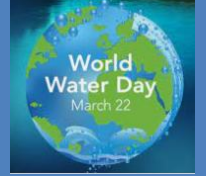




## RFRI Celebrates World Water Day 2022



### CELEBRATION OF WORLD WATER DAY-2022 AT LATHAO VILLAGE, NAMSAI, ARUNACHAL PRADESH BY RFRI, JORHAT

**Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam)** celebrated “World Water Day” on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022 at Lathao Village, Namsai District, Arunachal Pradesh. The programme was carried out under the project “Spring Rejuvenation for Water Security in Himalaya” funded by “National Mission on Himalayan Studies” in collaboration with Namsai Forest Division, Arunachal Pradesh to highlight the significance of potable water in public lives. As a part of the celebration, a plantation programme was done in the premises of community centre of Lathao village. The dignitaries of the meeting were took part in plantation of seedlings along with the villagers. Apart from that about 585 seedlings of 6 species (Koroi-250, Segun-150, Bel-30, Hunaru-45, Silver Oak-30, and Siris-80) were distributed among the villagers to plant in their homesteads. A total of 70 villagers along with 7 invited guests were participated in the programme. Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, Principal Investigator (PI) of the project, organized the programme and Dr. Nibedita Guru, (Co-PI), Priyanku Bhuyan (Junior Project Fellow), Mayur Suman (Project Assistant) and Malaskiva Kotoky (Project Assistant) participated in the day long programme.

Priyanku Bhuyan offered welcome address and updated the current progress of the ongoing project on spring rejuvenation in Lathao Village. After that Dr. Nibedita Guru delivered a theme lecture on ‘World Water Day’ briefing the importance of potable water, focus areas and needful activities towards Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030. Further, she spoke on the world water day-2022 theme: “Ground Water: Making Invisible Visible”, Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme, citing example of the success stories on spring water rejuvenation project completed in Sikkim, Nepal and Uttarakhand state. Finally, she acknowledged the villagers for their support during the project and also encouraged them for future participation for their own development.

Chao S Minin, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Namsai District, Guest of honour spoke on the importance of water in the hilly districts of Arunachal Pradesh describing problems and possible solutions. Chau Tabang Jamoh, DFO, Namsai Forest Division delivered a speech on role of springs in potable water management. He explained the basics of difference between water and spring water. How the water problem is originated and how one can sustain that problem by adopting plantation, spring rejuvenation, afforestation, and through participatory approach and urged the villagers to co-operate in the “Spring Rejuvenation” project. Nang Urmila Manchey Khun, Chairperson, Zila Parishad, Namsai and Chief Guest of the meeting delivered speech on scarcity of potable water in Himalayan Region of India with special mention on hilly area and how this extremely important resource can be protected and preserved. In her speech she encouraged the villagers for plantation of more trees for ground water recharge and to check



runoff and rejuvenation of springs. An interactive session was held with the villagers to address their basic problems for potable water, water dependent agriculture, etc. They were seeking help from the “Spring Rejuvenation Team” to solve drinking water problem and expressed their willingness to support by providing the land to construct the intervention structure (conical pond) for recharging the ground water for springs. Finally, Mayur Suman of RFRI offered vote of thanks to all the dignitaries, villagers present in the meeting and took part in the plantation programme and Namsai Forest Division for providing seedlings for plantation and distribution to all villagers of Lathao.

## Glimpses of Activities of World Water Day | 2022



Inagural Session



Plantation by Zilla Parishad Chairperson, Namsai



Seedling planted by DFO, Namsai



Seedling planted by ADC, Namsai



Seedling planted by Circle Officer, Lathao



Seedling planted by Circle Officer, Madhavpur





Seedling planted by Villagers, Namsai



Welcome Address by Priyanku Bhuyan



Felicitation of the Guests



Speech by Dr. Nibedita Guru



Interaction by the villagers



Speech by ADC (Guest of Honour)



Speech by DFO (Guest of Honour)



Speech by Zilla Parishad Chairperson (Chief Guest)





Interactive session



Interactive session



Discussion by the Villagers



Vote of Thanks by Mayur Suman



Distribution of seedlings-I



Distribution of seedlings-II



Distribution of seedlings-III



Guard fencing around the seedlings