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greenlitfest™

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September 2026 - Edition 22

Here's your specially curated update of fresh insights with news, books, films and art on environment and climate action

How many native plants and trees in your locality can you identify and name? Have you stopped to observe and watch them change over the seasons?

Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose likened plants to humans and seeds to children. If plants are animate beings, if trees have canopy shyness and connectivity through mycelial networks within soil, what responsibility does that place on our shoulders? This month's newsletter delves into India's rich and diverse flora.

We also feature two interviews with leading minds in environmental writing. While discussing his book *The Trees of My Country: The Natural History of India in 50 Trees*, T R Shankar Raman takes us to the corners of India, bringing stories of trees and cultures associated with them.

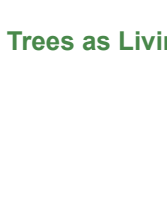
Author and academic Sumana Roy, in a reflective conversation with Shruti Sharma of Earth Book Club, discusses ecosophy and plant-thinking while reminding us that unity exists in every form of thinking (be it science or the arts).

Krishang Udasi, the talented winner of the GLF Short Story Prize, reviews Bhagirath Mishra's *The Forest of Friends*, translated into English by Sohini Basak. I also reviewed another fascinating book, *Gold Sand Gold Water* by Nalini Bera, translated into English by Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar.

Browse through our New Book Releases to pick your next read.

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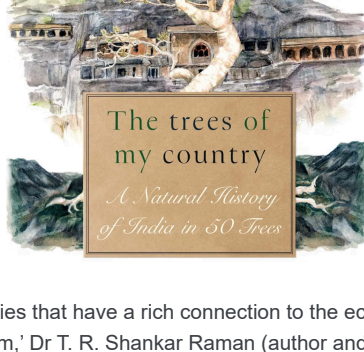
Until next time,



Monisha Raman
editor@greenlitfest.com

Feature of the Month

Trees as Living Archives

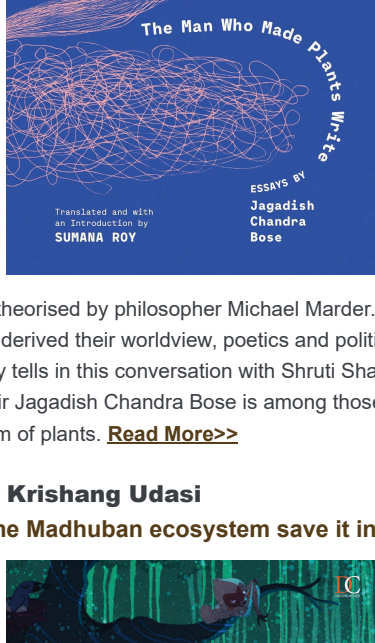


'I see trees as species that have a rich connection to the ecosystems and other species around them,' Dr T. R. Shankar Raman (author and scientist) notes in this Zoom conversation with author Aparna Karthikeyan. In his recent work, *The Trees of My Country: The Natural History of India in 50 Trees*, he explores the rich plant diversity of India through fifty species from different ecosystems.

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Feature of the Month

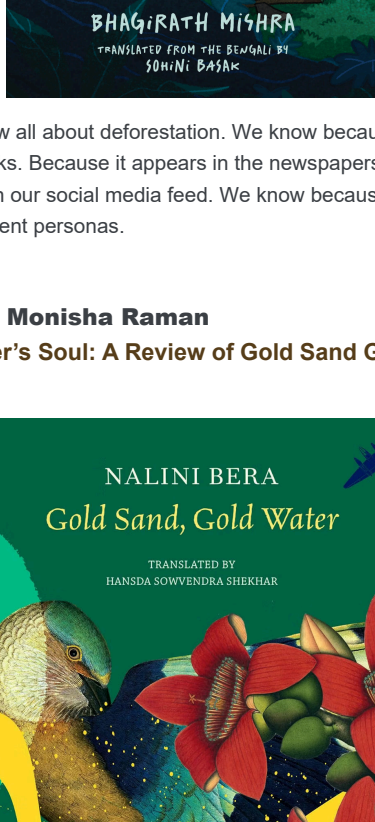
Celebrating the Man Who Made Plants Write



Plant-thinking was theorised by philosopher Michael Marder. 'Several writers, artists and thinkers derived their worldview, poetics and politics from the plant world,' Sumana Roy tells in this conversation with Shruti Sharma, founder of Earth Book Club. Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose is among those minds who tried to decipher the wisdom of plants. [Read More>>](#)

Book Review by Krishang Udasi

Can friends of the Madhuban ecosystem save it in time?



We believe we know all about deforestation. We know because it's a detailed topic in our textbooks. Because it appears in the newspapers every day and it stares at us through our social media feed. We know because it is discussed in seminars with eminent personas.

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Book Review by Monisha Raman

Finding the River's Soul: A Review of Gold Sand Gold Water

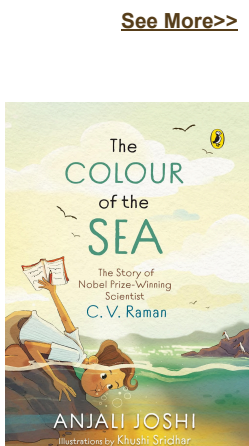
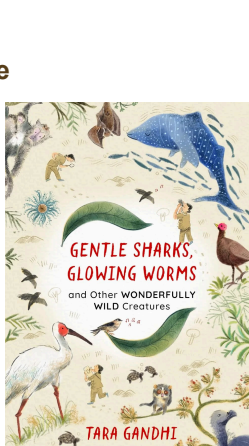
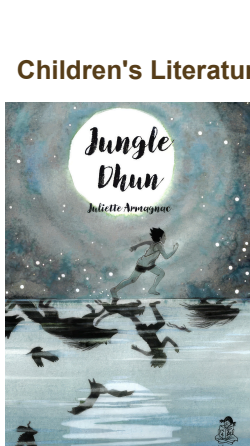


'There are a few fundamental things one learns of rivers,' author and journalist Sanjoy Hazarika tells in an interview to Samrat Choudhury (published in Frontline). 'There is an entity far more powerful than you can conceive of and you must respect that.' The people living in the lowland regions closer to the banks of Subarnarekha in *Gold Sand Gold Water* know this truth and consider themselves blessed to be touched by the river. The water is an intricate part of their lives; it gives and takes in equal measure.

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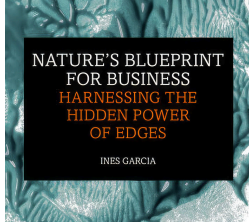
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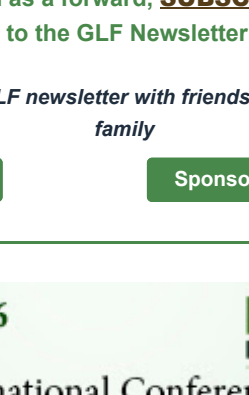
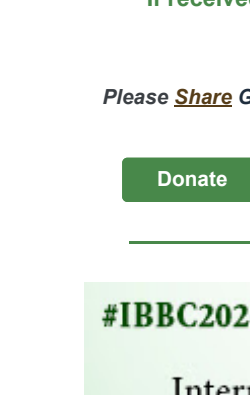
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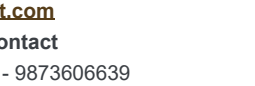
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