

HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SHIMLA

Visit of IFS Probationers to HFRI Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum at Shimla

Probationers of the Indian Forest Service (IFS), (Batch 2016 - 18) from the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun visited the Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum (WHTA) at Potters Hill, near Shimla established by Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI). The visits of the probationers were conducted in two batches on 30th May and 12th June, 2017, respectively. The trainees were accompanied by Sh. Nagesh Guleria, Chief Conservator of Forest, Shimla, Sh. Amit Sharma, Divisional Forest Officer, Shimla, Range Officer and his field staff. Dr. G.S. Goraya, PCCF (Wildlife) Himachal Pradesh also addressed the participants on the occasion. In his address to the visiting probationers during both the visits he discussed various issues related to the challenges confronted by the forest officers in the field.



After the address, the probationers were taken around the arboretum by Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist Incharge, who explained the various activities being undertaken by the institute for its establishment and further development. The visitors were apprised of the objectives behind creation of this facility/ programme and its relevance for conservation of the native Himalayan temperate arboreal flora. The visitors were explained in detail about the identification and economic importance of the native flora of the region and were shown the germplasm collection of these species being maintained in the Mist Chamber and Shade House. The probationers showed keen interest in the germplasm collections made from the

diverse locations of the North-west temperate Himalaya. The probationers acknowledged the importance of native flora conservation and lauded the efforts being put in by the Institute for its development.




