

## **For Favour of Publication**

### **“Economic Valuation of Wetlands: An Approach to Strategizing Wetlands Management in Bihar”**

Special Lecture

**Patna, July 06.** On the occasion of National Van Mahotsav Saptah, the Centre for Environment Energy and Climate Change (CEECC) at ADRI, Patna organizes a special lecture on **“Economic Valuation of Wetlands : An Approach to Strategizing Wetlands Management in Bihar”**. The lecture was delivered by Mr Deepak Kumar, Environment Officer (Policy and Planning), United Nations Development Programme, India.

The objective of this lecture was to share knowledge on the concept of economic valuation of wetlands as natural capital. In strategizing wetlands management in Bihar he said immense invisible ecosystem services of the wetlands go unnoticed and non-assessed in Bihar, as it can provide diverse sets of Provisioning, Regulating, and Cultural as well as Supporting Services. He further talked about Dollar (\$) Based Ecosystem Valuation and used and non-used values of wetlands and their potential role in driving UN sustainable development goals. He also explained about the economic valuation wetlands shall give Governments a far-sighted vision to formulate sustained policies to protect and conserve such significant ecosystems and their biodiversity in Bihar. He mentioned that the economic interests of wetlands can be understood and measured by applying the current natural resource evaluation system. The economic interests of ecosystem services can be measured with a bio-physical or preferential approach. Since there is no set market establishment, structure in Bihar, evaluating the economic valuation of ecosystem services wetlands provide is a difficult task. Eventhough, if market data is available forecosystem goods and services may not reflect the gross active uses of the resources being used by different users.

The lecture was presided by Professor Prabhat P Ghosh, Director, ADRI. He mentioned the condition of wetlands in Bihar and why it needs special attention as they may play a major role in carbon sink to attain carbon neutrality.

(Anjani K Verma)