



Media Coverage Report

Green Lit Fest - Nov & Dec 2024



Print Media Coverage

S No	Date	Publication	Pg No	Pic
1	24 Nov 24	Deccan Herald	3A	No
2	27 Nov 24	The New Indian Express-Bengaluru Express	3	yes
3	6 Dec 24	The New Indian Express-Indulge	2 & 17	yes
4	6 Dec 24	News Trail	2	No
5	6 Dec 24	Our Bangalore	6	yes
6	6 Dec 24	Sanje Mugilu	6	yes
7	7 Dec 24	Prajavani	4c	no
8	8 Dec 24	The Times of India	3	yes
9	8 Dec 24	The Hindu	3	Yes
10	9 Dec 24	Eenadu	7	Yes
11	11 Dec 24	Deccan Herald	3A	Yes
12	23 Dec 24	The Hindu	7	Yes

Date: 24-Nov-24

Publication: Deccan Herald



Shortlist for best Green Book Awards announced

BENGALURU, DHNS:The Bengaluru-based Green Literature Festival has announced the shortlist for the 2024 GLF Best Green Book Awards. This marks the fourth edition of the awards, which began in 2021. The win-

ners will be announced on December 7 during the festival's fourth edition.

The GLF awards recognise the best green books in categories including children's, adult fiction/non-fiction, and green business.

Each award comes with a cash prize of Rs 50,000 and a certificate. GLF used a combination of popular and jury ratings to select the best green books published in the 2023 calendar year.

Award winners in the pre-

vious editions include Amitav Ghosh for 'Gun Island', Stephen Alter for 'Birdwatching', Ranjit Hoskote for 'Hunchprose', and Mukund Rajan for 'Outlast'.

The 2024 GLF Awards will be presented by Suresh Heblkar.

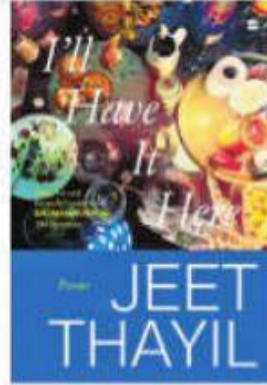
Date: 27-Nov-24

Publication: The New Indian Express - Bengaluru Express

NUGGETS

Shortlist for book awards announced

The Green Literature Festival has announced the shortlist for the 2024 GLF Best Green Book Awards, which are awarded to the best green books in the children, adult fiction/non-fiction and green business categories. The awards will be announced on December 7 during the fourth edition of the fest, held at Century Club, Ambedkar Veedhi, with winners receiving a cash prize of ₹50,000, and a certificate. Prominent Kannada filmmaker, actor and environmentalist, Suresh Heblikar, will be felicitating the winners. Prominent awardees from previous editions include Amitav Ghosh for *Gun Island*, Stephen Alter for *Birdwatching*, Ranjit Hoskote for *Hunchprose*, and Mukund Rajan for *Outlast*.



Poetry collection to be launched

Champaca Bookstore is set to host renowned poet Jeet Thayil for the launch of his poetry collection *I'll Have it Here*, on November 30, at 5pm. Thayil will be in conversation with writer-translator Rahul Soni, for a discussion and reading, followed by an interactive Q&A with attendees. The evening will conclude with a musical rendition of poems from the collection by Thayil, Yashas Shetty, and Hollis Coats.

Date: 06-Dec-24

Publication: The New Indian Express - Indulge

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INDULGE

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear readers,

Cyclone Fengal has breezed past Bengaluru (and thank god for that!) but our local boy and much sought after rap artiste Brodus V (who is on our cover) is all set to take the music industry by storm with his latest single with popular Tamil musician Paal Dabba. In a candid interaction with *Indulge*, the artiste spills the beans on his latest track titled *DATN (Dance Away The Night)*, his love for directing and so much more.



Fresh from the success of the 29th edition of the *Devi Awards* in Bengaluru, we bring you two pages dedicated to our *Devi's* and what they had to say about the prestigious felicitation followed by our coverage of everyone who graced the occasion.

Such a celebration also deserves some good food and drinks and our *Food* pages begin with seven spots in the city that have something new to offer while our reviews of the first outlet of *ITC Bakery* in Whitefield and the set lunch menu at *Bastian* are also something we think you shouldn't miss.

On the Fashion front, we bring you all the deets from *Rising Sun* – the latest collection by *Payal Jain* that is inspired from her trip to Uzbekistan. It's another rich edition for our *Culture* enthusiasts, as we begin with an artiste preview of the upcoming seventh edition of *Echoes of Earth* followed by the debut of *Bengaluru Theatre Festival (BTF)*, which features stalwarts like *Naseeruddin Shah*, *Ratna Pathak Shah*, *Pankaj Kapur* and more. We also bring you all the details of the upcoming 4th edition of *Green Literature Festival*. This is followed by the *Namma Mestru* exhibition at the National Gallery of Modern Art, which is a poignant tribute to the artistic journey of *JMS Mani*, a prominent figure in contemporary Indian art; and we finish the section with an upcoming music performance – a tribute to *SP Balasubrahmanyam*.

After quite a hiatus, our *Travel* page returns with our experience at the new *Navi Mumbai Marriott Hotel*. Our regular 'specials' *Televatch*, *Hot Stuff*, *Car & Bike* and *Mind & Body*, round off this packed edition.

Happy reading!



Edison Thomas
Editor, Indulge

Verdant wordplay

preview



Glimpses of previous editions

Head to 4th edition of this festival that fosters passion for reading and writing about nature

AS INDIA'S SOLE festival dedicated entirely to environmental literature, the *Green Literature Festival* is gearing up to be an exciting event for eco-enthusiasts, nature lovers and readers of all ages. Since its inception, *GLF* has rapidly established itself as a vital platform for promoting literature focused on environmental themes, engaging over 1,00,000 people. This year's festival promises to feature over 30

light with an esteemed panel and *Suresh Heblikar* as the chief guest. *Benedict Parmanand*, founder of *GLF*, gives us insights into the most exciting features of the festival.

