORLD WETLANDS DAY, 2023

World Wetlands Day, celebrated annually on 2 February. World Wetlands day aims to raise global awareness about the vital role of wetlands for people and planet. Wetlands are known for being biologically diverse when compared to other landforms and therefore, require conservation. For the preservation of these land masses, spreading public awareness about them is also important.

The standing committee of the Convention on Wetlands has approved the themes for World Wetland Day 2023 **“It’s Time for Wetlands Restoration,”** which highlights the urgent need to prioritize wetland restoration.

Nearly 90% of the world’s wetlands have been degraded since the 1700s, and we are losing wetlands three times faster than forests. Wetlands are critically important ecosystems that contribute to biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation, freshwater availability, world economies, and more.

Wetlands are geographical regions that are either continuously or periodically saturated or inundated with water. Wetlands, lakes, rivers, swamps, rivers, watercourses, and floods inland wetlands are included. Salt marshlands, estuaries, lagoons, mangroves, and even marine ecosystems are included in coastal wetlands. rice paddies, salt pans, and Fish ponds have been created by human beings.

- Wetlands help to sustain life on this planet and so it is of the utmost importance that we save the wetlands.
- Wetlands are the homes of many creatures and they would be homeless if the wetlands were to vanish.
- Save the wetlands as the future of the Earth depends on them.
- Wetlands are responsible for a very diverse ecosystem and the ecosystem will be spoiled if the wetlands cease to exist.
- Wetlands are a beautiful part of our ecosystem and we should take care of the wetlands.

On this day, All of us can contribute to the protection of the environment and to protect and conserve the Wetlands. I request all to take efforts to create awareness among the people **“It’s Time for Wetlands Restoration”**.

Director
Department of Environment and Climate Change

