

**BACKGROUND NOTE:**

**HIMALAYAN YOUTH FOR**  
**CLIMATE ACTION**

**ONLINE WEBINAR**

**ON**

**6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021**



## BACKGROUND:

We are in the midst of a pivotal period in our lives, and we have witnessed it all in the last 2-3 years. From the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency around the world, which wreaked havoc on the life of every other human being, to different natural disasters in a short period. All of these events have caused us to suffer in every way possible in recent times, including physically, emotionally, psychologically, and financially. Furthermore, we are still going through these difficult times, which have created a sense of fear and anxiety among us, and no one has a clear vision of when it will all stop.

Our own country, India, is also going through a difficult period. We recently experienced the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused tremendous misery and agony in the lives of all people of this nation. Additionally, as a result of ever-increasing climate change, we are experiencing more regular episodes of catastrophic climatic disasters such as locust attack (2019), Assam floods (2020), Cyclones Amphan (2020), Uttarakhand floods (2021), and Dharamshala floods (2021). Climate change is a current truth that is having an impact on the lives of all species on the planet. As a response, everyone should start thinking about climate change as a major issue in our lives that demands a lot of effort and labour to reduce its effects and adapt to it.

Youth are the backbone of our country and represents half of the population. They are big influencers and play an important role in addressing climate change. They are quick to adjust to new surroundings and function as effective communicators, passing knowledge to all levels of society. As a result, it appears that educating youth about climate change, its effects, and measures to counteract it as an important topic to focus on.

## OBJECTIVES AND THEME:

Mountain regions of India, are the most diverse and rich ecosystems which are prone to even the slightest changes. These seemingly insignificant alterations could have a profound impact on the ecosystem that exists there. Climate change has had a significant impact on India's mountain regions, resulting in a variety of climate events and other concerns in these areas.

In view of the above background, we are organizing a webinar on “Youth for Climate Action” in mountain regions of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, India. This is a joint initiative of the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) in Bhopal and the Forest Research Institute (FRI) in Dehradun that will enable them become more aware of climate change scenarios in their region and help them to better prepare against the near future climate through various mitigation measures and behavioural shifts.

Following themes would be included in the webinar:

- **Climate change and related scenario in Himalayan regions**
- **Climate change Emergency, awareness and perceptions**
- **Concept of Climate Change Adaptation and Role of Behavioral Science**
- **Climate action and role of youth in climate action**

### About the Institutions:

**Indian Institute of Forest Management (An autonomous institute of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)**

The Indian Institute of Forest Management is a sectoral management institute, which constantly endeavors to evolve knowledge Useful for the managers in the area of Forest, Environment and Natural Resources Management and allied sectors. It disseminates such knowledge in ways that promote its application by individuals and organizations.

**Forest Research Institute (Deemed to be) University**

The Forest Research Institute is a Natural Resource Service training institute of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education and is an institution in the field of forestry research in India for Indian Forest Service cadres and all State Forest Service cadres.

### FOR WHOM:

- This webinar is open to college students (Bachelors/Masters/Research Scholars) and working professionals in any organization between the ages of 18 and 28.
- There is no fee for participation in this programme.

## REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

Participants who wish to attend this programme may submit their expression of interest on the following link-

<https://forms.gle/eaujJiHpeeADgG9j6>

## PROGRAMME CONVENER:

- Dr. Parul Rishi is the Chairperson, Centre for excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility and is faculty area of Human Resource Management at IIFM, Bhopal for last 25 years. She has published over 90 papers in international/national journals and a book chapter on Psychology of Climate change in a book volume published by Springer, Germany and a book entitled “Changing Climate Changing Behaviour-Towards a better future” in 2012. Her area of research is Corporate Social Responsibility, Business Ethics, Climate Change and environmental issues, and stress management.
- Ruchi Mudaliar holds a Ph.D. in Psychology and Climate Change besides being a Post-doc from Aix-Marseille University, France. Her area of research is Coastal Climate change and human behaviour. Currently, she is working as a Teaching Associate at Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal. She has been actively engaged in research and teaching since 2009 and has worked with reputed institutes like VIT, Vellore and MIT university (Pune). She has presented her work in various national and international conferences on climate change both in India and abroad.
- Shalini Dagur, a post graduate in Environment Management and currently working as Research scholar in Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) and doing study on the topic **“Climate change risk and adaptive capacity appraisal in mountain regions of Himachal Pradesh: Mediating Role of Mindfulness”**.