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**Himalayan Day at ISWC**

Dehradun, 9 September 2016. Dr A. Senthil Kumar (Director, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing), Chief Guest, inaugurated 7th Himalayan Day at the Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, and described the role of the Himalayas as creator, viz. biggest water resource of the world; storehouse of global biodiversity; and mentioned that many medicinal plants useful for human health are found on the Himalayas and the role of protective as the Himalayas is considered as 3rd pole of the world. Dr Kumar also emphasized on the integration of geospatial technologies in remote areas of the Himalayas and focused on the recent achievements of Indian Space Research Organization.



Dr P. K. Mishra (Director, ISWC) reassured that the Institute of Soil and Water Conservation strives for the sustainable management of the Himalayas, and urged to use the resources available responsibly for their own benefit and for the next upcoming generations.

The deliberations were on the importance of the Himalayan Day, Effect of Climate Change on Agriculture in Indian Himalayan Region, Global warming, Greenhouse effect, IPCC assessment reports, how a common man can help in environmental sustainability etc.

The scientists of the Institute of Soil and Water Conservation focused on the different services provided by the Himalayas, and emphasized on the conservation of the fragile Himalayan ecosystem. There was oath ceremony on 'Conserve Soil and Water' - 'Save Himalayas Save Life'. The English transcript of the oath, taken in Hindi transcribes, "We would respect and show our gratitude to the Himalayas. We would not harm environmental condition of the Himalayas and will not allow anybody to do so. We would rationally use the natural resources available in the Himalayas. We would try our level best in all conditions at all levels to conserve and improve the environment of the Himalayas. We would always be active for the same".

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