

## **Agroforestry for productivity enhancement and income generation**

Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI) Shimla, H.P., under AzadikaAmrutMahotsav, organized an awareness program on “Agroforestry for productivity enhancement and income generation” at Koti, Shimla, H.P., on 18.12.2022. About 42 farmers, Officers and frontline staff HPSFD of the Koti region took an active part in this program. RajmataJunga Smt. VjayJyoti Sen, a renowned social worker, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and in her inaugural address emphasized to inculcate the moral value and age old practice of agroforestry for sustainable development. She further urged people that they should celebrate their and family member birthday by planting at least five different forestry and horticultural trees in their farmland or community land. Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Director of the Institute, delivered a talk on “Organic cultivation for quality production and sustainable income generation. He further highlighted the integration of Prunusarmeniaca (Chuli) as it is one of the important MPT and oil is extremely beneficial for good health. Dr. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-F and Head Extension gave a detailed presentation on the principles of Agroforestry and highlighted its benefits. He further shared his experiences on “Intercropping of important high value temperate medicinal plants with horticultural crop (Apple) for productivity enhancement and augmentation of rural income. On this occasion Dr. Joginder Sigh, CTO talked about “Recapturing of Millets” for good health and income generation” as this year has been declared as the International year of Millets by UN. Sh. Ramesh Chand, Pradhan of Koti, Panchayat thanked the Director, resource persons and staff of the Institute for organizing such an awareness program in their village and urged that some of the progressive farmers may be taken of exposure visits to those areas where successful agroforestry models are being already practiced. This program was well coordinated by Sh. Rakesh Sharma, FRO, Sh. Kulwant Rai, Technician and Sh. Sawarj Singh, Technician of extension Division of the Institute. The program ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Joginder Singh, CTO.