What inspired the Green Literature Festival and how has it evolved since its inception?

We aimed to create a platform that connects readers with authors, facilitating the discovery of green literature. Many authors produce valuable works, but readers often remain unaware of these titles. Over three editions, we have sold nearly 2,000 environmental books, indicating a growing interest in this niche. Our focus encompasses three segments: children's literature, adult fiction and nonfiction and books for entrepreneurs and educators.

What can attendees expect in this edition of the Green Literature Festival?

Key themes include discussions on tourism and conservation challenges, regeneration in nature and India's green economic transition. A highlight will be a super panel on transitioning from climate anxiety to climate action

and tackling the issue of green misinformation. We also have engaging activities specifically for children, including nature-themed cartoon writing and bird identification workshops and sessions on understanding human-animal conflicts.

How can literature inspire change in our relationship with nature?

Literature not only informs readers but also encourages them to engage actively with their communities. Books can drive individuals to participate in local initiatives and foster a deeper understanding of ecological challenges. Exposure to numerous new titles can create a ripple effect, encouraging attendees to gift books instead of traditional gifts at celebrations. This festival is part of a broader movement to promote environmental consciousness through literature.

Entry free.
December 7,
9.30 am onwards.
At Century Club, Cubbon Park.
— **Pramiti Digra**
Indulge
@newindianexpress.com
@indulgexpress

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Date: 06-Dec-24

Publication: News Trail

Learn more about Green literature!

If you learn more, you can do more.'

The Greenlitfest's mission is to mainstream environmental literature in India among students, entrepreneurs, executives, teachers and leaders. GLF aspires to be a vibrant platform for promoting nature writing, reading, filming, nature photography and art. It organises green dialogues, festivals, book launches, workshops, and green walks among others.

When: Saturday, December 7

Where: Century Club

Price: Free

Green Literature Festival (GLF) starts today, offering a powerful platform for environmentalists, authors, and activists to inspire change

Meghana Harikumar

Today, an inspiring green revolution will take place in the heart of Bangalore, as the Green Literature Festival (GLF) returns for its fourth edition. Hosted at the iconic Century Club, amidst the serene expanse of Cubbon Park, the festival promises an immersive experience for anyone passionate about nature, conservation, and climate action.

A festival like no other in India, GLF stands at the crossroads of literary excellence and environmental activism. It's a celebration of green literature in all its forms—from books, graphic novels, and films, to the workshops, conversations, and hands-on experiences that shape the future of climate dialogue. Whether you're an eco-enthusiast, a budding writer, a filmmaker, or just a curious reader, the festival offers something for everyone.

A platform for conversations that matter

The GLF was born out of a clear vision—to mainstream environmental literature in India and create a platform for meaningful conversations around sustainability. As Benedict Paramanand, the festival's founder, explains, "The authors who write environmental books had no market, environmental literature needed to come to the mainstream. There were no enough platforms for readers to discover these books." In 2021, Benedict and a team of passionate green advocates set out to change this, and the response has been overwhelming.

Today, GLF is not just an annual festival, but a year-round movement. The event brings together an impressive array of more than 30 authors, environmental activists, filmmakers, graphic novelists, conservationists, and children's book authors. Aimed at sparking dialogue on some of the most urgent environmental issues of our time, this year's key themes include rewilding, India's struggles with green transition, man-animal

WORDS FOR EARTH



conflict, and the climate anxiety to climate action debate.

From workshops on man-animal conflict by WWF India to storytelling sessions by Katha Books, the festival invites everyone to be part of the conversation. Matthew Pye and Alister Scott, two international experts, will engage in a powerful panel discussion titled "Climate Anxiety to Climate Action: The Writers' Pledge," setting the tone for urgent action.

A Celebration of Diverse Voices

GLF shines on the diversity of voices that it brings together, creating a space where writers, activists, and community leaders can share their knowledge, ideas, and strategies for a more sustainable world. But curating this diversity isn't always easy, as Benedict notes, "There are enough experts and speakers in India, and getting them is not the problem. The challenge lies in funding. More patrons and fundations have to step in and support this cause."

However, the overwhelming acceptance of the festival suggests that the need for such a platform is undeniable. This year's theme,



storytelling and expert facilitation. "We facilitate these conversations between experts and civil society, especially students, who often don't have access to such dialogues," he says.

Engaging the Next Generation

For students, the GLF offers not just an opportunity to learn from experts, but also to engage actively through a variety of activities.

This year WWF India will host a Man-animal conflict workshop/game, allowing young minds to understand the delicate balance between wildlife and human activity. Storytelling sessions for children will also highlight the importance of birds and nature conservation, making it a fun yet educational experience.

The festival's commitment to engaging the younger generation speaks to its larger vision of fostering climate-conscious citizens. Benedict believes that for real change to happen, conversations on sustainability need to be community-driven and youth-led. "Creating platforms for conversations is vital, especially in India, where sustainability discussions are often overlooked. These conversations have to occur at the grassroots level to make an impact," he stresses.

From inspiration to action

The festival is more than just a

series of lectures and discussions—it's about inspiration and action. With over 100,000 online engagements, GLF has quickly become a movement that amplifies the voices of writers, filmmakers, and activists who are shaping the future of India's environmental discourse. From its humble beginnings in 2021, GLF has grown into a major player in the green literature space, with its curated longlists and shortlists of books celebrated as eclectic collections covering fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and even comics.

At the heart of it all is the drive to promote positive climate action. As Benedict puts it, "The climate crisis demands that people wake up from their inertia and push for earth-friendly policies, community initiatives, and personal action." GLF provides a much-needed platform to highlight green education, promote sustainable living, and offer policy solutions through literature.



A community of 'green readers' One of the highlights of this year's GLF will be the Green Literature Honour Book Awards, where the most impactful environmental books of the year will be celebrated. The ceremony will feature a distinguished panel of writers and environmental thought leaders, including Suresh Heblikar, environmentalist and Kannada film actor, who will serve as the chief guest.

