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## First Meet of Himalayan Young Researchers

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September 7–9, 2014

G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development  
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263 643, Uttarakhand, INDIA

**Dr Uppeendra Dhar, FNASc**

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Dr Uppeendra Dhar, the former Director G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, began his career as a hard core plant taxonomist from University of Kashmir, Srinagar. Later he diversified to the fields of ethno-medicine, conservation of biological diversity, biotechnological applications, conservation education, and participatory conservation. His pioneering work on endemics of Himalaya and prioritization approaches are widely acclaimed. He developed interdisciplinary approaches to address environment linked development issues. Dr Dhar is widely acknowledged for his contributions to biodiversity conservation and management. Among others, his contributions have remained significant as National Coordinator ‘NBSAP (MoEF)- Wild Plant Diversity’, country representative ‘AHTEG Convention on Biological Diversity Rome Italy 2003’, and peer reviewer ‘Northern Range Millennium Assessment 2004’, and the expert on ‘Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services under TEEB Germany 2009’. Dr Dhar served as the member of planning commission task force on – ‘The Mountain Ecosystems 2006, and ‘Problems of Hill States and Hill Areas 2008’, and developed biodiversity indicators in climate change context. As National Consultant, he prepared the ‘UNDP-MoEF IV National Report to Convention on Biological Diversity 2008-2009’. He has authored/ co-authored over 115 research publications, 5 books, and 3 edited books, and mentored 18 Post-graduate students for MPhil and PhD. As the Director of GBIHED, Dr Dhar strived for promoting developmental research, and facilitated wider collaboration with the Government, NGOs, academia, researchers and the policy planners. He is the Fellow of National Academy of Sciences (FNASc), and his present interest includes developing biodiversity indicators for predictive value.