

Importance of trees to humans stressed

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On the International Day of Forests, Mohit Gera, Director of the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), conducted a session for school students at Gass Forest Museum here on Thursday. He addressed students of Class IX on 'Climate Change and Forest Ecosystems.' Stressing the importance of trees to humans, Mr. Gera said that trees should be paid for rendering their service to us. At the end of the

session, a short film titled 'The Value of Forests' was screened for the students. After the session, Mr. Gera spoke to *The Hindu* about further steps needed to educate young people about the importance of conserving forests. "Specific films and programmes are required for schoolchildren explaining the importance of trees and forests. Children must also be taken to field trips for first-hand experience," he said.



Policy decisions

Dr. Gera said the government must take some policy decisions such as insurance mechanisms to encourage farmers to grow more trees. "The farmer needs to wait [for trees to grow] and there is uncertainty," he said. The IFGTB arranged lecture sessions on Thursday under the title 'Talk to Scientists' in which schoolchildren get to interact with scientists and research fellows on topics related to environment. Parallel sessions on creating small artificial ponds for birds during summer were also held.

SOURCE:-<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/importance-of-trees-to-humans-stressed/article26605423.ece>