

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 organized "Prakriti: A scientist - student connecting initiative" among students of Kendriya Vidyalaya No 2, Nausenabaugh located at Visakhapatnam. On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Shri T. Srinivas, Scientist-B and Head (In charge) of FRC-CE guided a 'Research Outreach' team comprising of Smt T. Anusha and CH. Srinivas to organize an interactive training at KVS Nausenabaugh – 2 on Coastal Ecosystem Services and Human Well Being. Mrs. Nishi kant Agarwal, Principal of KVS welcomed the team and arranged the needful for the programme.

Smt T. Anusha, Technician, FRC-CE gave a brief introduction about the "PRAKRITI" program and FRC-CE and its contribution towards environment and society.



Shri. T. Srinivas, Scientist, FRCCE apprised different students about the coastal ecosystems like the mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, estuaries, lagoons and backwaters etc and their significance in providing various ecosystem services for humans, such as sequestering carbon, cycling nutrients and elements, providing nurseries and fishing grounds for commercial fisheries, preventing coastal erosion and moderating extreme event. He also apprised students about the impact of climate change on faunal biodiversity of coastal ecosystems. He further added that Mangroves play a vital role in coastal ecology and in sustaining and securing coastal communities.

Following the presentation Smt T. Anusha presented on "Ecological role of Mangroves", in which she briefed about mangrove forests, pointed out threats to mangrove communities and conservative steps taken by FRCCE. A quiz was also conducted regarding the identification of flora and fauna related to coastal ecosystems. Later four videos regarding scenic beauties of coastal ecosystems and threats to the ecosystems due to human interference were clearly picturized to students. Winners of the quiz were distributed with prizes from behalf of FRCCE. A total of 110 students including teachers were present in the programme. After the program, all students were fully satisfied and they were confident and showed full enthusiasm for care and protection of environment and forests.







