

## BIODIVERSITY

The Management of ARL realizes the importance of biodiversity conservation and believes to adopt practical approach to achieve the objectives through community participation/ awareness and enhancing the sense of responsibility at grass root level.

A model biodiversity park has established for replication in other habitats of the country to reduce the overall impacts on biodiversity. This model may be used as a strategic tool for national policymakers for reducing the threats to biodiversity through public-private partnership. Morgah Biodiversity Park project is one of the major and significant initiatives of ARL despite the fact that ARL site at Morgah has no threat to protected areas such as wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, or any archaeological, historical or cultural heritage in its neighborhood. Besides the conservation of nature, the company has also reserved an area for the museum and has conserved the historical heritage of the company. The museum contains the old equipment dated back from 1922.

The Morgah Biodiversity Park (MBP) spread over 28 acres, is a Pro-Poor Public-Private Partnership (5Ps) project of UNESCAP, the Government of Pakistan and Attock Refinery Limited. The Park was inaugurated by Dr. Kim Hak Su (Executive Secretary UNESCAP) on January 31, 2005 and comprises Aviary, Fish Pond, Butter fly Garden, Xerophytic Garden, Medicinal plants Garden having 272 out of 480 species of indigenous trees, shrubs and herbs of the Pothowar region and eight bird species along with “Mahaseer” an endangered fish.



The Park frequently visited by the local communities as well as university & college students and is a valuable source of education, awareness and recreation. In order to further enhance biodiversity conservation and to promote educational and recreational value of Biodiversity Park, breeding of wildlife has been introduced. In this context, adequate facilities for housing and breeding of wildlife have been developed. It has also helped in providing a sustained source of income to poor households in the community through employment opportunities.

- ✓ 3.6 kW solar system has been installed at Morgah Biodiversity Park to meet its electricity requirements. The significant features of Morgah Biodiversity Park are:

- ✓ An Improved vegetation cover under the green plan and access to biodiversity in the two union councils and adjacent communities.
- ✓ Enhanced institutional capacities for the protection of biodiversity and exchange of information and expertise for conservation in Pothohar region.
- ✓ Solid waste management at ARL premises and development of compost at the park from organic waste for growing medicinal herbs and organic vegetables and fruits.
- ✓ Successful biodiversity conservation venture, provide a foundation to win PLATTS Global Energy Award for ARL.
- ✓ Biogas generation through organic waste has successfully installed and operated.
- ✓ Organic vegetables and fruit orchards are being cultivated in an area of about four hectares.
- ✓ Training and awareness to the residents and communities continued.

### *Tree Plantation*

As part of Corporate Social Responsibility, ARL plants 10,000 to 12,000 saplings every year. In order to encourage tree plantation among community, Horticulture Section launched spring and Monsoon season Tree Plantation Campaigns at different locations including Morgah Biodiversity Park, Vegetables Farm, Fruit orchard, Shahpur farm, Jogging Track and Residential areas.



### *Morgah Club Flower Show*

72<sup>nd</sup> Annual flower show was Organized by Morgah Club during last week of March, 2021. Due to Pandemic of Covid-19, only judgments of Bungalows and offices lawn were made. Employees of Attock Group of companies residing in Bungalows of ARL colony participated in the Lawn competitions.

