

Divecha Centre for Climate Change, IISc.  
Dr. H Paramesh Education Trust  
IAP Environmental Child Health Chapter

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Time: 4.00 PM – 5.00 PM (IST)**

***Auditorium DCCC IISc. - 3.30 PM to 4.00 PM High Tea***

<b>Timings</b>	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Faculty</b>
<b>4:00 PM– 4:05 PM</b>	Welcome Speech	Prof. S.K Satheesh / Prof. J Srinivasan
<b>4.05 PM – 4.10 PM</b>	Introduction of the subject and the speaker	Prof. Dr. H Paramesh
<b>4:10 PM– 4:50 PM</b>	<b>" Need to protect our Environment Fauna and Flora from Invasive Lantana"</b>	Mr. Sreekara MBA WMG
	Moderator	Mr.Raj Kishore Singh IFS Co-Director Future Earth DCCC, IISc
<b>4:50 PM –5:00 PM</b>	Vote of thanks Group picture of participants	Prof. Dr. H Paramesh

***Prof. Dr. H Paramesh***  
***Organiser***  
***Visiting Physician Scientist DCCC IISc.***  
***Founder Life Patron Allergy Immunology Chapter Karnataka***



**Divecha Centre for Climate Change**  
**Indian Institute of Science**  
**BANGALORE - 560012**

## **DCCC Seminar**

**Title:** "Need to protect our Environment Fauna and Flora from Invasive Lantana"

**Speaker:** Mr. Sreekara

Founder – Director and Chief Entrepreneur at Wealth Management Group (WVG) Group

Date: 28.05.2026

Time: 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Venue: DCCC Auditorium, 2nd Floor, D314

Coffee/Tea: 3.30 PM to 4:00 PM

### **Speaker Bio:**

Mr. Sreekara is a M.B.A in finance graduate hailing from deeply rooted coffee planters family in Chikkamagaluru. He combines the modern financial acumen with traditional coffee plantation loving this environment fauna flora. He is the founder of wealth management group (WVG) and manages over one thousand crores of assets with values and customer satisfaction and social concern. The group is involved in rural education, women empowerment, healthcare facilities, cancer research activities sports foundation working with grassroot level athletes and sports personnel. The group is also involved in renovating of all our forts and safe guard our forests, fauna, flora by eliminating the Lantana in Bandipur forests. He is also a sports person and passionate about cycling, golfing, mountaineering, travelling, running, visited Manasa Sarovar twice and Ardant lover of nature sustainability.

## **Abstract:**

Namma Vana was born from a growing concern that many of our forests were slowly losing their natural identity. Over the years, invasive species like Lantana camara began spreading aggressively across forest landscapes. What initially appeared to be ordinary vegetation gradually turned into one of the biggest ecological threats within several forest regions of Karnataka. Lantana spread rapidly across grasslands and forest floors, suppressing native vegetation and disturbing the natural balance of the ecosystem. Areas that once supported grazing herbivores, natural regeneration, and biodiversity slowly became dense and inaccessible. This not only affected wildlife movement and habitat quality, but also reduced the ecological productivity of the forests. The impact was visible across several landscapes:

- Native grasslands began disappearing
- Wildlife habitats became fragmented
- Access for forest personnel became difficult
- Ecological regeneration slowed down significantly

It became clear that conservation could not stop at protection alone. The forests also needed restoration. This realization led to the inception of Namma Vana a long term ecological restoration initiative by WMG Foundation focused on reviving degraded forest ecosystems. The vision behind Namma Vana was not merely to remove lantana, but to restore the forest back to its original ecological balance. The initiative focuses on:

- Scientific removal of invasive lantana
- Restoration of native grasslands and habitats
- Rejuvenation of forest ecosystems
- Supporting long-term biodiversity recovery.

The work is physically demanding and requires continuous effort, coordination, and monitoring. Yet, the impact of restoration begins to reveal itself gradually - through the return of native vegetation, healthier landscapes, and improved habitat conditions. Through Namma Vana, over 110+ hectares of forest land have already been restored, with a larger vision of reclaiming and rejuvenating 1000+ hectares across forest landscapes in the coming years.

// ALL ARE WELCOME //