



ICFRE

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Patron:

Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Director General

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All communication and suggestions for improvement may kindly be addressed to:

Honorary Editor

Smt. Neena Khandekar

Assistant Director General
Media and Extension, Directorate of Extension
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
P.O. New Forest
Dehradun – 248 006
Email: adg_mp@icfre.org

Front Cover (clockwise from top):

1. Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister EF&CC lighting the lamp on the occasion of the World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June 2014 at New Delhi
2. Consultative National workshop on DLDD
3. Bamboo Crafts Mela at Jorhat
4. Training on Agarbatti stick making at Jorhat
5. Open Top Chamber Facility established at FRI, Dehradun

Back Cover: Glimpses of celebration of World Environment Day at different ICFRE institutes

Patron's Column



The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun is actively engaged in forestry research, education and extension. The Council is representing the nation at various fora globally, and also organizing events involving international participation in the country. The International Seminar on "Sandalwood: Current trends and future prospects" at IWST, Bangalore and Fifth International Casuarina workshop under the aegis of IUFRO Working Party S2.08.02, Improvement and Culture of Nitrogen-Fixing Trees at Mamallapuram, Chennai by IFGTB, Coimbatore were two such events where representatives from over 30 countries including Australia, Bangladesh, China, France, Mali, Philippines, Senegal, Thailand and USA participated.

ICFRE, in collaboration with National Bamboo Mission, is also hosting Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) and conducting various activities in promotion of bamboos including its propagation and management, skill upgradation and capacity building of craftspeople regularly. BTSG-ICFRE also provided financial support to establish a Common Facility Centre (CFC) at FRI, Dehradun. Recently, support of Rs. 4.00 Lakh for strengthening the CFC was released. A total amount of Rs. 50.00 lakh thus have been released for CFC to FRI.

The Council is striving to erect modern and up-to-date infrastructural facilities across the ICFRE institutes. FRI, Dehradun established a central facility "Open Top Chamber Facility" to study tree species response to elevated CO₂ and temperature under controlled conditions and IFGTB, Coimbatore established a Geomatics Lab with Geographical Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) facilities.

ICFRE, with a view to conserve environment, is engaged in development of sustainable eco-friendly technologies. FRI, Dehradun developed a low cost technology for the manufacturing of handmade paper from Pine needles. Pine needles in different proportion with gunny bag were utilized for manufacturing handmade paper.

Various extension initiatives have been taken up by the Council with programmes such as Van Vigyan Kendras (VVKs), Demo Village, Direct to Consumer Scheme, Tree Growers Mela etc. To utilize various platforms for extension of our technologies, ICFRE has initiated networking of VVKs with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of ICAR under which different activities have been conducted by ICFRE institutes. IFGTB, Coimbatore organized a workshop on "Tree cultivation technologies" for transfer of technologies developed by the institute to KVKs of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Participants from 26 KVKs from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry attended the programme. The meeting was conducted in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU) and Tamil Nadu Forest Department (TNFD). IWST, Bangalore organized a three day training programme on "Sandal based agroforestry models" for subject matter specialists from 32 KVKs of Karnataka and Goa.

ICFRE is engaged in formulation of Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans for individual mines in the mining districts of Karnataka i.e., Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga. So far 93 Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans have been prepared and submitted to Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Out of these, 90 R&R plans have been approved by the CEC.

I hope that this issue of the Newsletter will provide a brief account of the diverse activities being conducted at the Council.

Dr. Ashwani Kumar
Director General

WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

Celebration of the World Day to Combat Desertification (WDCD) was organized jointly by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education and the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) on 17 June 2014 at New Delhi. The theme of this year's WDCD is ecosystem-based adaptation with the slogan '*Land Belongs to the Future, Let's Climate Proof It*'. The 2014 WDCD highlights the benefits of mainstreaming sustainable land management policies and practices into our collective response to climate change. Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests & Climate Change was the Chief Guest of the function. The minister said that desertification, loss of biodiversity along with climate change is the greatest challenge to sustainable development. He also said that land degradation is primarily due to loss of grasslands and loss of forest cover due to agriculture pressure. Though the figures of land degradation/desertification are frightening in India, but it can be stopped or reverted through joint efforts made by the people. He said that his experience on working in eleven watersheds in Maharashtra shows that we can together stop desertification and we can make India desertification neutral. India can become land degradation neutral by 2030, if MoEF&CC, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) and other stakeholders work towards this goal effortlessly.