The festival is made possible through the support of its partners, including WWF India, Mongabay India, AITF, and India Climate Collaborative. Together, these organisations are working to strengthen India's green literacy ecosystem and promote climate-conscious conversations in every corner of society.

The Future of Green Literature

Looking ahead, Benedict envisions GLF is more than just an event—it's a movement. "We aim to create a robust ecosystem of green literature that amplifies the role of environmental storytelling in shaping public dialogue," he says. Through its year-long dialogues, book reviews, and workshops, GLF is steadily becoming a powerful force for change in India's environmental sector.

As the world grapples with an ever-worsening climate crisis, festivals like GLF remind us of the importance of literature in inspiring action. From the stories we read to the conversations we have, everything can contribute to a more sustainable, green future. So, today, take a step towards that future and join the movement that's writing the future of our planet, one page at a time.

Date: 06-Dec-24
Publication: Our Bangalore - Weekly

Aimed at sparking dialogue on some of the most urgent environmental issues of our time, this year's key themes include rewilding, India's struggles with green transition, man-animal conflict, and the climate anxiety to climate action debate

Date: 06-Dec-24

Publication: Sanje Mugilu

<p>6 ಸಂಜೆ ಮುಗಿಲು ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ 6.12.2024</p>  <p>ಸಂಜೆ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ</p>	<p>ನಾಲ್ಕನೇ ಆವೃತ್ತಿಯ ಗ್ರೀನ್ ಲಿಟೆರೇಚರ್ ಫೆಸ್ಟಿವಲ್ [GLF] (www.greenlitfest.com) ಸೆಂಚುರಿ ಕ್ಲಬ್, ಕೆಪ್ಲನ್ ಪಾರ್ಕ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ 7 ರಂದು ಉದ್ಘಾಟನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಪರಿಸರದ ಮೇಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪ್ರಕಾರದ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಮೀಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಭಾರತದ ಏಕೈಕ ಹಬ್ಬವಾಗಿ, ಇದು ಪರಿಸರಉತ್ಸಾಹಿಗಳಿಗೆ, ಪ್ರಕೃತಿ ಪ್ರೇಮಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿರುಚಿಯ ಓದುಗರಿಗೆ ಹಬ್ಬವಾಗಿದೆ. ಪೂರ್ಣಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕಾಗಿ https://greenlitfest.com/fourth-edition-program/ ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ. ಉತ್ಸವವು 30 ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಲೇಖಕರು, ಸ್ಮಾರ ಉತ್ಸವಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಹಲವಾರು ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳು, ಫಾಫಾಕ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ, ವೊಂಗಾಬೇ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಕಥೆಗಾರರು ಮತ್ತು ಬರಹಗಾರರಿಂದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಂಘಟಕರು ಶಾಲೆಗಳು, ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳು, ಇಕೋ-ಕ್ಲಬ್ಬುಗಳು, ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಪ್ರೇಮಿಗಳು, ಚಲನಚಿತ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಪಕರು, ಛಾಯಾಗ್ರಾಹಕರು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನವರಿಂದ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಆವೃತ್ತಿಯ ಸಂಭಾಷಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಿಷಯಗಳು ಸೇರಿವೆ - ನೀಲಗಿರಿ - ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾವಾದಿಗಳ ದುರ್ದೈವಿ</p>	<p>ಗ್ರೀನ್ ಲಿಟೆರೇಚರ್ ಫೆಸ್ಟಿವಲ್</p> 	<p>ರಿವೈಲಿಂಗ್, ಹಸಿರು ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಭಾರತದ ಹೋರಾಟಗಳು - ಸ್ಟಾರ್ಟ್-ಅಪ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳು; ಹಸಿರು ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊಂಡೊಯ್ಯುವುದು. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ, ಈ ವರ್ಷದ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯು WWF ಇಂಡಿಯಾದಿಂದ ಮಾನವ-ಪ್ರಾಣಿ ಸಂಘರ್ಷದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ/ಆಟ; ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ, ಕಥಾ ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳಿಂದ ಕಥೆ ಹೇಳುವಿಕೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು, 2024 ರ GLF ಗೌರವ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿಗಳ ಸಂಚಯ, ಕ್ಲೈಮೇಟ್ ಆಂಪ್ಲಿಟಿಟು ಕ್ಲೈಮೇಟ್ ಆಕ್ಶನ್ - ದಿ ರೈಟಿಸ್ ಪಿಟ್ ಎಂಬ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯ ಬರಹಗಾರರ ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಇಬ್ಬರು ಅಂತರರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಲೇಖಕರು ಮ್ಯಾಥ್ಯೂ ವೈ (ಬ್ರೂಸೆಲ್ಸ್, ಕ್ಲೈಮೇಟ್ ಅಕಾಡೆಮಿಯ ಸ್ಥಾಪಕ); ಅಲಿಸ್ಟರ್ ಸ್ಕಾಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾರ್ವತ್ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ರಾಜೀವ್ ಮೆಠ್ರಾ ಮತ್ತು ಬ್ಯಾಕ್ಸೆಟ್ ಕ್ಲೈಮೇಟ್; ದಿ ಸೈನ್ಸ್ ಆಂಟ್ ಪಾಲಿಟಿಕ್ಸ್ ಬಹೆಂಡ್ ಕ್ಲೈಮೇಟ್ ಚೇಂಜ್ ಲೇಖಕರು. 2024 ರ ಗೌರವ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಯಾಗಿ ಪರಿಸರವಾದಿ, ಕನ್ನಡ ಚಲನಚಿತ್ರ ನಟ ಮತ್ತು ಚಲನಚಿತ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಪಕ ಸುರೇಶ್ ಹೆಬ್ಳಿಕರ್ ಆಗಮಿಸಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ.</p>
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Date: 07-Dec-24

Publication: Prajavani

‘ಗ್ರೀನ್ ಲಿಟರೇಚರ್
ಫೆಸ್ಟಿವಲ್’: ಅತಿಥಿ: ಸುರೇಶ್
ಹೆಬ್ಬೀಕರ್, ಆಯೋಜನೆ:
ಗ್ರೀನ್‌ಲಿಟರೇಚರ್ ಸ್ಥಳ: ಸೆಂಚುರಿ ಕ್ಲಬ್,
ಕಬ್ಬನ್ ಉದ್ಯಾನ, ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.30

Date: 08-Dec-24

Publication: The Times of India

'Parks, gardens can be slightly wilder'

Mini.Thomas
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Rewilding is gaining popularity in the urban context. For city-based landscape architect Nina Chandavarkar, it involves bringing back habitats and restoring what is there on a site.

