

## **Biodiversity Day celebrated at PU**

Centre for Industry Institute Partnership Programme (CIIPP) at Panjab University in collaboration with Punjab Biodiversity Board under the aegis of National Biodiversity Authority of India and Departments of Botany, Environment studies and Centre for Stem Cell & Tissue Engineering organized one day event on spreading awareness about Biodiversity on Biodiversity Day on the theme "Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity".

The event started in the morning at Sukhna Lake, wherein Prof MC Sidhu, Department of Botany and Dr HS Dhillon, Tree Lover Society, Chandigarh made everyone aware about the rich flora of Sukhna lake along with a walkathon by research scholars and faculty members of Panjab University.

Prof A.S Ahluwalia, Secretary to Vice-Chancellor in his inaugural address shared about the efforts being done by India towards preserving the rich biodiversity. The Hony Director CIIPP initiated the second session by making students aware about the efforts being taken to sensitize the researchers about the responsible research needed to make sustainable growth.

Prof Sunita Kapila, Chairperson, Department of Botany welcomed the audience and apprised about the recent developments on the sustainable development. Plenary lectures by Dr Srishti Vasudeva, the Former, Principal Chief Forest, Conservator, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Arvind Kumar Alipuria, the Additional Principal Conservator of Forest. Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and Mr. Gurharminder Singh, Senior Scientific Officer, PCST, Chandigarh made everyone aware about the real time data about the biodiversity action plans and policy to make it sustainable.

Dr. Arun Bansal of Natural Biodiversity Society displayed collection of photograph of the rich biodiversity of the city beautiful. Dr. Seemha Rai, Chairperson Centre for Stem Cell & Tissue Engineering proposed vote of thanks. The event ended with the pledge by the students to join hands to preserve the biodiversity through further sensitization.