



**Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Conifer Campus
Panthaghati, Shimla – 171013, Himachal Pradesh**



A Report on

**CELEBRATION OF BHARAT KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV IN SURU
VALLEY, KARGIL, Ladakh UT**

(Dated 12th July, 2021)

Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla, Himachal Pradesh organised ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ with school children at Lankerchay in Kargil District of Ladakh UT. This Mahotsav is an initiative of Government of India to commemorate the 75 years of independence of progressive India and its glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. All Departments and Ministries are required to host a set of activities for a resurgent, Aatmanirbhar Bharat to commemorate this monumental occasion. Himalayan Forest Research Institute, an institute under Indian Council of Forest Research and Education (ICFRE) Dehradun, comes under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), thus mandated this programme with school children.

The team of researchers led by Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, a Senior Scientist from HFRI organised the Mahotsav with the assistance of Mohd. Younis, Volunteer Teacher and a local resident of Shanku. The programme was organised at Lankerchey in the Masjid Hall, facilitated by the enthusiastic volunteer teachers of the valley, who ensured the participation of students from senior classes in good numbers. The students belonged to Mutahbary Public High School, Saliskote; K.B. Public School Jammu; Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kargil; Government Higher Secondary School, Lankerchey; Government Higher Secondary School, Sankoo and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Budgam.

Dr. Vaneet Jishtu gave a PowerPoint presentation on the activities of the Council and the Institute in particular, followed by a presentation on ‘Ecosystem Restoration’ in context to the cold desert ecosystem of Ladakh. He apprised the students about the importance of the environment and the need to restore the Ecosystems, especially the fragile cold desert ecosystem. Research Scholars from HFRI, Ms. Astha Chauhan, Ms. Haseena Bano, Brij Bhushan and Pankaj Kumar also interacted with the students and provided valuable inputs on local environmental issues. It was heartening to see the students respond with great zeal and enthusiasm. Such interactions prove to be fruitful as they provide an interactive platform to students, especially in remote far-flung areas who get few such opportunities to interact and express themselves. One of the objective with this outreach programme for schools in remote areas is to develop an interactive learning environment to support children’s understanding in the domains of the present deteriorating condition of the environment in context to pressures like Population, Tourism, Global Warming and Climate Change, etc. The assumption is that environmental issues will become increasingly significant and much more complex in the times ahead and the young students need to be made aware of the consequences.



Interactive Session with HFRI Research Staff and the Local Students



HFRI, SHIMLA CELEBRATES BHARAT KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV IN SURU VALLEY, KARGIL

By [GL Web Desk](#)



July 13, 2021

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