



Report on Visit to Himalayan Forest Research Institute Shimla.

On 7th December 2023, the students of Botany department of Center of Excellence Government College Sanjauli embarked on an educational visit, under Star DBT Scheme to HFRI (Himalayan Forest Research Institute) located in Panthaghati, Shimla. The purpose of the visit was to gain insights into the diverse research activities undertaken by HFRI and to understand the significant contributions made by the institute in the field of forestry and environmental conservation.

Background of HFRI:

HFRI, formerly known as CRC (Conifers Recognition Center), is one of the nine centres of the Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE). The headquarters are situated in Dehradun, and it operates in various locations across the country. HFRI has been actively involved in forestry research, technology demonstration, and the conservation of Himalayan ecosystems.



Research Divisions:

HFRI is actively involved in numerous research divisions like Silviculture, Forestry, and work focused on extinct plants. The institute has made remarkable strides in various areas of research. It has several branches all over India.

As part of their community engagement, HFRI has adopted the village Bada Gao, Rajhaana for its research initiatives.



Technological Advancements:

The institute is at the forefront of technology demonstration, including the design of a herbarium housing 8000 plant species. Noteworthy projects include work on Fir and Spruce forests, artificial ripening of cones, and a cold desert afforestation station.

Silviculture Research:

In Silviculture, HFRI has undertaken projects on seed dormancy, artificial regeneration techniques of Juniper, intercropping models (such as apple and medicinal plants), and entomological studies on butterfly diversities in sub-Alpine forests, collecting an impressive 625 species of butterflies.



Forestry Initiatives:

Forestry research at HFRI includes insect and pest management on oak and Deodar trees, extraction of around 100 species of mushrooms from Chamba and Kinnaur, and planting and stock improvement activities.

Notable Achievements:

Recent achievements highlighted during the visit encompassed the artificial regeneration technique of Juniper, research on cold desert plants, and the development of products like "Hymmrda Sanjeevni" (a bio-fertilizer) and "Hymalbuswash" (made from Pisu Booti).

Socio-Cultural and Economic Impact:

HFRI has also reported on the socio-cultural activities and economic benefits of seeds, such as Chilgoza (*Pinus gerardiana*).



GPS Map Camera



Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India

358C+WR5, Panthaghathi, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh 171009, India

Lat 31.067091°

Long 77.172334°

07/12/23 02:08 PM GMT +05:30

Laboratory Showcase:

During the visit, various laboratories within the institute were explored, showcasing techniques used for isolating constituents of plants.



Educational Insights:

During our visit, the head of the institute enlightened students on various aspects of forestry research, emphasising the importance of gaining knowledge and staying aware. The discussions included insights into plastic waste, e-waste, and their proper disposal, highlighting the institute's commitment to environmental responsibility. The Head of HFRI shared valuable insights on the importance of knowledge acquisition and environmental awareness for students. Emphasis was placed on individual contributions towards life enhancement and environmental protection.



Awareness on Waste Management:

Discussions included critical issues like plastic waste and e-waste, shedding light on proper disposal methods and the need for responsible waste management.

Conclusion:

The educational visit to HFRI proved to be enlightening, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the institute's multifaceted research activities. The visit not only showcased HFRI's commitment to environmental conservation but also inspired students to consider their roles in contributing to a sustainable future. The knowledge gained during this visit is invaluable for students pursuing education in environmental sciences and related fields.



Resource Person –

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Director In-charge (sharmas@icfre.org)

Dr. Jagdish Singh, Scientist -G/ HoD Extension (singhj@icfre.org)

Dr. Swaran Lata, Scientist –D (latas@icfre.org)

Permission

The Principal
Centre of Excellence
Government College Sanjauli
Shimla

December 6, 2023

Subject: Permission for organizing an institute visit to ICFRE – Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Panthaghati.

Respected Ma'am

This is to inform you that, Department of Botany is planning to organize a one-day trip to ICFRE – Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Panthaghati for students on December 7, 2023.

I, therefore, request you to kindly, grant us the permission to organize the trip.

Thanking you.



Mrs. Deepti Gupta

Assistant Professor

Department of Botany




Centre of Excellence
Government College Sanjauli, Shimla

Notice

Dated: December 4, 2023

All the students are informed that Department of Botany is organizing one day trip to ICFRE - Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Panthaghati on December 7, 2023. All the interested students are requested to submit their names to the concerned teachers.


Mrs. Deepti Gupta
Assistant Professor
Department of Botany