Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity-2014

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) has celebrated International Day for Biological **Diversity** at Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat (Assam) on 22nd May, 2014 in a day long programme in which around 450 students from 10 schools of Jorhat District were attended.

The theme of this year's celebration is **Island Biodiversity** which coincides with the designation by the United Nations General Assembly of 2014 as the International Year of Small Island Developing States.

The celebration was kicked off with ceremonial plantation of saplings at the premises of the school by the Mrs. Khalida Begum, Head Mistress of the host school. Sri Prasanta Borpuzari, Vice President of the Management Committee of host School, Dr. R. K. Borah, Scientist & GCR, RFRI, other Scientists and staff members of RFRI, teachers and students participated in the plantation programme. Sri R. K. Kalita, Scientist & Head, Forestry Extension Division conducted the plantation programme.

Extempore speech competition was held amongst the students coming from ten schools of Jorhat district. The competition was conducted in two categories: Junior Level from VI to VIII and Senior Level from IX to X. Around 50 students took part in the competition. Three best students in each category were awarded prizes for their deep subject knowledge and lucid presentation.

Junior Level

| Position | Names | School |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 st | Sri Chiranjeeb Barua | Rebo Kanta Barua Public High School, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| 2 nd | Ms Darshita Bairagi | Borigaon Public Balika Bidyalya, Borigaon, Jorhat (Assam) |
| 3 rd | Sri Manas Pratim Borah | Rebo Kanta Barua Public High School, Kenduguri, Jorhat |

Senior Level

| Position | Names | School |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 st | Ms Sukanya Bhuyan | Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| 2 nd | Ms Pallabi Borpuzari | Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| 3 rd | Sri Abhigyan Kalita | Rebo Kanta Barua Public High School, Kenduguri, Jorhat |

A Quiz competition was also held among the students. A total of nine teams participated in the Quiz competition, Sri R. K. Kalita, Scientist & Head, Forestry Extension Division, RFRI conducted the Quiz competition as Quiz Mater. Three best teams were adjudged and awarded for three positions:

| Position | Names | School |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 st Team | Ms Pallabi Borpuzari | Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| | Ms Imisha Borah | |
| | Ms Barsha Rani Kalita | |
| 2 nd Team | Sri Nitish Kumar Bora | Kenduguri Jatiya Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| | Sri Benjamin Dutta | |
| | Sri Bidyt Hazarika | |
| 3 rd Team | Sri Diksha Rani Gogoi | Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat |
| | Ms Barsha Rani Hazarika | |
| | Ms Angita Barthakur | |

A Open Session was organized which was graced by Sri Hiren Gogoi, AES, Inspector of Schools, Jorhat District as Chief Guest. The Session was started with a Chorus by the students of Sarojini Devi Uccha Balika Bidyalya, Kenduguri, Jorhat.

Mrs. Khalida Begum, HM welcomed all the dignitaries, scientists and staff members of RFRI, teachers, students and other citizens of Jorhat. She spoke about the importance and relevance of celebration of this Day.

Chief Guest, Sri Hiren Gogoi addressed the students and teachers and urged them to pay much needed attention towards the protection of biodiversity resources around us. He expressed his concern over the dwindling of valuable natural resources due to over exploitation by human being.

Dr. D. Dutta, Research Officer, RFRI delivered a power point presentation on 'Conservation of Biodiversity'. He sensitised all the audience, particularly the young students about the importance of biological diversity for betterment of all. He emphasises that our planet is for "everybody's need, but for anybody's greed".

Prizes were distributed among the winners of various competitions in the Open Session.

Sri R. K. Kalita, Scientist and Head, Forestry Extension Division, RFRI spoke on the occasion and thanked all for their active support and overwhelming response.











































