

Rs316-cr project to check climate change

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A two-day workshop on the Himachal Pradesh Eco-System Climate Proofing Project, funded by the German Development Bank, concluded here on Monday evening. RS Banyal, the chief project director, told the field staff of the Nurpur forest division about the objective of the project — mitigating the negative impact of climate change for increasing biodiversity and income in rural areas through sustainable management of forest resources.

Social distancing was practised during the workshop. Banyal reviewed the forest management activities undertaken for the past two years in Nurpur division and studied the forestry works planned for the current year under the project.

The project worth Rs 316 crore is being implemented in nine forest divisions of Kangra and Chamba districts. On the concluding day of the workshop, Banyal said lantana removal, plantation of native broad leaves tree species, pasture development and spring shed development activities were being undertaken under the project with participation of the registered Village Forest Management Societies (VFMS). He said Rs 5 crore had been earmarked for project activities in Nurpur forest division for the current fiscal year. The field staff of the forest department was trained for using the GPS developed under the project geographical information system.

Basu Shamin, Divisional Forest Officer, Nurpur, said the project activities had launched in four forest ranges of Nurpur forest division through 25 registered VFMS. She said the Saving Book Incentive Approach was an interesting component of the project, under which incentive amount would be deposited in the account of the VFMS concerned, which could be withdrawn after monitoring of forest works.

Rs 5 cr for Nurpur

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