

WEBINAR ON WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 2021



World Environment Day is observed globally every year on 5th June. The 47th celebration of World Environment Day globally, this year the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration was launched with the #GenerationRestoration. The global host for this year was Pakistan and every one across the globe take the pledge to “REIMAGINE, RECREATE, RESTORE” and the students of School of Environment and Natural Resources, Doon University were not an exceptional.

School of Environment and Natural Resources, Doon University in collaboration with South Asian Forum of Environment organized a webinar on 5TH June, 2021. With the theme of “Ecosystem Restoration”, the webinar witnessed about 200 participants and registrations with some eminent speakers and environmentalist across the country. Owing to the present situation of Covid- 19 the students arranged everything for virtual modal and every individual contributed to the restoration process by planting sapling in their own houses. The importance of the nature was portrayed beautifully by a video in the beginning of the webinar which was followed by the inaugural address of the event by **Prof. Kusum Arunachalam**. She mentioned about the importance of the role of every individual in safeguarding the interests of environment for a better future.

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Webinar organised by Prakriti, SENR, Doon University
in association with South Asian Forum for Environment

**JUNE 5
2021**
3PM to 5 PM

Celebration of World Environment Day "Ecosystem Restoration"

Presidential Address
Prof. Surekha Dangwal
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Doon University

Inaugural Address
Prof. Kusum Arunachalam
HOD SENR, Doon University

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Dipayan Dey
Chair, Research & Planning, SAFE

#young motivators

Heeta Lakhani
Climate Educator
Global FP @unfcc

Prasidhi Singh
Social Entrepreneur &
Environment Activist,
Tamil Nadu

Ankita Chamola
Waste Warriors,
Project Manager

Dr. Niladri Dasgupta
Resource Person,
WII NMCG

Join through webex link.
<https://isaf.webex.com/isaf/j.php?MTID=m6f2b129d9ac1955a6db367b57e743cbf>

Meeting ID : 184 038 1590
Meeting Password : 0000

 **SAFE** South Asian Forum for Environment
Result of the competitions will be declared



The webinar saw some young motivators like **Heeta Lakhani**, Global FP at YOUNGCO, UNFCC , **Prasidhi Singh**, a small girl from Tamil Nadu who took away everyone's attention with her inspiring movement and thoughts. The participants in the webinar also got to know how waste can be turned into an economic resources by **Ankita Chamola**, Project Manager of the Waste Warriors, Dehradun which was fine-tuned by **Dr. Niladri Dasgupta**, resource person of WII. While sharing the thoughts and experiences,

Heeta mentioned that children should be encouraged to take up the initiatives to safeguard and to start a movement for the same which was duly proved by Prasidhi, and her "Green Army". Many questions were aroused in the mind of the participants which were answered and explained clearly by the speakers.

During the interactions, Ankita presented how any place can be turn into zero-waste place and how individual can contribute to the minimum waste generation. She encouraged every female participants

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to switch to menstrual cup and contribute to the minimal waste production. While with the same reference, Dr. Niladri Dasgupta threw light on the **Namami Ganga** project and other ecological issues prevailing in India.

Dr. Dipayan Dey, the chairperson of SAFE was the keynote speaker of the program and explained clearly about the importance for restoring what we have lost with reference to the recent cyclone “YAAS” effects in West Bengal. He spoke on the innovative programmes launched by SAFE such as Circular Economy, Blue Carbon and Bio rights for Environment protection.

The participants enjoyed throughout the program and apart from the talks by the speakers, the results were declared for the activities, which were arranged for all without any age bar to mark the theme of the Environment Day. We received entries from different intuitions across the country, and notably, not only the students but also the homemakers participated in the activities and blew away everyone’s mind with her extravagant ideas of recreating and reusing. The winners were awarded with certificates and cash prize money sponsored by SAFE (1st Prize Rs 2500, 2nd Prize Rs 1500 & 3rd Prize Rs 1000) . Even some of the entries from our university made ways for special prizes considering their ideas of reusing waste materials.

The categories for the entries were:

- ✓ **BEST-OUT –OF-WASTE**
- ✓ **BODY PAINTING**

BEST-OUT-OF-WASTE:

The purpose of the activity was to engage participants to think out of the box and come up with some new cool stuffs out of waste material. To make people think and encourage for the same that what you think waste, can be turned into some attractive and useful things. Let us not create waste anymore but restore what we have lost and reimagine.

