



Awareness programme on “Identification of Tree Species of FRI Campus” for School Children

[9th February, 2022]

**Venue: Botanical Garden & Herbarium,
Forest Botany Division, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun**

To create awareness about biodiversity conservation under the “*Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*” a Government of India initiative, a field visit for “Identification of Tree Species of FRI Campus” was organized for School Children on 9.02.2022 by Forest Botany Division with support of Extension Division of FRI. A team of 10 faculty members and 50 senior secondary students from ten Kendriya Vidyalaya (K.V.) viz. K.V. ONGC, K.V. IIP, K.V. OFD, K.V. Upper Camp, K.V. No. 2 SOI HBK, K.V. OLF, K.V. No. 1 Hathibarkala, K.V. IMA, K.V. ITBP, K.V. FRI visited Botanical Garden and Herbarium. The visit aims at “enriching their learning experience, stimulate awareness and building their knowledge, especially related to biodiversity role in ecosystem management.”

All students gathered in Botanical Garden, FRI at 9:30 AM. Dr. Anup Chandra, In-charge, Systematic Botany Discipline, welcomed all participants and apprised about significance of biodiversity conservation and gave an overview of global, national and regional status of plant diversity. Dr. Sangeeta Gupta, Head, Forest Botany Division also shared her views with the students and encouraged them to appreciate and preserve the natural resources. Dr. Charan Singh, Head, Extension Division, Dr.

Ashutosh Pathak, Sh. Dheeraj, Dr. Dheerendra and other staff of Forest Botany Division were also present in this occasion.

Then the participants were divided in to two groups' and Ms. Ranjana Negi and Dr. P.K. Verma conducted the visit and many interesting plant species were demonstrated to the students and shared important details viz. peculiar identification feature, medicinal/ economic/ ecological/ aesthetic importance, native origin etc. Some of the fascinating species in garden that attracted participants are *Saraca indica* (Sita Ashoka), *Polyalthia longifolia* (False Ashoka), *Elaeocarpus ganitrus* (Rudraksha), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (Tulip tree), *Liquidambar formosana*, *Ginkgo biloba* (living fossil), *Terminalia arjuna*, *Enterolobium contortisiliquum* (Ear-pod tree), *Eucalyptus deglupta* (Rainbow eucalyptus), *Joanesia princeps*, *Sterculia urens*, *Koelreuteria paniculata*, *Mesua ferrea* (Nag kesar), *Pterygota alata* (Buddha coconut) etc. After the garden a visit to Dehra Dun Herbarium, FRI was also conducted and they were briefed about the importance and application of Herbarium in biodiversity conservation.

Glimpses of the Event



Subject experts interacting with teachers and students



Subject expert giving practical knowledge on plants identification



Subject expert providing knowledge on tree identification in field



Faculty, teachers and students altogether