

Seminar

Saving the Night for us, fireflies, and birds: Why must we light wisely?

Sriram Murali

Wild and Dark Earth, Pollachi

In an ever brightening world with billboards, skyscrapers and illuminated signs, we've forgotten the night. When we lose the dark, we lose the reminder that we are part of a much bigger world, and the day-night cycle that all life has evolved with. While we are able to draw our curtains for a good night's sleep, our wildlife struggle to survive under light pollution. Artificial lighting alters the behaviour and physiology of many species, especially nocturnal ones such as fireflies and nightjars, but even those active during the day, like us - our days get very long.

Light pollution can be minimised with just a switch, unlike many other forms of pollution. With sustainable lighting choices and policies, we can provide for safe and comfortable lighting, while restoring the darkness that our wildlife depend on. Come hear from Sriram Murali, a National Geographic Photographer, and Anusha Shankar, a National Geographic Explorer and TIFRH faculty, about how they're starting to collaboratively study the effects of lights on wildlife and trying to get policies changed to encourage sustainable lighting.

Thursday, Nov 27th 2025

16:00 Hrs (Tea / Coffee 15:45 Hrs)

Trishul Hall, TIFRH