

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S VISIT TO IFP RANCHI

8-9 SEPTEMBER 2010

Dr. Govind Singh Rawat, *IFS* and Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Dehradun visited Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi on 8-9 September 2010. Two days programme of his visit included interaction with the officers and officials on developmental aspects of the institute viz., buildings, infrastructure, manpower and visit of experimental and demonstration plots at Lalgutwa as well as Forest Research Centre, Mandar. Prominent activities of the visit were inauguration of IFP's Bamboo Setum; commissioning of oil distillation plant in the Regional Medicinal Plant Garden at Lalgutwa, release of a book on Indian Medicinal Trees and official launch of a web site.

At the outset, Dr. Rawat was welcomed by Sh. Rameshwar Das, Director of the Institute followed by a detailed presentation on IFP's research and extension endeavours. Various Heads of Divisions also appraised the Director General about the significant research achievements. In his address in the meeting the Director General advised the officials, scientists and staff to direct their wholesome efforts for making IFP a premier research institution not only in eastern India but make its presence felt and acknowledged all over the country.



Dr. Rawat appreciated the work being carried out by the Institute with limited infrastructure and manpower and assured that the Council will take appropriate steps to strengthen the institute. However, he observed that development is gradual and ongoing process and hoped that Institute people will continue to work the same zeal and enthusiasm focusing on its core competency on eco-restoration of degraded lands and mines; NWFP including Lac and Tasar cultivation and addressing social and livelihood issues pertaining to forestry particularly for tribal and indigenous groups. He emphasized on transfer of developed packages and technologies to stakeholder especially establishment of trials on farmers' field for optimizing benefits and gaining acceptance in society without which the research will remain confined to the laboratories.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DG'S PROGRAMME AT RANCHI

DAY 1: 8th SEPTEMBER 2010

INAGURATION OF IFP'S BAMBOO SETUM

Director General, ICFRE inaugurated the Bamboo Setum of Institute of Forest productivity Ranchi on 8th September 2010. Lauding the phenomenal efforts of the institute to establish the largest repository amounting to 33 species of indigenous and exotic bamboo in the region; Dr. Rawat expressed that this Bamboo Setum will a valuable resources to act not only for *ex situ* conservation but also as germplasm bank for future research. Sh. Rameshwar Das, Director informed that the number of bamboo species will be increased to 50 in next 2 years by incorporation of germplasm from all over the country. Dr. S. Nath, Head of SLR Division and In-Charge of Bamboo Setum intimated the DG about some of the peculiar bamboo species which included black variety of *Bambusa vulgaris* not reported earlier in the literature. Dr. Rawat also planted a plant of *Dendrocalamus giganteus* as new incorporation in the Bamboo Setum to mark the occasion.



Inauguration of Bamboo Setum by Dr. G.S. Rawat, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun



Planting of Bamboo seedling by DG, ICFRE & discussion in Bamboo Setum

RELEASE OF BOOK ON INDIAN MEDICINAL TREES

In a ceremony attended by distinguished foresters, academicians and scientists Dr. Govind Singh Rawat, Director General, ICFRE released a book entitled “Indian Medicinal trees” authored by Dr. Sanjay Singh and Sh. Shambhu Nath Mishra of the IFP Ranchi. The Book published by the Institute with financial support from National Medicinal plant Board, New Delhi incorporates valuable information on 43 important medicinal trees of India on botanical characteristics for correct identification, distribution and ecological requirements, therapeutic uses of different parts and modes of propagation. In recognition of their work the authors were presented appreciation certificate by the DG.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Rawat said that India’s rich natural wealth and species diversity of medicinal trees has been a key element in traditional herbal treatment system. However, plantation of medicinal trees has not gained the required momentum compared to widespread boom of on-field cultivation of short rotation medicinal herbs. He hoped that this book will sensitize the readers about Indian medicinal trees aiding to their conservation and sustainable utilization.



Release of Book “Indian Medicinal Trees” by DG

COMMISSIONING OF OIL DISTILLATION PLANT AT REGIONAL MEDICINAL PLANT GARDEN

An oil distillation plant established by IFP Ranchi in collaboration with Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow was commissioned by the Director General at 'Aush Upvan' Regional Medicinal Plant Garden of the Institute. The Garden has been set up under the project sponsored by National Medicinal Plant Board, New Delhi at Lalgutwa, Ranchi under Chotanagpur plateau for conservation, demonstration and continual production and supply of quality planting material for distribution to promote on farm cultivation of medicinal plants.



Director General at Regional Medicinal Plant Garden, Lalgutwa, Ranchi

Dr. Rawat opined that cluster approach consisting of cultivation, harvesting, extraction, value addition and marketing is the only option for fruitful utilization and optimizing benefits for growers of medicinal plants. He congratulated the Institute on its effort in the direction of medicinal plant conservation and especially appreciated the collection of more than 300 medicinal plants being maintained in the herbal garden.

DAY 2: 9th SEPTEMBER 2010

VISIT OF FOREST RESEARCH CENTRE, MANDAR

Director General's programme on the next day was devoted to Forest Research centre, Mandar which is one of the centres under Institute of Forest Productivity Ranchi with over 24.32 ha of experimental area for provenance / progeny trials and demonstration plantations; tissue culture, soil testing laboratory and seed processing unit; modern nursery facilities with mist chambers, shade houses and composting units.



Dr. G.S. Rawat, IFS, DG visiting Laboratories & Experimental Field at Forest Research Centre Mandar

Dr. Rawat was informed by the scientists of the Centre about ongoing research projects during his visit to various laboratories, experimental sites and demonstration plantations. Finally, a gathering of IFP officials and scientists was addressed by the Director General before leaving for Dehradun. The researchers and officials of the Institute assured to work in consonance with the vision of Director General 'taking research to the field'. The visit of Director General created an aura of hope and aspiration in the Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi.



GLIMPSES OF DG VISIT OF RANCHI