"Perhaps we can make some of our parks and gardens a little more wild," she said. "I think we have to change people's view of what nature is and what is wild. A lawn is beautiful. But so is wild nature. I think the change can come about by its demonstration in public spaces and parks."

Rewilding is the process of understanding natural systems, finding interconnections, reinfor-

cing them and bringing them back to life, said Nina.

'Rewilding — The Only Hope', a panel discussion as part of the 4th edition of The Green Literature Festival held Saturday, attempted to define and redefine the term and shed light on how humans can help nature recover.

With most of the saplings planted being ornamental and requiring maintenance, Nina said: "Going wild helps us in many ways. It's more sustainable and does not require much manpower or water."

Rewilding is nature-led and human-assisted, explained Dr Alister Scott of Global Rewilding Alliance. "Nature can recover if we give her time and space to do so," he said.

Chethan Shivakumar



Children at a session at The Green Literature Festival on Saturday

Date: 08-Dec-24

Publication: The Hindu

For a greener tomorrow



A stall at the fourth edition of the Green LitFest, an initiative that seeks to build a green literature ecosystem in the country, in Bengaluru on Saturday. The day-long festival saw experts offering perspectives on multiple aspects of the environment. The event also featured interactive sessions that aimed to introduce children to the wonders of nature, and workshops on bringing climate change into the classroom. K. MURALI KUMAR

Date: 09-Dec-24
Publication: Eenadu

హరిత సాహిత్య ఉత్సవానికి చక్కని స్పందన

బెంగళూరు (శివాజీనగర),

న్యూస్టుడే: బాల సాహిత్యాన్ని, పర్యావరణ పరిరక్షణను ప్రోత్సహించేందుకు సెంచురీ క్లబ్‌లో నిర్వహించిన హరిత సాహిత్య ఉత్సవానికి చక్కని స్పందన లభించింది. వన్యజీవుల కథనాలు, అడవిలోని చెట్ల గాథలు, గ్రాపిళ్ళ, కార్డులతో కథలు రాసే రచయితలు, బాలల కోసం చిత్రాలు తీసే వారు తమ పుస్తకాలు, చిత్రాల సీడీలను విక్రయానికి తీసుకువచ్చారు. గ్రీన్ లిటరేచర్ ఫెస్ట్ పేరిట నిర్వహించిన నాలుగో ఎడిషన్‌లో బాలలు కోరుకుంటున్న కథలకు పెద్దపేట వేస్తూనే, వారిని పర్యావరణ పరిరక్షకులుగా తీర్చిదిద్దేందుకు తీసు



పుస్తక విక్రయాల సౌజ్ఞ వద్ద కొనుగోలుదారులు



బాలల పుస్తకాలను ప్రదర్శిస్తున్న నిర్వాహక ప్రతినిధులు

కోవలసిన జాగ్రత్తలపై రచయితలు సుదీర్ఘంగా చర్చించాల్సినగా, పుస్తకాల కొనుగోలుకు తమ పిల్లలతో పాటు పలువురు తల్లిదండ్రులు హాజరయ్యారు. చర్చలు, సదస్సులో 80మందికి పైగా రచయితలు

Date: 11-Dec-24

Publication: Deccan Herald

DH
DECCAN HERALD

‘Thar survives on 4 inches of rainfall, B’luru can too’

Rewilding, green transition and climate change were hot topics at Green Literature Festival

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

Marginlands: Indian Landscapes on the Brink’ tells the stories of landscapes across India, including the Thar desert. It details how inhabitants of the Thar desert are self-sufficient when it comes to water. “The locals resurrected an ancient method of reading the land and harvesting the little rain that fell on it,” said Arati Kumar-Rao, the author of the book, which talks about how misguided decisions and ignorance have resulted in the destruction of regions like the Thar, the beaches of Kerala and the Sunderbans.

Arati was talking on the topic ‘Marginlands: An Exploration of Indian Landscapes’, at the recently concluded Green Literature Festival, which was held at Century Club in Cubbon Park on Saturday.

“The Thar receives 4 inches of rainfall annually. In contrast, Bengaluru receives an average of 40 inches of rainfall a year. If they can be self-sufficient, I wonder why we cannot solve Bengaluru’s water woes by paying more attention to its topography,” she explained, adding, “We do not prioritise reading our landscape anymore, and that has resulted in disastrous events.” She cited the example of the 2022 Bengaluru floods that inundated a luxury apartment complex.

It’s been four years since the first Green Literature Festival was held. Festival director, Benedict Paramanand,



Panelists discuss the topic ‘Rewilding: The Only Hope’ in a post-lunch session at the Green Literature Festival held at Century Club in Bengaluru on Saturday.

conceptualised it as a response to the rising number of authors focusing on environmental literature.

This year, the sessions discussed pertinent issues related to climate change, conservation and sustainability.

Featuring over 30 speakers, the one-day event focused on topics such as ‘The Nilgiris in Focus: A Conservationist’s Nightmare’ and ‘Environmental News: Accuracy vs Sensationalism’.

Authors Nagaraja Prakasam and Rajan Mehta, and entrepreneur Vishal Pandya discussed the issue of climate change and inequality in a session titled ‘India’s Green Transition: Opportunities for Investors and Ventures’. The session was moderated by Paramanand, who reiterated that the green transition should be beneficial for all, and not just the privileged.

