Prakriti ignites young minds

In compliance of MoU signed between ICFRE and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, to promote awareness about forest and environment, Forest Research Centre for Coastal Ecosystem (FRC-CE), Visakhapatnam initiated "Prakriti: A scientist-student connect initiative" among students of Kendriya Vidyalayas located at Visakhapatnam. On 7th February 2020 Dr S. Chakrabarti, Scientist-G and Head of FRC-CE guided a 'Research Outreach' team comprising of Smt T.Anusha and Shri Srinivas to organize an interactive training at Malkapuram KV near Gandhi gram post on Biodiversity and Ecological issues. Mrs. Krishna Karmakar, principal of KVS arranged the program with utmost enthusiasm along with five of the teachers of the school.

Smt T. Anusha, Technician FRC-CE briefed about the "PRAKRITI" program and FRC-CE and its contribution towards environment and society. She also elaborated different aspects of biodiversity, threats and conservation of biodiversity. During her presentation and discussion with students, she talked about mangrove forests, their importance and also regarding sacred groves.

After the presentation a video regarding biodiversity was played twice for students as a part of quiz to identify flora and fauna present in the video and make a note of it. Later a pictorial quiz was conducted which has 25 species of flora and fauna to identify.

After the Quiz Dr. S. Chakrabarti, Scientist-G, FRC-CE delivered a talk on "Why trees and forests are important to us" pointing out that trees can be considered as a part of human body without which one cannot survive. He pointed out that apart from inhaling Oxygen through lungs, Oxygen also ignites the heart-beat when human embryo is only 22 days of gestation period. The importance of forests in maintaining ecological balance was also discussed during the presentation. After the presentation, prizes for the quiz conducted in the before session were announced and presented to the winners.

The principal of the school Mrs. Krishna Karmakar expressed that "so many new concepts were learnt by not only students but also by teachers today as a part of Prakriti program and we expect many more of such interactions of scientists with students". This is followed by a vote of thanks given by Mr.Jagan Mohan, one of the school faculties. A total of 132 students from class 9th and 11th along with 5 teachers of the school participated in the program.



Dr. S. Chakrabarti describing the importance of trees and forests



Kendriya vidyalaya principal Mrs.Krishna karmakar with quiz winners



A group photo taken with KV student participants and resource persons after the session