

REPORT ON
INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2026 CELEBRATION
18th May 2026

Observation of International Museum Day (IMD) 2026 at ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.

ICFRE-IFGTB, has been consistently celebrating various national and international days of importance related to nature conservation and environmental awareness. In continuation of this tradition, International Museum Day (IMD) 2026 was observed at the Institute on 18th May 2026.

On the occasion of IMD 2026, around 150 participants, including the Director, officials, staff members, research scholars, students, and members of the public, took part in the celebration. C. R. Elangovan was invited as the Chief Guest and delivered a lecture titled “History of Noyyal River with Special Reference to Kongu Region.”

Dr K. Ganesh Kumar, IFS, CCF, presided over the event. P. Chandrasekaran, CTO, welcomed the gathering and highlighted the significance of celebrating International Museum Day. He elaborated on the history and heritage of the Gass Forest Museum and appreciated the efforts of nature enthusiasts and forest officials in establishing and preserving the museum over the years. He also emphasized the importance of understanding and preserving history for future generations.

During his lecture, the Chief Guest elaborated on the historical significance of the Noyyal River in the Kongu region. He discussed the archaeological and cultural importance of Kodumanal findings, ancient trade and civilization, Sambal Medu, and the historical evolution of Kovanputhur, presently known as Coimbatore. The lecture provided valuable insights into the ecological, cultural, and historical heritage of the region. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by S. Sudha, TO, Extension.

Following the formal function, visitors were taken to the Gass Forest Museum, where B. Sunitha, CTO, explained the history, ecological significance, and unique collections of the museum. Participants were introduced to a rich and diverse collection of exhibits, including preserved specimens of animals, birds, reptiles, insects, antique arms, woodcrafts, cultural artifacts, and several other valuable collections representing the rich natural and cultural heritage of the country.

As part of the celebration of International Museum Day 2026, entry to the museum was made free for all visitors, which attracted enthusiastic participation from the public and helped create greater awareness about the importance of museums in conservation, education, and cultural preservation.