On the occasion Hon'ble Minister, MoEF&CC also released a short documentary on Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM) project in India prepared by ICFRE highlighting the SLEM interventions undertaken by the project partners located in different agro-ecological zones of the country.



Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change lighting the lamp on the occasion of the World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June 2014 at New Delhi

In addition, the Hon'ble Minister, MoEF &CC felicitated Mr. Jadav Payeng from Assam, Mr. Ranaram Bishnoi from Rajasthan and the Foundation for Ecological Security, an organization based in Gujarat for their outstanding contribution in restoring degraded land and ecosystems.

The technical session discussed the lessons from the field on ecosystem based adaptations. The session was chaired by Shri Sushil Kumar, Additional Secretary (AS), MoEF&CC and co-chaired by Shri B.M.S. Rathore, Joint Secretary (JS), MoEF&CC. Sh. Saibal Dasgupta, Deputy Director General (Extension), Dr. T.P. Singh, Assistant Director General (BCC), Dr. Anita Srivastava, Project Manager, Dr. R.S. Rawat, Technical Manager and consultants of SLEM project from ICFRE also participated in the deliberations.

A plantation programme and a debate for school children were also organized to mark the day at AFRI, Jodhpur.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "SANDALWOOD: CURRENT TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS"

IWST, Bangalore organized an International Seminar on "Sandalwood: Current trends and

future prospects" from 26 to 28 February 2014. The seminar was inaugurated by His Excellency,



International Seminar on “Sandalwood: Current trends and future prospects” at IWST, Bangalore

the Governor of Karnataka, Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj in presence of Dr. Veerappa Moily, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister for Environment and Forests, Government of India and Dr. S. S. Garbyal, Director General (Forests) and Special Secretary to Government of India.

In his address, His Excellency Dr. Hans Raj Bhardwaj mentioned that Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are the major natural habitats of sandalwood and these states have witnessed a drastic decline of sandalwood in its natural habitat. He further desired that the governments at central and state level should come out with suitable policies and strategies for conservation of this species. His Excellency felicitated Mrs. R.A. Srimathi, an 83 years old renowned scientist who is credited to have carried out pioneering research on sandalwood.

The Union Minister Dr. M. Veerappa Moily expressed his great affection for sandalwood and stated that the world recognizes Indian sandalwood as the best in the world. He emphasized that sandalwood is Karnataka’s pride and every office and house in the State should have a sandalwood tree. He concluded that it would be a great tragedy for Kannadigas if sandalwood disappears from this Gandhadha Gudi.

Dr. S.S.Garbyal, DG (Forests) and Special Secretary to the Government of India and Director General, ICFRE delivered the keynote address wherein he put forward the current status

of sandalwood and the measures that have been taken to save this species. Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr. V. Ramakantha, Director, IWST, Bangalore fondly remembered His Highness, the Maharaja of Mysore, Shri Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV, renowned as *Raja Rishi*, who envisioned the importance of sandalwood and established the Forest Research Laboratory in 1938, which has now blossomed into IWST.

The International Seminar witnessed presentations from countries like Australia, Fiji, Hawaii, Pacific Islands and Sri Lanka, which are home to different species of sandalwood. The seminar was a part of the year-long celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee of IWST, Bangalore.

