

## **FRI Celebrates 67<sup>th</sup> Van Mahotsav**

Forest Research Institute (FRI) celebrated 67<sup>th</sup> Van Mahotsav, 2016 near its Central Nursery. Dr. Shashi Kumar, director general, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. Savita, Director, FRI Along with officials and scientists of ICFRE and Team of ENVIS Centre on Forestry participated and planted their choice of medicinal plants.

Around 120 medicinal trees and shrubs including Rudraksh (*Elaeocarpus sphericus*), Kusum (*Sehleichera oleosa*), Putranjiva (*Putranjiva roxburghii*), Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*), Satavari (*Asparagus racemosus*), Arjun (*Terminalia arjuna*), Bael (*Aegle marmelos*) were planted during Van Mahotsav.

Dr. Shashi Kumar, planted a sapling of Rudraksh, while Dr. Savia planted a sapling of Kusum. During his speech, Dr. Shashi Kumar emphasised the culture of tree plantation has to be inculcated in the minds of children, students and youngsters, so that the custom of planting trees in cities and urban premises would transmit to future generations to come.

Dr. Savita reiterated that such efforts would conserve the medicinal trees of our country, outside the natural forests where the naturally occurring medicinal plants facing immense biotic pressure and threaten locally endangered species.

On the occasion, DDGs, ADGs, senior officers, scientists, staff and workers from ICFRE and FRI actively participated and planted their choice of medicinal plants.

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