

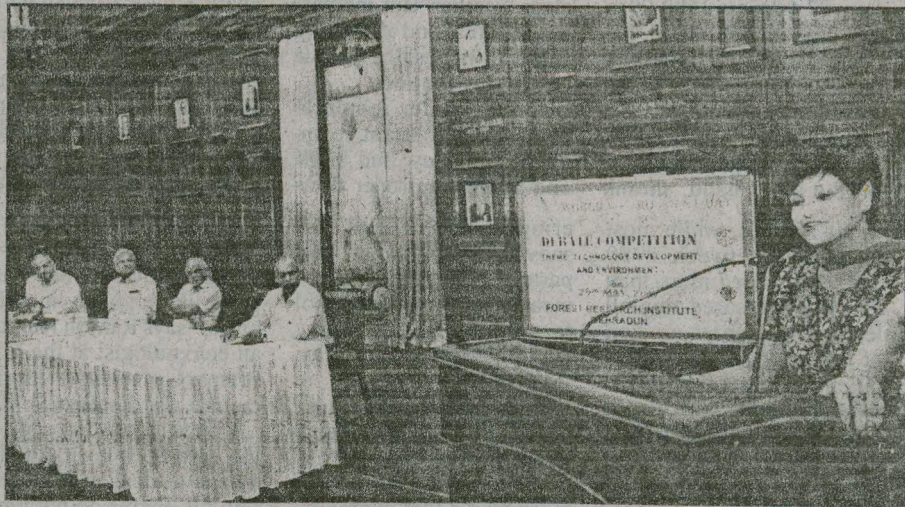
FRI "Connecting People to Nature" on World Environment Day

DEHRADUN,
MAY 29 (HTNS)

World Environment Day is an important day for all of us to observe for a better future. It is observed on June 5 every year. Since 1974, the World Environment Day is celebrated by different countries of the world with different themes to make the people aware about the environmental issues and the consequences of its degradation, and to encourage them to take up activities to save the environment.

This year World Environment Day is being observed by the Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun at national level with the support and guidance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt of India.

This year's theme of World Environment Day is "Connecting People to Nature" which is highly relevant in the context of emerging environmental issues, such as pollution, global warming and climate change, forest degradation, and food, water and livelihood insecurity, etc. wherein sensitizing and involving people at local, regional, national and global level is one of the key strategies to address these issues effectively. Therefore, FRI is organizing countrywide programmes on this occasion. Variety of events has been planned throughout the country.



Conducting photography competition on the four themes (i) Reduce, Reuse and Recycle for better tomorrow; (ii) Urban Greening; (iii) Water conservation; (iv) Wild life protection, and 'Slogan competition' on the theme 'Connecting People to Nature' were undertaken by all the institutes of the ICFRE and MoEF&CC early in this month. Best entries from these will be put up for the national level competition at FRI on June 5. Other events include 'Debate Competition', 'Skit Competition', 'Film festival on environmental protection and biodiversity conservation', 'Swachhta Abhiyan', 'Nature Walk and Bird Watch', 'Run for Environment', 'Van Dhan exhibition', 'Signature Campaign', and seminar on 'Connecting people to na-

ture' will also be held during May 29 to June 5, 2017.

On May 29, a Debate Competition on the topic "Technology Development and Environment" was organized in the Convocation Hall at FRI in which officers, staff and students of FRI and ICFRE participated. The objective of this event was to make all the employees to understand the importance and use of technology to preserve, conserve and protect the environment and to disseminate this message in the society.

Altogether 20 speakers participated in the debate. A jury consisting of three judges Dr PK Mathur, former Dean Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun; Dr MN Jha, Head (Retd) FSLR Division, FRI and Dr NSK Harsh, Scientist, FRI judged

the speakers.

Based on the assessment of the jury Saumya Basu, JRF, C&P Division, Kakhi Tyagi, Research Scholar, Chemistry Division, and VV Pandey, Research Scholar, Pathology Division bagged first, second and third prize, respectively. Prizes will be given to the winners during the seminar on 'Connecting People to Nature' to be held at FRI on June 5. Dr Mohd Yusuf, Senior Scientist, Forest Entomology Division conducted the programme and Dr Vikas Rana proposed the vote of thanks.

Present on the occasion were Dr Savita, Director, FRI; Dr Neelu Gera, Coordinator, World Environment Day 2017, all Head of Divisions, officers, scientists, staff, research scholars and students of FRI.

