

## **Himalayan Forest Research Institute**

**Conifer Campus, Panthaghati, Shimla-171 013, Himachal Pradesh**

### **Release of “State REDD+ Action Plan” for Himachal Pradesh**

An event was organized by the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE)*, Dehradun and Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla for the release of State REDD+ Action Plan for Himachal Pradesh.

“State REDD+ Action Plan” to be implemented in five years in the state of Himachal Pradesh to the tune of Rs. 102 crore has been presented and released by Shri Jai Ram Thakur, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021. On this occasion, Shri Rakesh Pathania, Hon’ble Forest Minister, Shri Mahendra Thakur, Hon’ble Jal Shakti and Horticulture Minister, some other senior Ministers, Shri R.D. Dhiman, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Savita, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Dr. S.S. Samant, Director, HFRI, Shimla and representatives of the local administration were present.



On this occasion, Dr. S.S. Samant, Director, HFRI welcomed the Hon'ble Chief Minister by presenting a Shawl, Himachali Topi and also some publications of the Institute.



UNFCCC programme on 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks' in developing countries (**known as REDD+**) aims to achieve climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation in developing countries. Working in close collaboration with MoEF&CC and other State Forest Departments, the H.P. Forest Department is deploying scientific tools and methods for improved ecosystem management and carbon sequestration, forest carbon inventory and reference baselines; designing modalities/ programs for providing better incentives to forest dependent communities for promoting REDD+ activities for which the HPFD in collaboration with ICFRE and ICIMOD has prepared state action plan on REDD+.

This Plan has been prepared by the *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education*, Dehradun – an autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of

India, associating HFRI, Shimla and in collaboration with the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department and ICIMOD, Nepal after a series of detailed discussions with the stakeholders.

Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked everyone profusely and lauded the efforts of the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education*, Dehradun and Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla for bringing out the State Action Plan on REDD+, the implementation of which aims to achieve climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation in developing countries.