

Bangladesh NGO gets National Award -“Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation”



Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam receiving the award and the medal

The Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh (WTB) received a top honorary National Award “Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation” recently, 1st June, 2011. This national award was born in 2010 to recognize and inspire people and organizations for wildlife conservation.

Professor Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam, Chief Executive, WTB, collected the award on behalf of WTB from Hon. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the inauguration ceremony of National Tree Plantation Camp and Tree Fair-2011, arranged by the Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Why this award for WTB? WTB is a registered non-profit and non-governmental organization started its journey in 2003. The mission of WTB is to *Protect the National Heritage of Bangladesh*, and WTB’s aims are to conserve the country’s biological diversity and put Bangladesh on the road to attaining sustainability. Moreover, it also aims to communicate the values of conservation and sustainable development practices.

WTB has involved itself with different activities like educational programs, research, training and public awareness programs for wildlife conservation focusing endangered and critically endangered species.

Some key achievements of WTB include:

- (i) initiating the Bangladesh Tiger Action Plan (BTAP) with Forest Department to conserve critically endangered Tigers in the Sundarbans;
- (ii) tiger and prey survey, research and monitoring;
- (iii) tackling tiger human conflict by assembling Tiger Response Teams (TRT) and providing training to the field staff of the Forest Department;
- (iv) training on techniques and awareness raising to conserve elephants in Bangladesh;
- (v) incrementing education and research on endangered species like hoolock gibbon and Asiatic black bear;
- (vi) establishment of ‘Noazesh Knowledge Centre’, the first knowledge centre in Bangladesh for nature conservation study.

Chief Executive, Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh, Md. Anwarul Islam is Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Dhaka. He commented upon getting the award: “This award is the achievement of whole WTB team for their dedication and commitment for wildlife conservation. Receiving the honorary award, WTB team members are highly inspired to continue doing great work for wildlife conservation.”



WTB team with the award