Fifth International Casuarina Workshop

IFGTB, Coimbatore organized the Fifth International Casuarina Workshop in Mamallapuram, Chennai from 03 to 07 February 2014 under the aegis of IUFRO Working Party S2.08.02, *Improvement and Culture of Nitrogen-Fixing Trees*. The objective of the workshop was to bring together researchers and managers to update the knowledge on this important group of species so that the results are effectively used for improving livelihood opportunities in rural areas as envisaged by the working title of the Workshop: *Casuarina Improvement for Securing Rural Livelihoods*. The workshop was attended by eighty participants of whom twenty were from abroad representing Australia, Bangladesh, China, France, Mali, Philippines, Senegal, Thailand and the USA.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr V. Rajagopalan, the then Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India. Shri. A.K. Srivastava, Additional Director General of Forests, MoEF, Government of India delivered the keynote address. Dr. P. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority; Mr Khongsak Pinyopusarerk, Honorary Fellow, CSIRO, Australia; Dr Antoine Kalinganire, IUFRO Working Party Coordinator, Mali were the guests

of honour. Dr N. Krishna Kumar, Director, IFGTB presided over the function. During the inaugural address, Dr Rajagopalan explained the gathering about the Green India Mission which focuses on increasing tree cover in India. He stated that currently 22% of the land area is under forest cover and to achieve the target of bringing 33% of area under forest cover, agro- forestry species like *Casuarina* assume great importance

and funds available under the Mission can be utilized for improving the species.

The MoEF has recognized IFGTB, Coimbatore for establishment of a Thematic ENVIS Centre on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement (FGR-TIP) which was inaugurated by Dr. V. Rajagopalan on 03 February 2014.



Participants of the Fifth International Casuarina Workshop at Mamallapuram, Chennai

ICFRE PARTICIPATION IN FOREIGN MEETINGS/ WORKSHOPS/ SYMPOSIA ETC.

- Dr. A. Balu, Scientist F; Dr. A. Karthikeyan, Scientist D; Dr. Maheshwar Hegde, Scientist D and Dr. A. Shanthi, Scientist C of IFGTB, Coimbatore participated in Acacia 2014 conference with special emphasis on sustaining the future of Acacia Plantation forestry at Hue, Vietnam from 18 to 21 March 2014. This conference was conducted jointly by Vietnam Academy of Forestry Sciences; CSIRO, Australia; University of Tasmania and Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI).
- Shri Saibal Dasgupta, Deputy Director General (Extension) and Dr. T.P. Singh, Assistant Director General (Biodiversity and Climate Change), ICFRE participated in the Regional Workshop on ‘2014 Reporting exercise for the country parties of the regional implementation annex for Asia’ of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) from 07 to 09 May 2014 at Incheon, Republic of Korea.

WORKSHOPS/ SEMINARS/ MEETINGS ETC.

- **ICFRE, Dehradun** organized following workshops :
 - Workshop on ‘Review of progress for preparation of sixth national report to UNCCD secretariat’ on 15 May 2014 at India International Centre, New Delhi.
 - Two days training workshop for IFS officers on “REDD+ in India: Issues and challenges” sponsored by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India on 23 and 24 June 2014 at ICFRE, Dehradun.

- **FRI, Dehradun** organized the following workshops:
 - One day workshop cum Kissan Mela on “Role of agroforestry in sustainable timber supply to wood based industries” on 13 January 2014 at G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (GBPUAT), Pantnagar.



Workshop cum Kissan Mela on “Role of agroforestry in sustainable timber supply to wood based industries” on 13 January 2014 at GBPUAT, Pantnagar

- A National workshop on "Forest seed science- Recent advances and challenges in seed research" on 26 and 27 February 2014 at FRI which was attended by around hundred delegates from various research institutions and Universities.
- Three days' Awareness Programme on "Wood processing and wood working machines" for officials of Punjab State Agriculture Marketing Board (PSAMB) Chandigarh from 09 to 11 June 2014.
- **TFRI, Jabalpur** organized a two-days workshop-cum-training programme on 12 and 13 March 2014 at Forest Rangers College, Angul Odisha for ‘Strengthening network for outreach of research findings of ICFRE and its institutes’ under OTSG to ICFRE. Forty eight participants including thirty three women participants and other officials from TFRI and Odisha State Forest Department attended the workshop. Similar workshop-cum-training programme was also organized on 28

and 29 May 2014 at Bilaspur for Chhattisgarh state.