In a post-lunch session on ‘Rewilding: The Only Hope’, speakers Ravi Chellam, Alister Scott and Nina Chandavarkar explained the concept of rewilding. “Rewilding is nature-led and human assist-

ed, unlike conservation and restoration, which are human-led,” shared Scott, the co-director of Global Rewilding Alliance.

Talking about the injustice of relocating communities indigenous to certain regions in the name of ‘rewilding’, Chellam, a wildlife biologist and conservation scientist, stated that it is unacceptable that people with the least carbon footprint must pay the price. “If India, over the next century, takes steps to put an end to the destruction of nature, it will be enough to make a huge difference to the environment. We may not need to do anything extra,” Chellam said.

The festival concluded with an awards ceremony with Suresh Heblikar, environmentalist, actor and filmmaker, as the chief guest. Arati won the award in the General Fiction/Non Fiction category, while Ameer Shahul won the Business category award for his book ‘Heavy Metal: How a Global Corporation Poisoned Kodaikanal’. The Children’s category award was won by Rajiv Eipe for ‘Hello Sun’.

Date: 23-Dec-24
 Publication: The Hindu



The women just walk a few metres down to their local beris, and that is the time of socialising for them because that's the only time they get out of the house," says Arati Kumar-Rao, Bengaluru-based writer and photographer. GETTY IMAGES

'Indigenous people have always worked with nature in sustainable ways'

Sessions at the recently concluded Green Literature Festival explored the multiple hues of human interactions with nature

Preeti Zachariah
 BENGALURU

Arati Kumar-Rao whisks her audience away from the relatively colder climes of Bengaluru to Jaisalmer district in the heart of the scorching Thar desert. "It has been almost two years since there has been any rain," she explains at a talk titled *Marginlands: An Exploration of Indian Landscapes*, which was part of the fourth edition of the recently-concluded Green Literature Festival (GLF).

"This is what it looks like, the dunes we are on," says the Bengaluru-based writer and photographer, displaying photographs of this arid area. But the pastoralists who call the desert their home also know the secrets it harbours, including where to find water, even during prolonged droughts. Rao talks about sitting on top of a dune with her friend, Chhattar Singh, a shepherder farmer from that area, watching him unearth water from the belly of a dune.

"It hasn't rained here for 22 months. How is this dune wet?" she asks before sharing what Singh has told her: there are places in the dunes in the Thar desert where they hold water in their bellies. It is why the desert is dotted with self-replenishing, pitcher-shaped hand-dug wells or *beris*, a system suited for "the youngest and most populated desert of the world." The Thar, clearly, thrums with life, from pastoralists like Singh, who spend their lives walking their ungulates through the undulating landscape, to many plants and animals like the small but deadly saw-scaled vipers, hunting for food as the sun goes down and the hardworking scarab beetles, moving large balls of dung several times their own body weight to secret chambers deep in

the dunes. "If you look around in the desert, it's hardly deserted," says Rao. "Our metaphors are so wrong, there are signs of life everywhere." Over hundreds of years, people living in and off this harsh desert landscape have learnt how to not just survive but also thrive here, creating adequate water systems in a land that gets only 4 inches of rain annually, even managing to farm here. But life is now proving to be a struggle for many of these people. They have to deal with extreme climate events, laws and policies that are not always friendly to them, government interventions, or the rapid urbanisation taking over their commons, becoming scapegoats in the ongoing tussle between rapid development and conservation.

"For the Indian government, the Thar is a wasteland...something that has to be better utilised," says Rao. To "improve" this wasteland, water is piped from the Sutlej down to the Thar. "By the time it reaches, there is hardly any water and what does it putrid...stinking," says Rao, pointing out that this district, which did not even know what a mosquito was, is now the district with the highest incidence of malaria in Rajasthan. Harvested rain water The people who live here refuse to drink this water, using it for cleaning or for their livestock instead, preferring instead to drink rainwater harvested from their wells. "The women just walk a few metres down to their local beris, and that is the time of socialising for them because that's the only time they get out of the house," says Rao, who calls herself government-agnostic. She believes that no government in history has been fair to the desert landscape and its people, their interventions often ironically

larger conservation narrative was repeatedly reiterated in this edition of the GLF. Take, for instance, the opening session titled *The Nilgiris in Focus: A Conservationist's Nightmare*, which had conservationists Vasanth Bosco and Dr. Tarshi Theekazara in conversation with writer Monisha Raman, discuss, among other things, the role played by communities in preserving and restoring ecosystems. Or how many sustainable solutions already exist within communities, as entrepreneur Nagaraja Prakasam states in a session titled *India's Green Transition: Opportunities for Investors and Ventures*, where he shared the stage with other entrepreneurs Rajan Mehta, Vishal Pandya and Benedict Paramanand (also the founder of GLF).

Prakasam, the author of *Back to Bharat: In Search of a Sustainable Future*, believes that while climate change and inequality are big problems, his extensive travels across the country have shown him that solutions are within reach. In his opinion, many existing systems practised by various communities in the country already provide answers to some of these problems, whether it is the regenerative nature of

converting perfectly healthy deserts into wastelands they perceive them to be. This, in turn, forces people who've traditionally lived off this land into congested cities since they can no longer sustain themselves on these vastly altered landscapes. "We live in the age of a mass forgetting of local geographies...do not know how to treat the land anywhere," she says, pivoting the discussion back to Bengaluru, which oscillates between spells of flooding and water shortage precisely because we have forgotten the city's topography. "Chhattar Singh says that before a drought caused by a shortage of rainfall comes the drought of ideas. And that is what we're living through today."

The view that the deeply symbiotic relationship between local communities and the landscapes they inhabit means that their interventions often ironically



'Life is now proving to be a struggle for many of these people. They have to deal with extreme climate events, laws and policies that are not always friendly to them,' says Rao. GETTY IMAGES



Arati Kumar-Rao

Jhum cultivation or the opportunities and health benefits of traditional backyard poultry farming. "India has solutions. You just have to go find it, promote it, and fund it, of course," reiterates Paramanand.

