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Nishorgo Program Unveils 'Visitor Kiosk' at Satchari National Park

By Sheikh Arif Bulbon

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Nishorgo Program of the Forest Department inaugurated a Visitor's Information Kiosk at Satchari National Park in Habigonj. It is an attempt to facilitate community led eco-tourism that would contribute to conservation of the park.

Satchari National Park - is a gem of a forest. Widely accessible to from the roadside, this small forest is only 2.5 hours drive from Dhaka, and is also a home to many unique species, especially birds.

Tourists arriving to the park will now be directed to this kiosk where they will be able to collect the entry ticket, information on the park and the guided trails. Souvenirs will also be available. A proportion of revenue generated in this kiosk will be allocated to the committee for uses supporting local livelihood improvement and conservation of the Park. Eco-tour guides will use the 'Information Kiosk' as a meeting place when beginning their tours. The co-management committee can use the kiosk to communicate to the general public about its purpose and activities. Through co-management or collaborative management approach with local stakeholders, Nishorgo program is striving to conserve the biodiversity of the 'Protected Forest Areas'. Nishorgo program receives financial assistance from USAID through Nishorgo Support Project.

To facilitate nature tourism linked with conservation, Nishorgo Support Project has taken initiative for tourism infrastructure development. These are meant to improve the visitation experience and augment nature knowledge of the visitors. As part of the initiative, an information kiosk has been established at Satchuri National Park. The building is intended to serve as an example of nature-friendly construction befitting our beautiful protected areas.

Conservators of forests Monoj Kanti Roy and Ali Kabir Haidar, Azharul Majumdar of USAID, Philip J. DeCosse of Nishorgo Support Project were present at the inauguration ceremony along with the co-management committee members, eco-tour guides, Forest Department officials and others.



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