Tree Growers’ Mela on the theme ‘Forestry for Livelihood’ was organised by FRCER, Prayagraj on 1st December, 2021 under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. It consisted of exhibitions stalls set up by various organizations and full day technical sessions in which forestry experts delivered lectures for the benefit of farmers. The TGM attracted more than 5000 visitors.

The stalls were established by FRCER, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (SHUATS) Prayagraj, Yash Krishi Takniki Evam Vigyan Kendra, Forest Department Kaushambi, Forest Department Prayagraj, Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Prayagraj, IFFCO CORDET, Prayagraj, Allahabad Advance Agri Solutions, Centre for Science and Society (University of Allahabad), Vimal Ajeevika Mahila Swayam Sahayta Samooh, Green Gold Farmers Company Ltd. etc.

The programme was inaugurated by the chief guest Dr. Ajay Kumar, MLA, Bara, Prayagraj while Dr. M.P. Singh, KVK In-Charge, Ganga par region, Praygaraj was the special guest of the event. At the outset Introductory Speech was given by Dr. Kumud Dubey Extension In-Charge which was followed by lighting of lamp
by the distinguished guests and scientists of FRCER. Thereafter, in his Welcome Address Dr. Sanjay Singh, Head, FRCER emphasized on the importance of such melas for promotion tree planting for income generation of the farmers through several promising alternatives such as Drumstick, Melia Dubia, Gamhar, Teak, Poplar, Amla and Shisham are available.

The chief guest of the program, Dr. Ajay Kumar appreciated the fair organized by the center and encouraged the researchers of the center. He called upon the scientists to spread forestry to the general public in the society by not limiting the research to books and laboratories. He described social forestry as the only way and forestry scientists as the torch bearers in environmental improvement.

The inaugural session ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Anita Tomar, Scientist F, FRCER, Prayagraj.
The first technical session was chaired by Mr. A.P. Sinha, G.M. Forest Corporation, Prayagraj and Dr. Vibha Mishra, Project Director, MSME, Prayagraj. The first lecture was from the director of Allahabad Advance Agri Solutions, Dr. Gaurav Krishna. The topic of his lecture was 'Quality seedling production through tissue culture’. Through his lecture he informed the audience the process and steps of tissue culture which may be adopted for best quality seedling production and how it can be used most effectively. He explained about banana and bamboo tissue culture. It was followed by the lecture of Dr. Hemant Kumar from SHUATS on the topic ‘Forestry for farmers.’ In his lecture he talked about how agroforestry can be best utilised by farmers for maximum benefit.
After the first technical session, a street play ‘Har med Par Ek Ped’ was performed by Nukkad Nataya Abhinay Sansthan, Prayagraj, for forestry awareness. Second technical session was chaired by Dr. Vibha Mishra, Director MSME, and co-chaired by Dr. Kalpana Srivastava, Senior Technical Officer, CIFRI, Prayagraj. The first lecture in the second technical session was from CIFRI by Dr. V.R. Thakur on the topic ‘Income generation through pisciculture.’ He explained in detail the process and steps involved in fish farming, and how can it be utilised to generate maximum income. The second lecture in this session was by Yash Krishi Takniki Evam Vigym Kendra on the topic ‘Micro bio-fertilizer & microbial bio-control’, it was followed by a lecture from Mr. Manoj Mishra, a progressive farmer on ‘Organic farming’. The last lecture of the day was by Mr. Basharat Khan on ‘Lac culture’. After the technical sessions, a discussion session between Experts and farmers was organised for clearing doubts or queries of the farmers.
Award and Felicitation Ceremony

The honorary guests for the award and felicitation ceremony were Chief Conservator of Forest, Prayagraj, Mr. N. Ravindra, and Dr. Arti Garg, In-Charge, Botanical Survey of India, Prayagraj. This session started with the welcome speech for the honorary guests by Head, FRCER, Dr. Sanjay Singh. Thereafter Mr. N. Ravindra and Dr. Arti Garg also gave a speech to motivate and thank the participants for establishing the stalls. This was followed by felicitation of participants for establishing stalls and felicitation of invited lecturers. The programme was concluded by vote of thanks by extension in-charge Dr. Kumud Dubey. Dr. Anubha Srivastava, Dr. S.D. Shukla, Mr. Ratan Gupta, Dr. Pramila Gupta, Mr. Birendra Singh, Dr. Ram Bharose, Mr. Vinod Sharma, Dr. Aparna Pandey, Dr. Rohit Mishra, Dr. Ashish Ratn Mishra, Dr. Ekta Pathak Mishra, Dr. Meenakshi Rathore, Ms. Amita Mishra and others were present in the programme. Researchers from FRCER actively participated in the programme.
Press & Media Coverage
On day programme on topic improving livelihood of farmers organized

Prayagraj: on Wednesday, a one-day "Vikasda Udpadak Mela" was organized by 'Eco-Resettlement Forest Research Center', Prayagraj on the topic "Improving Livelihood" under the 'Amrit Mahotsav', a programme organized to celebrate 75 years of Independence Day.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Ajay Kumar, MLA, Bars, Prayagraj. The programme commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the scientists of the center along with the chief guest and Dr. Sanjay Singh. In his welcome address, Dr. Singh informed about the motive behind organizing the programme. He said on the suggestion given by the Chief Minister of the State for forestry expansion, he highlighted planting of alternative tree species like Drumstick, Melia Dubia, Gamhar, Teak, Poplar, Amla and Sheesham in place of Eucalyptus. Which will prove beneficial for the farmers through agroforestry and also called upon the agricultural scientists present to walk step by step to increase farmers' income through forestry expansion.

Dr. Singh highlighted the economic importance of various beneficial species of agro-forestry and also assured to provide selected planting material for the local climate through research. Organizing Secretary and Senior Scientist Dr. Kumud Dubey highlighted the intervention of forestry in increasing livelihood. In the programme organized, he threw light on the various institutions and camps organized by the UP Forest Department and Forest Corporation and also apprised about the role of the Forest Corporation run by the State Government in the environment. The chief guest of the program, Dr. Ajay Kumar, appreciated the programme organized by the center and encouraged the researchers of the center. He described social forestry as the only way and scientists as the guide in environmental improvement. Dr. Anita Tomar, Senior Scientist at the Center proposed vote of thanks. Dr. Ajay visited the camps organized by various institutions during the programme and shared his experiences with them and also gave them suggestions.

In the program, more than two thousand farmers from different districts of the state got information related to forestry to increase their income. A street play was organized in the program with the theme "Med Par Ped", through which emphasis was laid down on to promote agro-forestry. In the last session of the program, special guest N. Ravindra, chief Forests Conservation, Prayagraj presented memento and certificate to all the performance stalls installed in premises for their excellent performance.