

A REPORT ON 'BHARAT KA AMRUT MAHOTSAV'

Theme:

COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND ECO-RESTORATION OF DEGRADED ECOSYSTEMS

Organized at:

ARID FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, JODHPUR

On:

9th APRIL 2021



'Bharat Ka Amrut Mahotsav' is an initiative by the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. As a part of celebration of the 75th year of Indian Independence 'Bharat ka Amrut Mahotsav' program in order to showcase AFRI's contribution towards "Combating desertification and eco-restoration of degraded ecosystems" was held on 9 April 2021 at the Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur. This programme was a culmination of the week-long activities on above theme that involved participation of school children (through painting competition), research scholars of AFRI (through essay competition) and complete staff of AFRI (through poem composition activity)

"Bharat Ka Amrut Mahotsav" programme at AFRI held on 9th April 2021 primarily involved a lecture by Dr G. Singh, Scientist G and GC(R), AFRI as its main attraction, showcasing AFRI's contributions towards combating desertification and eco restoration. The programme was chaired by the Director AFRI – Shri M.R. Baloch, IFS. At the outset of the program, Mrs. Anita, IFS, Head (Extension Division) gave her welcome speech and outline for the program.

In this program Group Coordinator Research, Dr. G. Singh and Heads of different divisions –Dr. Tarun Kant, Dr. M. T. Hegde, Dr. Sangeeta Singh, Mr. Kailash Chandra Gupta and a few others were present. Dr. Tarun Kant, Head, Genetics and Tree Improvement Division gave a detailed overview of the Programme, its significance and events organized by AFRI during the week.

The key event of the program was a lecture by Dr. G. Singh. In his detailed lecture and slide presentation he gave detailed information about desert, cause of desertification, and what research and technological interventions have been done by AFRI on ways to combat desertification.

Various competitions were also organized for employees of AFRI, school children and research scholars with the aim of making various sections of the society aware of India's achievements in field of environmental awareness and work done by the institute in this direction. A poem competition was organized on theme "Combating Desertification and AFRI's Research". Self composed poem of Sh. Sawai Singh Rajpurohit was selected for award. In the essay competition on "Greening the Desert" the winners of competition were Ms Vipula Vyas (First), Mr Arihant Lunawat (Second) and Ms Varsha Giri (Third). On the same theme of 'Greening the Desert' a Drawing and Painting Competition was organized in various Kendriya Vidyalaya of Jodhpur on 7.4.2021 that also come in the fold of Prakriti Programme. The winners of Competition were – Ms Sonali Pridarshini, KV 2, AFS (First), Ms Niharika Gehlot, KV IIT & Mr Ajay Kumar Dubal, KV 1 AFS (Second), and Mr Kailash Godara KV IIT & Mr Mansi Balan, KV1 AFS (Third). All winners were awarded the certificates by Director AFRI.

Director AFRI in his Saddress talked about Mahatma Gandhi's contribution to the nation, he also discussed about events that led us to the independence highlighting the sacrifice of martyrs, *namak*

kanun and dandi yatra. He also discussed AFRI's contribution in field of combating desertification and hoe it is a nation building activity.

At last vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Bilas Singh, CTO. Program was organized by Extension Division under guidance of Smt. Anita, Head of Division with all Covid-19 Guidelines. Sh. Anil Singh Chouhan, Sh. Dhanaram, Sh. K.C. Sharma and Smt Rekha Dadhich contributed to organize this program. The program was anchored by Smt. Kusum Parihar.

GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT



DRAWING AND PAINTING COMPETITION - WINNING ENTRIES

