

VANMAHOTSAV - 2025 An Appeal

Since ancient times, forests have played a vital role in shaping human civilization. They have provided food, shelter, medicine, and inspiration for culture and spirituality. In India, forests are not just resources—they are revered, forming an integral part of our traditions and daily lives. Vanmahotsav, or the "Festival of Trees," is a celebration of this sacred bond between humans and nature. It reminds us of our responsibility to conserve, restore, and cherish the green wealth that sustains all forms of life on Earth.

As we observe **Vanmahotsav 2025**, it is more important than ever to recognize the ecological significance of forests. Forests are the lungs of our planet. They absorb carbon dioxide—a major greenhouse gas—and release life-giving oxygen.

Forests also regulate the water cycle. Trees draw groundwater through their roots and release moisture into the atmosphere through transpiration, influencing rainfall patterns. Healthy forests prevent soil erosion, recharge aquifers, and reduce the risk of floods and droughts.

But today, vital ecosystems are under immense pressure. Deforestation, habitat fragmentation, climate change, and illegal logging are causing unprecedented ecological imbalance. The loss of forest cover not only threatens wildlife but also endangers human health, food security, and resilience to natural disasters.

In this context, Vanmahotsav is not just a symbolic event—it is an urgent call to action. Planting trees is one of the simplest yet most powerful tools to fight climate change, conserve biodiversity, and secure water and food resources. Each sapling planted today can become a guardian of tomorrow's environment.

We appeal to every citizen of Tripura and beyond to actively participate in this green movement. Plant a sapling in your home, school, office, or community. Care for it as you would care for a member of your family. Let it grow into a living monument of your commitment to nature. Let **Vanmahotsav 2025** be a turning point in our journey towards a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable future.

Together, let us rebuild our forests, rejuvenate our ecosystems, and reaffirm our role as responsible stewards of the Earth.

Plant a tree, grow a life.

Jai Hind!

[Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha]