

VAN MAHOTSVVA

Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla is implementing a project on the “**Establishment of Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum**” (WHTA) at Potters Hill Shimla. One of the activities of the project involves creating awareness about the environment and biodiversity.

In the above context, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Panthaghati, Shimla celebrated the “**Van Mahotsva**” Day on 20th July, 2013 at Mashobra, Shimla.



About 40 students and staff of **Government Senior Secondary School, Mashobra** actively participated in the plantation programme. The plant species included conifer and broadleaved species, native to the region.

After the plantation activity, Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist Incharge WHTA (HFRI, Shimla) gave a talk on the importance of this plantation drive in the present day’s context. In between the talk he quizzed the students on questions about the environment and duly honored the right answers by distributing **prizes** and **badges**. In the end he thanked all the students and teachers, who have ensured their participation in this important event and emphasized that students and teachers are the foremost and important group of society, who can really sensitize the people towards **plant conservation** and other natural resources, which is the need of the day.

