

ORGANIZED POPULAR LECTURE SERIES CUM WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT [AUGUST 8, 2019]

Follow Up Event under Popular Lecture Series on Climate Change and Sustainable Development. We4Climate: Popular Lecture Series on '*Climate Change and Sustainable Development*' On 21 August, 2019 was organized by the department of interdisciplinary department Himachal Pradesh in collaboration of CEE, Lucknow, GIZ, Department of Environment, Science & Technology, Ministry of Environment and Forest, GoI in which Prof. Sikender Kumar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, HP University remains present as Chief Guest.

Shri Nilay D. Kapoor, Chief General Manager, NABARD, H.P, Dr. Suresh C. Attri, Principal Scientific Officer, State Coordinator, HPKCCC, Govt. of H.P. Prof. Pawan Garg, Dean, Faculty of Environment, Development and Sustainability Studies, Prof. R. P. Sharma, Director, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, HPU, Prof Sunil Deshta, Dean, Faculty of Law

Faculty members of Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, HPU; representatives of Department of Science and Technology, State Council for Environment, Science and Technology, Department of Horticulture, NGO's, farmers and students of MBA (RD) and M.Sc. (Environmental Sciences)

Follow up Event under the Popular Lecture Series on *Climate Change and Sustainable Development* was organized by Centre for Environment Education, Lucknow the in collaboration with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (DIS) of Himachal Pradesh University in the Conference Hall of Department of Law of the University. The objective of the event was to offer a forum for exchange of ideas and discussion on issues linked with climate change and sustainable development. Prof. R. P. Sharma, Director, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, HPU, Shimla welcomed the Chief Guest, Prof. Sikender Kumar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, HP University and delivered the welcome address. He said that it is a right time to discuss the issues related to climate change and Sustainable Development with the policy makers, academicians and people working at the grass root level. He highlighted the activities of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and stressed on the need of handling the problems linked with climate change for achieving the goals of sustainable development. Felicitation of the distinguished guests and speakers was done and this was followed by plenary session on State Action Plans on Climate Change, climate change and sustainable development. Dr. Suresh C. Attri, Principal Scientific Officer, State Coordinator, HPKCCC, Govt. of H.P. gave the opening remarks. He briefed about the current

scenario of climate of Himachal Pradesh and the initiatives of the state government towards climate change adaptations.

This was followed by the presentation on Phase I by Centre for Environment Education, Dr. Sharad Gaur, Sr. Programme Director of Centre for Environment Education (CEE).

The Chief Guest, Prof. Sikender Kumar, addressed the participants. He said that environmental indicators form an index for sustainable development. Sustainability is a live thought and a result of deliberations aimed at achieving a sustainable life. The developmental challenges which the Himalayan region faces are intensified by the terrible impacts of natural disasters and climate change. Policy makers across the globe are facing similar challenges. He stressed that in order to manage the problem, planned and sustainable approach is required. Addressing the climate change requires a scientific thought and organized action, he said. He further suggested that climate action must be incorporated in the development planning.

Thematic expert lecture was delivered by Shri Nilay D. Kapoor, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Himachal Pradesh. He highlighted the role of NABARD in mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Simultaneously, three thematic workshops were organized. Thematic workshop on *Role of Government* was moderated by Mr. Sharad Gaur, Centre for Environment Education; *Role of Research Organization, NGOs and Industries*, was moderated by Neeraj Kr. Pal from CEE and Dr. Randhir Ranta, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, HP University; and *Youth for Climate Action*, was moderated by Ms. Monika Sharma, from Department of Science & Technology and Dr. Pawan Kumar Attri, from Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, HP University. The event provided platform for environmentalists, ecologists, mountain development experts, scientists, planners, students, NGOs and all other interested in sustainable mountain development and climate change, to talk about the different dimensions of development and its impacts.

Other distinguished guests present during the seminar were Prof. Pawan Garg, Dean, Faculty of Environment, Development and Sustainability Studies, Prof Sunil Deshta, Dean, Faculty of Law and faculty members of DIS including Dr. Rattan Singh Chauhan, Dr. Pawan Kumar Attri, Dr. Randhir S. Ranta, Dr. Sanjeev, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Baldev Negi, Sh. Sunil Jaswal, Sh. Kuldeep Singh and Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma. Students of M.Sc. (Environmental Sciences), MBA (Rural Development), representatives of various governmental and non-governmental organizations and farmers participated in the event.

A clear message that emerged from the event is that Himalayan region is becoming prone to the challenges of climate change and needs sustainable development approach to handle the situation, before it becomes inexorable.

