

## PUBLIC LECTURE World Environment Day



### Transformation for Resilience and Sustainability in the Hindu Kush Himalaya



**Dr. Eklabya Sharma**

Padma Shri Awardee 2024

Dr. Eklabya Sharma is an eminent ecologist with over 40 years of experience in sustainable development of the Hindu Kush Himalayan region. Renowned globally for his pioneering research and science diplomacy, he has held esteemed positions such as Regional Head of the G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment, Deputy Director General at ICIMOD, and Vice-Chancellor of TERI School of Advanced Studies. His work has significantly influenced global policies on mountain ecosystems. He has been a strong advocate for the global mountain agenda, impacting millions through his efforts in biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation. **Currently, he is Strategic Advisor and Distinguished Fellow, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru.**

Date and Time **Wednesday, June 05 2024, 10:30 AM**

Venue **LH-7, Lecture Hall Complex, IISER Mohali**

**Abstract.** Mountains cover over one-fifth of the world's land and are home to about one-eighth of its population, supporting one-fourth of terrestrial biodiversity and nearly half of global biodiversity hotspots. The Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region, spanning Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan, is a vital mountain ecosystem facing rapid biodiversity loss, climate change, increased disaster risk, and rising vulnerabilities.

To ensure resilience and sustainability, transformative actions are needed, including evidence-based measures to maintain biodiversity, reduce disaster risk, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and manage water resources. Regional cooperation, information sharing, and capacity building among HKH countries are essential to address these challenges. Sustainable solutions require integrating contemporary and traditional knowledge, multi-disciplinary approaches, science-policy linkages, and upstream-downstream ecosystem connections. Stakeholders must act urgently to save this global asset by fostering cooperation for a resilient and sustainable HKH.

Background image *a satellite map of HKH*

## All are welcome

Please take your seats by 10:20 AM