The power of language The close relationship between humans and nature in India was also emphasised by wildlife biologist and conservation scientist Ravi Chellam at an afternoon session titled *Rewilding: The Only Hope*. "India is a shining example of how coexistence is possible," says Chellam, who shared the stage with Dr. Alister Scott, the co-director of the Global Rewilding Alliance, Nina Chandavarkar, the founder of Okios Landscape Architects and Seema Mundoli, writer and faculty at Azim Premji University, on this occasion.

"Over the decades, while giving talks outside the country, I found people being amazed that we've done such a good job of retaining our wildlife populations," says Chellam, who believes that the usage of the term "rewilding" could have enormous, potentially harmful implications for how conservation is practised in a country like India. "The official policy paradigm is, there is

wildlife, and there are people, and if there are people where wildlife is, they need to be moved out," he says, pointing out that this is especially true of tiger reserves in India.

Referring to the earlier Nilgiris discussion, where one of the points discussed was how invasive plants are running rampant in the absence of local people who were once integral to the ecosystem in many protected areas, Chellam says that this is a good example of what happens when we blindly adopt "the western model" of conservation in our country. "When you start with the view that people and wildlife are not compatible, the official conservation policy is throwing the people out," says Chellam, who believes that using the term "rewilding" will only strengthen this argument. "In this era of climate change, what are we talking about? Why do people with the least carbon footprint have to continue paying the cost for conservation as currently mandated by official policy?"

Colonial history Scott, in his official role as the co-director of the Global Rewilding Alliance, which, according to him, has 223 organisations operating in over 125 countries influencing the rewilding of about 2.5 million sq km of land and about 5 million sq km of ocean, agrees that a conservation narrative that advocates the removal of people is not the way to go. "Out of those 223 organisations, I would say that exactly zero advocate removing people from landscapes to help nature recover," he says.

In his opinion, this policy stems from "an ugly history, especially in the United States and many countries with a colonial history," which had a tradition of removing people from the landscapes they inhabited. He brings up the example of Yellowstone, once home to many Native Americans, which was declared a national park in 1872, leading to the expulsion of many tribes from that landscape. "The concept of wilderness was created to create this false idea that an untouched landscape with no humans in it was the only legitimately wild landscape," he says. "But as we know, Throughout history, indigenous peoples have worked with the land and nature in incredibly sustainable ways."

S No	Date	Publication	Link
1	23 Nov 24	Scroll	https://scroll.in/article/1075995/green-literature-festival-announces-shortlists-in-all-three-categories-for-its-2024-awards
2	3 Dec 24	TheHindu	https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/fourth-edition-of-the-green-literature-festival-glf-to-be-held-in-bengaluru/article68937644.ece
3	3 Dec 24	Townscript	https://www.townscript.com/e/fourth-green-literature-festival-000421
4	6 Dec 24	LBB	https://www.instagram.com/p/DDOVgfeNg1z/?img_index=9&igsh=c2hjdWdpcjRxdWlj
5	6 Dec 24	Indulgexpress	https://www.indulgexpress.com/culture/books/2024/Dec/06/head-to-4th-edition-of-this-festival-that-fosters-passion-for-reading-and-writing-about-nature
6	8 Dec 24	Timesofindia	https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/rewilding-urban-parks-a-call-for-wilder-green-spaces/articleshow/116086837.cms
7	11 Dec 24	Deccanherald	https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/bengaluru/thar-survives-on-4-inches-of-rainfall-b-luru-can-too-3312259
8	11 Dec 24	thewire	https://thewire.in/environment/green-literature-festival-bengaluru-conservation
9	13 Dec 24	archanasunkireddy	https://www.instagram.com/reel/DDePc91yNzv/?igsh=dnA5N21pNDFoaGRj
10	23 Dec 24	The Hindu	https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/throughout-history-indigenous-peoples-have-worked-with-land-and-nature-in-incredibly-sustainable-ways/article69007613.ece

Online Media Coverage

Date: 23-Nov-24

Publication: Scroll.in

Link: <https://scroll.in/article/1075995/green-literature-festival-announces-shortlists-in-all-three-categories-for-its-2024-awards>

LITERARY AWARDS

Green Literature Festival announces shortlists in all three categories for its 2024 awards

The winners in Fiction/Nonfiction, Children's, and Business books will receive a cash prize of Rs 50,000 each.

Scroll Staff

Nov 23, 2024 · 11:51 am

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Pexels

Green Literature Festival has announced the shortlist for the 2024 GLF Best Green Book Awards. This is the fourth edition of the awards that started in 2021. The awards will be announced on December 7 at the festival in Bangalore.

The GLF awards are given to best green books in the children, adult fiction/non-fiction and green business categories. The winners will receive a cash prize of Rs 50,000. The winners are picked by combining popular votes and jury ratings.

Date: 03-Dec-24

Publication: The Hindu

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/fourth-edition-of-the-green-literature-festival-ghf-to-be-held-in-bangaluru/article68937644.ece>

Fourth edition of the Green Literature Festival to be held in city

In addition to focusing on both children's and adult eco literature, GLF will also have sessions focusing on green businesses

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

The fourth edition of the Green Literature Festival (GLF), the country's only literary festival dedicated entirely to all things environment, will be held in Bengaluru on Saturday, December 7, at the Century Club, Cubbon Park, from 9.30 a.m. onwards. The festival, first launched in June 2021 as "a response to the urgent need for literature that helps us comprehend our relationship with the planet, mend the broken bits, promote love and care for the climate through positive climate action," as the event release puts it, "promises to be a fiesta for eco-enthusiasts, nature lovers and readers of all ages and tastes."

Around 30 speakers

This year's lineup comprises around 30 speakers, several stalls on sustainable products, workshops by WWF-India, Mongabay India and leading storytellers and writers, an awards evening and, for the first time, an all-day-long children's



Visuals from the previous edition of the Green Literature Festival. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



green fest. "Until last year, it was two or three sessions (focused on children)," says Benedict Paramanand, GLF's founder. "Now it's like multiple sessions between 10 and 4, and we have one venue dedicated to the children. We just thought the children's segment needed much more focus," adds Paramanand, also the founder of the Bangalore Business Literature Festival and the sustainability online platform SustainabilityNext.