- **IFP, Ranchi** organized a peer review workshop on "Silvicultural studies of Phasi (*Anogeissus acuminata*) in Odisha" on 26 March 2014 at Orissa Forest Sector Development Project (OFSDP), Bhubaneswar. The Institute also organized a workshop on "Conservation of rare, endangered and threatened plant species" on 29 March 2014 at IFP, Ranchi under MoEF, GoI funded project entitled "Improvement of infrastructural facilities in the Botanical garden as a lead garden in Jharkhand for ex-situ conservation of rare and endangered plant species".



A Peer Review Workshop' on "Silvicultural studies of Phasi (*Anogeissus acuminata*) on 26 March 2014 at OFSDP, Bhubaneswar

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized following workshops:
 - Three days workshop on “Feasibility of introducing intercrops in tree plantations for income generation during gestation period” from 21 to 23 January 2014 jointly with Regional Centre, National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board, Shillong, Meghalaya. A total of twenty five forest officers from different states participated in the workshop.
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 - Two-days National Seminar on “Recent advances on bamboo research and



development in India” on 06 and 07 February 2014 at Jorhat. The Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. G. S. Goraya, Deputy Director General (Research), ICFRE. Dr. N. S. Bisht, Director, RFRI welcomed all the delegates, guests, dignitaries and participants. Dr. K. G. Prasad, former



Bamboo Crafts Mela at RFRI, Jorhat

Director, RFRI delivered the keynote address. A Bamboo crafts mela was also organized as a side event of the seminar in which craftspeople from Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland participated and exhibited their products.

DIRECT TO CONSUMER SCHEME

- **AFRI, Jodhpur** organized a training programme on rainwater harvesting and afforestation on degraded hilly tracts on 23 and 24 January 2014.
- **IFP, Ranchi** organized a training-cum-workshop for twenty five stakeholders on 27 March 2014 under the project titled "Exploration of lac cultivation on non-traditional host *Flemengia* sp. and its possibility in sustainable plantation forestry".



FRI, Dehradun organized training on "Development of agroforestry practices" at FRI, Dehradun

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- **FRI, Dehradun** organized following training programmes:
 - Three days training on “Development of agroforestry practices” for stakeholders including NGOs, panchayat members, JFMCs, WSMCs & eco clubs of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana & Chandigarh from 08 to 10 January 2014.
 - Training on capacity building of local M.Sc. students to work with farmers and women self-help groups for cultivation of edible and medicinal mushrooms on media preparation, isolation, purification and spawn preparation in collaboration with *Baghban Gramodhyog Samiti* (an NGO) from 20 January to 10 February 2014.
 - Training on "Forestry as livelihood in climate change adaptation" for DCF/ACF level officers from the States, NGOs and University faculty members from 03 to 07 March 2014.

- Training on "Nursery and plantation techniques of forestry species" for Army personnel from Eco-Task Force from 10 to 14 March 2014.
- A National workshop-cum-training programme on "Application of bioinformatics in forestry" from 27 to 29 March 2014. Fourteen participants from different institutes including Doon University, Dolphin (PG) Institute of Biomedical & Natural Sciences, Botanical Survey of India, Department of Botany, Kanahiya Lal D.A.V.(P.G.) College, Roorkee and FRI University attended the workshop.
- Five days training –cum- workshop on "Essential oils, perfumery & aromatherapy" in collaboration with Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre (FFDC), Kannauj from 09 to 13 June 2014. Altogether forty six Indian and overseas participants including nineteen from the Republic of Rwanda and one from USA, and others from different corners of India attended the programme.
- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** organized the following training programmes:
 - Three days training on 'Agroforestry models – Establishment and management' from 21 to 23 January 2014, sponsored by the MoEF, New Delhi, for stakeholders such as public representatives, NGO's, educational institutions, press and media and social activists. A total of thirty participants from Tirunelveli and Theni districts of Tamil Nadu participated in the training programme. The training was inaugurated by Dr. K. A. Ponnusamy, Director, Extension and Education, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
 - Two-days training programme on 'Diagnosis of soil for production' to stakeholders such as NGO's, panchayat, elected public representatives, representatives from educational institutions, press, media, banking institutions and social activists on 28 and 29 January 2014, sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India. A total of thirty two participants from Coimbatore & Tirupur districts of Tamil Nadu and Palakkad district of Kerala participated in the training.
- Three-days 'Sensitization course in forests, wildlife and environmental conservation for Group 'A' and Group 'B' Officers of other government departments' from 12 to 14 February 2014. It was attended by twenty three participants from Tamil Nadu State Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Police; central govt. organizations like Indian Railways, Central Reserve Police Force and Sugarcane Breeding Institute. The Chief Guest, Dr. V.K. Melkani, IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Project Tiger, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Coimbatore delivered the inaugural address. A panel discussion on selected topics was organized for close interaction and exchange of thoughts among the participants.
- Two training programmes on 'Biological Diversity Act-2002' for University/ College lecturers and officials of Tamil Nadu Forest Department from 05 to 06 March 2014 and 13 to 14 March 2014. A total of sixty participants attended the trainings.
- **IWST, Bangalore** organized the following training programmes:
 - One day training for seventeen Forest Guards of Karnataka Forest Department from FTATI, Kadugodi, on 10 January 2014. The training programme included relevant topics like field identification of commercially important timber species, nursery techniques for sandal and bamboo, diseases and pests of sandal and bamboo nurseries.

