

## EARTH HOUR 2014

Earth Hour is a global WWF (formerly known as World Wildlife Fund) climate change initiative. It is an event that aims to create awareness of people taking responsibility towards a sustainable future by turning the lights off. Awareness programmes, of the annual Earth Hour event, aims to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment. It also focuses on building a future where people live in harmony with nature. Keeping this in mind the **Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla** organised a programme at the upcoming Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum at Potters Hill on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014. More than 100 participants interacted in the awareness programme, which included school children and their teachers, NCC cadets, HP University students and nearby residents.

Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist Incharge of the arboretum briefed the participants about the short history of 'Earth Hour' from 2007 onwards and its importance for a better environment ahead. There was an interactive session with a voluntary organization by the name '**youth links**', whose member Aman and Rajat kept the participants in a joyous mood by their dance and song theatricals.



Afterwards, the participants were taken around the arboretum and explained about the importance of native species of the region. Below are given two picture plates of the programme;