The festival, which has

hosted more than 50 authors, filmmakers and photographers since its inception, seeks to be a discovery platform in the environmental space. In addition to focusing on both children's and adult eco literature, GLF will also have sessions focusing on green businesses. Also, "this year, we are bringing in the teachers," he says, adding that there will also be a 90-minute session run by one of the world's leading child education activists, Matthew Pye, titled *Bringing Climate Education Into The*

Classroom. Pye, who will be conversing with writer Jenny Pinto, will talk about offering a holistic climate education to children in the classroom and teaching teachers to become climate evangelists, says Paramanand. "The focus is to move from anxiety to hope. If you make children anxious about all this, it is not going to work."

Some of the other key panel discussions taking place this year include *The Nilgiris in Focus: A Conservationist's Nightmare* with writer and

regeneration ecologist Vasanth Bosco, conservationist Dr. Tarsh Thekaekara and independent writer and editor Monisha Raman; *Environmental News: Accuracy vs Sensationalism*, which will have wildlife biologist P Gowri Shankar, Shailesh Shrivastava of Mongabay India and conservation storyteller Trishala Ashok on it; *Marginlands: An Exploration of Indian Landscapes*, which will have writers Arati Kumar-Rao and Aparna Karthikeyan in

conversation with each other and *Rewilding: The Only Hope*, helmed by senior wildlife biologist Ravi Chellam, rewilding expert Alister Scott, architect Nina Chandavarkar and author and educator, Seema Mundoli.

Other festival highlights include conversations about human-animal conflict, birds and their nests, a nature quiz, and iconic Indian trees at the children's festival, as well as workshops on environment writing, nature art and multimedia storytelling. "We are quite overwhelmed with the response to the festival and how it's evolved," says Paramanand, listing GLF's partners, which include WWF, Atta Galatta, Mongabay India and ATREE, among others. He hopes to expand the festival further, drawing more funding and support and even taking it to other cities, making it "bigger and more impactful," he says.


GLF will be held at Century Club, Cubbon Park, Bengaluru, from 9.30 a.m. onwards on December 7. To know more, log into <https://greenlitfest.com/>

Date: 03-Dec-24

Publication: Townscript

Link:

<https://www.townscript.com/e/fourth-green-literature-festival-000421>



The poster features a textured, light-brown background with green decorative lines. The title 'Green Literature Festival' is at the top, followed by the date '7th December 2024' and the venue 'Century Club, Bengaluru'. A 'Partners' section lists WWF, MONGABAY INDIA, a tree logo, India Climate Collaborative, and Sanctuary NATURE FOUNDATION. The bottom of the poster has a green border with illustrations of birds and plants.

Green Literature Festival

7th December 2024

Century Club, Bengaluru

Partners

WWF MONGABAY INDIA India Climate Collaborative Sanctuary NATURE FOUNDATION

Fourth Green Literature Festival

#environment #art #festivals

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Nov 24 | 09:00 AM (IST) Bengaluru India

EVENT INFORMATION

We are thrilled to announce the fourth edition of the Green Literature Festival, the only literary festival dedicated to celebrating and honouring environmental literature for all age groups. Join us on December 7, 2024 for a day of inspiring talks, workshops, readings and networking with authors, publishers, organisations and voices who share our passion for the health of planet Earth.

7th December 2024 @ Century Club, Bengaluru
Registration begins at 9.30 am

Registration Charges for Main Event – Free (But viewers must register before entering the main hall)
Register and Pay at the venue
Venue - Wadiyar Hall / GLF Hall 2 / The Terrace / Baritone

Date: 06-Dec-24

Publication: LBB

Link: https://www.instagram.com/p/DDOVgfeNg1z/?img_index=9&igsh=c2hjdWdpcjRxdWlj



The image shows an Instagram post from the account 'lbbbangalore'. The main image is a photograph of a busy indoor book fair. In the foreground, a woman in a pink shirt is looking at a book on a table. Other people are seen browsing in the background. The text overlay on the image reads: 'GREEN LITERATURE FESTIVAL', 'When: Saturday 7, December from 9:30 AM onwards', 'Where: Century Club, Cubbon Park', and 'Price: Free and pay-as-you-like'. The Instagram interface shows the post was made 1 week ago, has 1,056 likes, and a comment from 'ranispeak' mentioning a theatre festival. The post includes several hashtags: #LBB, #LBBBangalore, #bangalorediaries, and #bangaloreevents.

GREEN LITERATURE FESTIVAL
When: Saturday 7, December from 9:30 AM onwards
Where: Century Club, Cubbon Park
Price: Free and pay-as-you-like

lbbbangalore • Following

lbbbangalore 1w
Planning your weekend? Here is our list of events that you should not miss out on ✨
Happy December Fam 🎉
#LBB #LBBBangalore #bangalorediaries #bangaloreevents

ranispeak 1w
You forgot to mention about the theatre festival in good shepherd auditorium
1 like Reply

1,056 likes
December 6

Add a comment...

Date: 06-Dec-24
Publication: Indulgexpress
Link:

<https://www.indulgexpress.com/culture/books/2024/Dec/06/head-to-4th-edition-of-this-festival-that-fosters-passion-for-reading-and-writing-about-nature>

Books

Head to 4th edition of this festival that fosters passion for reading and writing about nature

The GLF Honour Book Awards is a major highlight with an esteemed panel and Suresh Heblikar as the chief guest



A glimpse from the previous edition

Team Indulge

Published on: 06 Dec 2024, 8:00 pm

INDULGE

STYLE FASHION FOOD ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS CULTURE VIDEOS

Festival is gearing up to be an exciting event for eco-enthusiasts, nature lovers and readers of all ages. Since its inception, *GLF* has rapidly established itself as a vital platform for promoting literature focused on environmental themes, engaging over 1,00,000 people. This year's festival promises to feature over 30 authors, interactive workshops led by organisations such as *WWF India* and *Mongabay India* and stalls showcasing sustainable products. The *GLF Honour Book Awards* is a major highlight with an esteemed panel and Suresh Heblikar as the chief guest. Benedict Parmanand, founder of *GLF*, gives us insights into the most exciting features of the festival.

