## World Environment Day-2024 {5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024}

The World Environment Day, established by the United Nations in 1972, is celebrated annually on June 5<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness about environmental issues. The first World Environment Day was held in 1973 with the theme "Only One Earth." This year's theme "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience" is both timely and urgent, addressing critical challenges that demand our immediate and sustained attention.

Keeping in view, ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun celebrated World Environment Day-2024 on the above theme on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 and organized Kavita Paath, Poster making competition for students and staff of ICFRE-FRI and Forest Ecology and Climate Change Division organized quiz competition and Genetics and Tree Improvement Division also organized a Presentation competition on "My ideas to fight with desertification and drought. The Prize distribution was also arranged to the winners of above activities on the occasion of World Environment Day. The ceremony was organized in Convocation Hall of FRI, Dehradun. Smt. Richa Misra, IFS, Head Extension Division, FRI welcomed Chief guest & Chairman of Evaluation committee for Kavita Paath Dr. Renu Singh, IFS, Director, FRI, other external evaluators Mrs. Sunita Vijay and Mrs. Neelam Mohan and other dignitaries. Head Extension Division, FRI Dehradun had also given a brief account of programme & activities carried out in relation to World Environment Day. The scientists, officers, staff of ICFRE-FRI and faculties, students of FRI Deemed to be University participated in the programme. The winners of various competitions were awarded on this occasion.

On this occasion, Dr. Renu Singh, Director FRI addressed the gathering and said that it is a moral duty of each and every citizen to contribute in protection and conservation of Environment. She said that restoring the degraded lands is not just an environmental necessity but it's a socioeconomic imperative. Sustainable land management practices can rejuvenate our ecosystems, making them more resilient to climate change while boosting agricultural productivity and economic growth. She calls for collective, transformative action on a global scale to celebrate, protect and restore our planet. She also said that Climate Change is a big alarm as a natural disaster and increasing temperature causing global warming.

Shri Lokinder Sharma, Scientist-B, Extension Division compeered the programme and proposed vote of thanks. Dr. Charan Singh, Scientist, Extension Division, FRI and Shri Rambir Singh, Scientist and other officials team of Extension Division, FRI made arrangements and contributed a lot in successful completion the programme.