The prize-holders for the same were:

1st Position: Anuj Joshi (SENR, DOON UNIVERSITY)

2ND Position: Arushi Lohani (SENR, DOON UNIVERSITY)

3rd Position: Ritu Saini (Home-maker)

Special Position: Satikwa Gupta

Ankita Rawat (SENR, DOON UNIVERSITY)

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BODY- PAINTING:

“ART IS THE BEST WAY TO EXPRESS AND CREATE AWARENESS” with this, modern time painting – the body painting category came into place and within a very short time we received a quite good number of entries. The theme was based on the theme of World Environment Day “Ecosystem Restoration.”

The position holders for the same are:

1st Position: Satikwa Gupta

2nd Position: Mayur Thapa

3rd Position: Astha Bhandari

The winners of both the categories were awarded with cash prize money sponsored by South Asian Forum of Environment.



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School of Environment Natural Resources Doon Univ Celebrates World Environment Day

By OUR STAFF REPORTER
DEHRADUN, 5 June: World Environment Day, 2021 was celebrated with much zeal and enthusiasm by PRAKRITI, the eco-club of School of Environment & Natural Resources, Doon University. Owing to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, the students kept the celebrations to the virtual mode and connected with the youngsters who are leaving some notable footprints in the field of environment in present times. The virtual program for the environment day was organized on the United Nations theme for 2021 "Ecosystem Restoration."

A three-hour-long program to mark the importance of the environment witnessed the active participation of students from other colleges and universities as well. Prof. Kasim Arunachalam, HOD, SENR, Doon University inaugurated the event, presided by the Vice-Chancellor, Doon University Prof. Surekha Dangwal. The event began with a short video created by the students to impart the importance of the plantation and ecosystem restoration.

Prof Kasim Arunachalam in her inaugural address unveiled that there has never been a more urgent need to restore the degraded ecosystems than now. Land degradation or Ecosystem



degradation is one of the biggest environmental threats facing the world today and Homo sapiens is the species largely responsible for this crisis. The Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) offers enormous opportunity to the state of Uttarakhand to restore its damaged, degraded, and destroyed ecosystems by effectively implementing the theme 'reimagine, recreate and restore'. This offers another opportunity to revive the unique Community based Van Panchayat System in the State by involving them in restoration activities. Presiding over the event, Prof.

Surekha Dangwal, the Vice Chancellor inspired the young generations with her eloquent speech, mentioning that the next generation has huge responsibility in not only spreading awareness but also to act consciously to protect and conserve the Environment. She highlighted that Uttarakhand has been the center of environmental movements such as Chipko and others with a rich legacy of environmental advocacy and can take a lead by significantly contributing in meeting the targets set for the ensuing Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. She said that School of Environment &

Natural Resources should collaborate with other premier Research Institutions located in the state to find out the scientific solutions for the restoration of damaged ecosystems.

Some remarkable and well-known youngsters like Heeta Lakshari, Global Focal Point facilitated the event for YOUNGO, and the official youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Prashikha Singh, a small girl from Tamil Nadu, is known for her social entrepreneurship and environmental activist followed by Ankita Chamoli, who's Project

Manager of Waste Warriors along with Dr. Niladri Dasgupta, Resource Person for WII NMCG enriched the list of young motivators. They all spoke from their experiences and stressed how every individual can contribute and could be part of the much-needed solutions.

The major highlight of the event was the Keynote Address by Dr. Dipayan Dey, the Founder of SAFE (South Asian Forum for Environment) where he highlighted community-based restoration activities in the country and as case studies; he highlighted the outcomes of the work being carried out by SAFE in the Sundarbans and North Eastern states of India. He said that for achieving sustainable development goals such as poverty eradication, reducing hunger, food security, halting biodiversity loss, and managing climate change, the restoration of degraded ecosystems is the need of the hour. Dr. Dey emphasized on the five 'R' of the restoration, Recovery of the habitat, Rehabilitation of the species, Regeneration of the restored species, Re-service the natural provision and Revisit to manage the Ecosystem. The event was concluded with an award ceremony to the competitors of "Best-out-of-the-waste", "body-painting", which was followed by the vote of thanks to the eminent dignitaries.

"Keep Planting a Tree Once a Week and Make This Earth A Better Place to Live"