Date: 08-Dec-24


Publication: Timesofindia

Link:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/rewilding-urban-parks-a-call-for-wilder-green-spaces/articleshow/116086837.cms>

Parks, gardens can be slightly wilder: Architect

Mini Thomas



Parks, gardens can be slightly wilder: Architect

Bengaluru: Rewilding is gaining popularity in the urban context. For city-based landscape architect Nina Chandavarkar, it involves bringing back habitats and restoring what is there on a site.

TOI City Bengaluru Mumbai Delhi Hyderabad Kolkata Chennai Agri Agartala Ahmedabad Ajmer Amaravati Amritsar Bareilly ...

"I think we have to change people's view of what nature is and what is wild. A lawn is beautiful. But so is wild nature. I think the change can come about by its demonstration in public spaces and parks."

Rewilding is the process of understanding natural systems, finding interconnections, reinforcing them and bringing them back to life, said Nina.

'Rewilding — The Only Hope', a panel discussion as part of the 4th edition of The Green Literature Festival held Saturday, attempted to define and redefine the term and shed light on how humans can help nature recover.

With most of the saplings planted being ornamental and requiring maintenance, Nina said: "Going wild helps us in many ways. It's more sustainable and does not require much manpower or water."

'Thar survives on 4 inches of rainfall, Bengaluru can too'

Arati Kumar-Rao, the author, spoke about how misguided decisions and ignorance have resulted in the destruction of regions like the Thar, the beaches of Kerala and the Sunderbans.



Rashmi Rajagopal

Last Updated : 11 December 2024, 06:12 IST



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Panelists discuss the topic 'Rewilding: The Only Hope' in a post-lunch session at the Green Literature Festival held at Century Club in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Marginlands: Indian Landscapes on the Brink' tells the stories of landscapes across India, including the Thar desert. It details how inhabitants of the Thar desert are self-sufficient when it comes to water. "The locals resurrected an ancient method of reading the land and harvesting the little rain that fell on it," said Arati Kumar-Rao, the author of the book, which talks about how misguided decisions and ignorance have resulted in the destruction of regions like the Thar, the beaches of Kerala and the Sunderbans.

Date: 11-Dec-24

Publication: Deccanherald

Link:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/bengaluru/thar-survives-on-4-inches-of-rainfall-b-luru-can-too-3312259>

ENVIRONMENT

Why the Rat Snake Has Been Grievously Wronged by Newspapers, and Other Questions at a Green Literature Festival

Amita Basu
Published 2024 · 3 min read



Bengaluru is a city of readers and the headquarters of some important national organisations for environmental and climate action. It's fitting that the festival was hosted here.



From left to right: A photograph from the festival, a speaker at a podium, and an audience member.

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Climate change is often called the great problem of our times, an existential threat to all life on earth. But unlike natural disasters, terrorists, or total nuclear war, climate change can seem if those, impersonal, and benign. This makes it hard to rally our forces against it. Literature has a unique power to evoke emotion, galvanise action, and unite communities. It's in this spirit that Bengaluru's annual Green Literature Festival (GLF) brought together writers on environmental issues from around the world.

The fourth edition of the GLF occurred on December 7, at the Century Club in the city. With the motto "Learn more, do more," this year's edition featured book launches, green literature awards, and a focus on our connection to nature. An invocation dined by primary school students from Parklands, an institution for slum-dwelling first-generation schoolgoers, set the stage for a festival that examined the intersections of inequity, nature degradation, and climate change.

Festival founder Benedict Perumal, who is chief executive officer of SustainabilityNext (a platform for environmental journalism and entrepreneurship), discussed the importance of education in the fight for nature conservation. GLF's fourth edition featured workshops by partner organisations for students, educators, and aspiring environmental writers. Perumal reminded us that, while negativity is ubiquitous, we need to focus on what communities can do, and to celebrate literature, films, and podcasts that raise our awareness of and engagement with nature – which, as increasingly frequent heatwaves and other disasters remind us, we cannot harm without harming ourselves.

Date: 11-Dec-24

Publication: Thewire

Link: <https://thewire.in/environment/green-literature-festival-bengaluru-conservation>



archanasunkireddy and
trishala_ashok
The Ultreya • Magical Forest



archanasunkireddy 1w
Green Literature Festival celebrated it's
4th edition, India's only festival
dedicated exclusively to all forms of
Literature about the environment.

Prajavahini is delighted to be a part of
the emerging themes with cultural
expressions on the environment.

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#environment #greenliterature
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65 likes

December 12



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Date: 12-Dec-24

Publication: Archana Swamy Sunkireddy

Link:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DDePc91yNzv/?igsh=dnA5N21pNDFoaGRj>

‘Throughout history, indigenous peoples have worked with land and nature in incredibly sustainable ways’

TH Premium

Sessions at the recently concluded Green Literature Festival in Bengaluru explored the multiple hues of human interactions with nature

Updated - December 23, 2024 06:20 pm IST - Bengaluru



PREETI ZACHARIAH



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“The women just walk a few meters down to their local beris, and that is the time of socialising for them because that’s the only time they get out of the house,” says Arati Kumar-Rao. | Photo Credit: BARTOSZ HADYNIK

Arati Kumar-Rao whisks her audience away from the relatively colder climes of Bengaluru to Jaisalmer district in the heart of the scorching Thar desert. “It has been almost two years

Date: 23-Dec-24

Publication: The Hindu

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/throughout-history-indigenous-peoples-have-worked-with-land-and-nature-in-incredibly-sustainable-ways/article69007613.ece>

**Report By
Sridevi Rao**