

HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SHIMLA

Celebrations of International Day for Biological Diversity 22nd May 2015

For conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was negotiated on 22nd May 1992 and India is a signatory to this CBD. Since then 22nd May is being celebrated as International Day for Biological Diversity every year. This year, the theme for IBD is '**Biodiversity for Sustainable Development**' for the year 2015.



In the above context, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May 2015. Twenty five students from different Schools of Shimla namely Government Senior Secondary School for Boys, Lal-Pani, Shimla; Government Senior Secondary School, Beolia, Shimla; Saraswati Paradise International Public School Sanjauli, Shimla; Government Senior Secondary School for Girls, Portmore, Shimla and Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Vikas Nagar, Shimla participated in various programmes viz., Quiz Competition, Painting Competition and Slogan Writing. Dr. R.K. Verma, Coordinator of the programme welcomed the students and teachers of participating schools. Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director of the Institute addressed gathering and highlighted the importance of the day by ingenious remarks. Dr. Tewari further elaborated that selection of the theme also underlines the adoption of the Gangwon Declaration.

This Declaration support the idea of importance given to biodiversity in the outcome document of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and called for the further integration and mainstreaming of biodiversity in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Thereafter, Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla gave a detailed presentation on the importance of Biodiversity in the present day's context.



After this, a Quiz, Poster/Drawing and Salogan Writing Competitions, on the “**Biodiversity for Sustainable Development**” were organized for the students of various Schools

[Participation of Students in Quiz Competition](#)

In Quiz Competition, Mr. Samridh and Ms. Angel Mehta of Sasarwati Paradise International Public School Sanjauli, got first prize; Mr. Parmod Verma and



Devender Verma, Government Senior Secondary School, Lalpani, Shimla got second prize and Mr. Mukul Kumar and Ms. Ambika Kanwar of Sarswati Vidya Mandir, Shimla got third prize.

Participation of Students in Poster/Drawing Competition

In Poster/ Drawing Competition, Ms. Shabnam Samraik of Government Girls Senior



Secondary School, Portmore attained first position; Mr. Ankit of Government Senior Secondary School, Lalpani Shimla attained second position and Ms. Sonamani of Government Senior Secondary School, Beolia, Shimla attained third position.

Students participating in Slogan Writing Competition

In Salogan Writing Mr. Pankaj Gautam of Government Senior Secondary School



Lalpani attained first position; Ms. Jigyasa Negi of Sasarwati Paradise International Public School Sanjauli, Shimla attained second position and Ms. Megha of Government Senior Secondary School, Portmore, Shimla attained third position.

Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director of the Institute distributed the prizes to the students who got First, Second and Third positions in different events organized by the institute. In his concluding address he encouraged the students for their active involvement in such events and reiterated that the main focus for organizing such functions is basically to inculcate the habit of learning and crystallizing the thought into actions by sensitizing the impressionable mind of students. Finally he thanked one and all for successful completion of this event.



In the end, Dr. K. S. Kapoor, Group Coordinator Research, HFRI, Shimla thanked all the students and teachers for participating in the above events and appraised that the main motive of organizing these events is to make the society aware about the present day issues concerning the forestry, environment, ecology and other related issues. He told that this is really a matter of proud for the young students to know about the biodiversity and threats to it and hoped that the students would have definitely got inspired from this celebration.
