

ICAR-NDRI Organises a Special Lecture under the “Rally for Rivers” Campaign

ICAR-NDRI organised a special lecture under the “Rally for Rivers” Campaign for NDRI Faculty and Students on September 23, 2017 under the aegis of Student Empowerment Unit. The objective of this lecture was to bring about much needed awareness amongst the faculty and students for conservation and preservation of water and to suggest measures to save our future generations from devastating impact of water scarcity. The depletion of rivers is a serious concern for our environment. The informative talk on “Rally for Rivers” by Dr. D. K. Sadana, Secretary, Indigenous Livestock Society-India and Mr. Mohit Sardana, Rashtriya Udyog Ratan Awardee emphasized on the concerns of depleting rivers. The session began with the dignitaries watering the plant and Dr. Meena Malik, Convener, Student Empowerment Unit welcoming the gathering. Dr. Sadana, being our former faculty was in his element in explaining how we would be left with only 50% of the water for our survival by 2030. This was an eye opener since already India is facing severe water scarcity. It was also informed as to how the rivers are being fed by water from the roots of plants that hold them in the porous soil. Mr. Mohit Sardana, carrying the mission of Sadhguru forward, etched in the minds of the youth that “Degree is a passport to a good job, not a good life.” This many of us fail to realize. India has 85% forest fed rivers and only 15% glacier fed rivers. The whole aim of the campaign was to implement a bill in the parliament that necessitates the planting of trees on the river banks, forest trees in case of government land and fruit trees in case of private land. This will increase the tree cover and this will help the soil hold water and will help the rivers stay perennial since most of our perennial rivers are turning seasonal due to loss of forest cover.

The ‘Rally for Rivers’ campaign was endorsed for the purpose of planting trees on 1km stretch area for main rivers and about half kilometer stretch area for smaller rivers. Many leaders from all walks of life have joined their hands to support this campaign. The talk focused on the practical aspects of saving the rivers and inspired the people to take a step forward to save rivers. Dr R. R. B. SINGH, Director NDRI in his presidential address also emphasised that this is a cause of serious concern for all of us and we all must take significant steps towards planting trees & creating awareness for conservation of scarce water resources. As a part of this awareness campaign, students of ICAR-NDRI went on a cycle rally to support the cause and spread awareness among people of Karnal on 25.09.2017 from 6.00am to 7.00am.



