

ICFRE-RFRI CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) celebrated 78th Independence Day on 15 August, 2024 with fervour and gaiety. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director of the Institute hoisted the National Flag in the forecourt of the Institute. Scientists, Officers, Supporting Staff, Ministerial Staff, Research Fellows, Students, Spouses and Children, Guests etc participated in the Celebrations. Home Guard *Jawans* of the Institute performed the March-past and offered the Salute.

Dr. Kulkarni addressed the gathering and congratulated all on this auspicious occasion. He offered his rich tribute to all freedom fighters of the Indian Freedom Movement and remembered their contributions. He had paid his homage to martyrs from first movement of Indian struggle, such as *Jhansi ki Rani*, Lakhmibai to the time of Indian independence. He paid his deep respect to the entire unsung Heroes of Indian freedom struggle.

He gave a detailed account of development of India since Independence. He told that India had made tremendous progress in every sphere; however, there are miles to go. There are still many challenges that need to be addressed. He mentioned the contributions of the ICFRE and its Institutes in the domain of forestry research and development in the Country.

Dr. Kulkarni mentioned about the Institute's significant progress in recent years, such as Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) on Rejuvenation of River Brahmaputra, implementation of All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRP), Forest Soil Health Cards, Reclamation of Degraded Soil etc. He appreciated the scientific fraternity of the Institute for their contributions. But he also cautioned not to be complacent with this progress. He encouraged all to work more for the benefit of the society and environment. He put much emphasis on implementation of seventy five workable points of Mission LiFE, more particularly by the younger generation, so as to create 'Pro-Planet People' who are passionate to conserve the environment.

The occasion was marked with recitation of patriotic poems and singing songs by various officials and family members.

A Tree Plantation programme to mark *Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam* was also performed at the premises of the Institute.

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GLIMPSES OF THE CELEBRATION INDEPENDENCE DAY



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