- A three -day sensitization course on Forest, Wildlife and Environment Conservation from 04 to 06 February 2014, under the scheme “Training of personnel of other services” of the MoEF, New Delhi. A total of twenty seven Group 'B' officers of various departments like Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Sericulture, Agriculture, Veterinary, central office, Social welfare and police attended the training programme.
 - The annual training on sandalwood – seed handling, nursery and plantation technology from 17 to 21 February 2014. A total of fifteen farmers from different parts of the country attended the five- day training programme.
 - Training on “Field identification of important timber” for Range Forest Officers (RFO) of Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) from 10 to 14 February 2014. A total of ten RFOs from different Forest Divisions attended the training. It was the third batch of RFOs sponsored by KFD.
 - One week training for artisans on capacity building at Channapatna, from 10 to 14 March 2014 under HRD scheme of Development Commissioner (Handicraft), Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The purpose of the training was to expose artisans on how to utilize plantation timbers on a sustainable basis and have 'hands on' experience in applying modern tools. Twenty wood artisans from Channapatna attended the training.
 - Four days training programme from 16 to 19 June 2014 by Advanced Wood Working and Training Centre for forty two students from the College of Forestry, Ponnampet, Karnataka. The training was conducted in four modules.
 - Training on “Wood identification and strength properties for Karnataka State Range Forest Officers” from 23 to 27 June 2014. A total of eight trainees participated.
- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized the following training programmes:
 - Training on “Identification, ecological value of butterflies and potential of butterflies: Inclusive ecotourism as a source of livelihood in north-eastern India” from 03 to 05 March 2014. Eleven foresters including two Chief Wildlife Wardens from different North Eastern states participated in the programme.
 - Training for the Range Forest Officers of 2014-2015 batch from CASFOS, Burnihat (Assam) on various aspects of forests and forestry from 06 to 10 May 2014. A total of twenty seven officers participated.
 - Training for eighteen B.Sc. students of Nowgong College, Nagaon (Assam) on various aspects of forests and forestry from 13 to 16 May 2014. The training was also extended for the 30 students of Mizoram University from 10 to 14 March 2014.
 - Training for ten women SHGs of Karanga, Jorhat on 21 March 2014 in *Agarbatti* stick making. Altogether thirty participants took part in the programme.



