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Press Release

CM Launches 'Literary Bioscope' of Silent Valley National Park
Coffee Table Book brought out by Kerala Tourism and the Forest Department

Thiruvananthapuram, Oct 1: Chief Minister Shri Oommen Chandy has released a new book on the famous Silent Valley National Park, in a fresh attempt to present the state's rich biodiversity to the outside world and underline the need for forest conservation.

Brought out by Kerala Tourism, in association with the Forest Department, the book, which is punctuated with breathtaking photographs, reveals the park's true mystique, from the mundane to the extraordinary.

"This new book is a virtual trek to the jungle and is a celebration of our rich and precious biodiversity," said Shri Chandy while releasing the coffee table book in his chamber.

Forest Minister Shri Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Minister for Industries and Information Technology, Shri P K Kunhalikutty, Tourism Minister Shri A P Anilkumar, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Shri G Harikumar, Tourism Director Shri P I Sheik Pareeth and Additional Director (General) Smt Anupama T V, were present at the release ceremony held on Tuesday after the cabinet meeting.

"The abundance of nature in our state also entrusts on us the important responsibility of conserving our rich biodiversity for the future generations," Shri Chandy said.

Tourism Minister Shri Anilkumar said the painstakingly produced book was a symbol of the government's commitment to spread awareness about the state to the outside world.

"We want to introduce travellers and tourists from around the world to the rich biodiversity and potential of our forests," he added.

"The book is a journey into the magical world of our wildlife, a journey the readers of this book would like to repeat by visiting Kerala and enjoying the experience firsthand," Shri Anilkumar said.

Describing the book as an "eloquent narrative into the soul of the wild", Shri Radhakrishnan said the book reveals a "world beyond wonder" waiting in the tropical forests of Kerala.

"The book is an invitation to the people to come and participate in preserving and conserving one of the world's most biodiversity rich forests," he added.

There are several hitherto unseen and unexplored facets of the National Park in Kerala presented in the book, which is the first in the 'Sanctuary for the Soul' series on the four national wildlife sanctuaries in the state. There are also stunning photographs of the wild providing testimony to the richness of nature in 'God's Own Country'.



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The series is the result of hours of interviews with authorities, tribal community members, guides, watchmen and local people. The importance of conserving of the forests for ourselves and the posterity is underlined throughout the book.

The other three books in the series are on Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Eravikulam National Park and Periyar Tiger Reserve.

Several months were spent in the wild by the makers of the series, including renowned wildlife photographer Balan Madhavan, to bring out the books. Guiding the reader through the idyllic charms of Silent Valley National Park, the book describes the pristine valley through the spellbinding experiences of its writer, Manu Remakant. The series is edited by Smt Bhawani Cheerath.

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