

MESSAGE

*International Day of Biodiversity, 2016:
Mainstreaming Biodiversity: Sustaining People and
their Livelihoods.*

*Greetings to one and all on the International Day of
Biodiversity, 2016. It gives me great contentment to
inform that the Department of Environment and
Forests is celebrating this Day along with the entire
World today, on the 22nd of May, 2016.*

*This year the theme is 'Mainstreaming Biodiversity:
Sustaining People and their Livelihoods'. The
Andaman and Nicobar Islands are very rich in
biodiversity, harbouring unique assemblage of life
forms. The islands have both rich terrestrial as well
as marine ecosystems, such as mangroves, coral reefs
and sea grass beds having very high economical value.
The tropical evergreen forests are a repository of
various endangered and highly endemic flora and
fauna, many even unreported. Apart from the various
Ecosystem Services that they render for sustaining
life on these Islands, the Biodiversity here is also the
basis for the livelihood options like fisheries, tourism,
agriculture, horticulture, etc. Every individual has a
role in biodiversity conservation, by being aware of
the impact that their choices and consumption
patterns have on the environment.*

*Therefore on this International Day of Biodiversity,
2016, I appeal to one and all to take care of the
Biodiversity of the islands, of which we ourselves are
a part of and thereby become responsible citizens of
this Country.*

Sd/-

*Principal Secretary (Env. and Forests) &
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (AN Is.)*