HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SHIMLA

Celebrations of World Wildlife Day

03rd March, 2014

On **20th December 2013**, the **Sixty-eighth session** of the **United Nations** General Assembly decided to proclaim **3rd March as World Wildlife Day** - to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora. The date is the day of the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) in 1973, which plays an important role in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the species survival.

In the above context, **Himalayan Forest Research Institute**, Panthaghati, Shimla celebrated the **WORLD WILDLIFE DAY** in collaboration with the local WWF and Wildlife Wing of the State Forest Department on 3rd March 2014 at the upcoming Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum, Potters Hill, Shimla. About 35 students of Shimla based Schools participated in various programmes viz., Quiz, Question and Answers session, Collage making, etc, The children were taken for a nature tour within the arboretum and explained about the role of plants and animals in human survival. Dr. Vaneet Jishtu Scientist Incharge of the Arboretum gave a talk on native flora. He discussed the importance and relation of flora for the survival of fauna. The students were made familiar with certain species such as conifers, broad-leaved, medicinal plants and many other native herbs and shrubs. Mr Naresh Dhaulta, ACF Wild Life Division Shimla spoke about wild life found in Himachal and discussed about the conservation steps taken by the Wild life Division. Ms. Arti Gupta from WWF-India, apprised the students about Wild Life day and its importance. She motivated students to take steps for environment conservation and also gain knowledge of more flora and fauna.

At the end, the students were apprized that the main motive of organizing these types of events is to make the society aware about the present day issues concerning humankind.

SOME SNAPSHOTS FROM THE PROGRAMME AT THE WHTA FOLLOW: