



Role of forests in Livelihood and “Herbal Uttarakhand” discussed on third day of Toppers’ Conclave

Raj Bhawan, Dehradun, 10th August, 2017

Director of FRI Dr. Savita today made a presentation, in the presence of Governor Dr.K.K.Paul, on the role of forest in the livelihood of local people in the context of Uttarakhand. She made this presentation on the third day of the toppers’ conclave at raj Bhawan.

She said that rural people should be motivated to take up agro-forestry which will help in environmental balance through carbon fixing and also economically benefit villagers. High Yield Species of Sheesham, Eucalyptus and Poplar would have to be provided to the villagers and farmers for agro-forestry.

Dr.Savita said that Uttarakhand had great scope for ecotourism due to its biodiversity .Without harming the forests, livelihood could be generated for local people as part of sustainable development.

She gave several examples of how local resources could help in creating sources of livelihood for the local people. She said these sources were culture, ecotourism, handloom and handicrafts. She said that FRI had done many successful experiments in sericulture, using lantana instead of mulberry.

Small distillation units were made available by FRI to villagers to extract perfumed oils for use in cosmetic and medical industries.

Dr. Savita said that bamboo could also be a good source of livelihood in Himalayan states Women in Uttarakhand made baskets of Ringal. Medicinal plants, mushrooms and floriculture could help locals in earning a living. An action plan is needed through which would help the people living around forests know how they could get a source of livelihood without harming forests.

In the second session, Prof Anoop Kumar said that Ayurveda was close to our lives and could help us live a healthy and happy life. He said that in Charak Sahinta, there are names of 500 medicinal plants of which 300 grow in Uttarakhand.

He said that Ayurveda helped prevent disease and he gave detailed description of how home remedies could be very effective. Students asked many questions from the expert speakers. After this they were taken to Centre for Aromatic Plants (CAP), Selaqui, for a tour.

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