Training on *Agarbatti* stick making at Jorhat

- **HFRI, Shimla** organized the following training programmes:

- One day training on ‘Cultivation of high valued medicinal plants’ at Nogli, Rampur Distt. Shimla (HP) on 25 February 2014. Forty four progressive farmers of Kinnaur & Rampur region and frontline staff of Rampur Forest Division participated in the training programme.
- One day training on “Cultivation and propagation of *Podophyllum hexandrum* (Bankakdi)" at FRH, Mashobra, Shimla (HP) on 14 March 2014 for the benefit of progressive farmers of Mashobra panchyat and frontline staff of Shimla Forest Division. Forty participants attended the training.
- One day training on "Cultivation of high valued temperate medicinal plants and related issues" on 20 March 2014 at Kishtwar, Jammu (J&K) in which forty progressive farmers of Chenab Valley of Jammu region and frontline staff of Kishtwar Forest Division participated.
- **AFRI, Jodhpur** organized one day training on Khejri mortality and use of biofertilizers in Ardu and Desi Babul at AFRI, Jodhpur on 11 March 2014. Twenty five trainees attended the training.
- **IFP, Ranchi** organized a three-days training for capacity building in forestry sector on "Diagnosis of soil for production" sponsored by MoEF, Govt. of India from 08 to 10 January 2014, wherein different government personnel, members of NGOs and progressive farmers participated.
- **IFB, Hyderabad** organized training on the Cultivation of medicinal plants for farmers and other Stakeholders from 21 to 23 February 2014 at AP Forest Academy, Hyderabad.

SUSTAINABLE LAND AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT (SLEM)

SLEM- TFO organized a consultative national workshop on “Finalization of the indicator framework for issues related to desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD)” at India Habitat Center, New Delhi on 28 January 2014. About 40 participants attended the workshop from line Ministries, R&D Institutions, SLEM-partners, UN funding agencies and Civil Society Organizations. The workshop was inaugurated by the Shri Sushil Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi. Shri B.M.S. Rathore, Joint Secretary, MoEF, New Delhi, Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extn.) and Dr. T.P. Singh, PD, SLEM, ICFRE, Dehradun were the other dignitaries present on the occasion.

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** organized a three days training on “Land restoration and biodiversity conservation for sustainable livelihood" under the project policy and institutional reforms for mainstreaming and upscaling sustainable land and ecosystem management (SLEM) in India from 19 to 21 February 2014. The training was conducted for officials from SACON, Tamil Nadu State Agriculture Department,



Consultative national workshop on “Finalization of the indicator framework for issues related to desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD)”

Horticulture Department, Forest Department, Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) Peechi, Kerala, scientists and research officers from ICFRE (AFRI, Jodhpur, TFRI, Jabalpur, IFP, Ranchi, CFRHRD, Chhindwara, IFGTB, Coimbatore), representatives from NGOs, and Tree Growers Association.

- **IWST, Bangalore** organized a three days training on “Sustainable Land and Ecosystem

Management (SLEM): Problems & prospects” from 24 to 26 April 2014 under the SLEM project. The programme was organized for field officers of various government departments, Forest Department, scientists and NGO’s of Karnataka. A total of 30 members participated in the training. The training programme was inaugurated by Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extension), ICFRE the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. T.P.Singh, ADG, Climate Change and National Project Director SLEM, ICFRE was the guest of honour. The chief guest in his key note address gave a holistic presentation on SLEM, its objectives and the activities that would be undertaken in the next phase. He also stressed on the importance of effective dissemination and showcasing of technologies developed by various institutes.

- **TFRI, Jabalpur** organized specialized training programme on "Bamboo based handicraft for farmers and artisans for livelihood enhancement" from 03 to 07 February 2014 under SLEM-CPP project.



Inauguration of Training programme under SLEM-CPP project at TFRI, Jabalpur

BAMBOO TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUPS (BTSG), ICFRE TRAININGS/MEETINGS ETC.

- **BTSG-ICFRE, Dehradun** organized meeting with Shri Sanjay Kumar, DDG (NBM) and other officials of National Bamboo Mission on 08 March 2014 at Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Dr. G.S Goraya, DDG (Research), ICFRE. Activities assigned to BTSG-ICFRE and annual action plan for the year 2014-15 were discussed. Directors of all ICFRE Institutes participated in the meeting.
- **BTSG-ICFRE** provided financial support of Rs. 4.00 lakh (final installment) for strengthening the Common Facility Centre (CFC) Infrastructure of FRI, Dehra Dun. The total grant to ICFRE thus stands at Rs. 50.00 lakh.
- **FRI, Dehradun** organized a two-days “Hands on training to artisans for bamboo technology transfer” and simultaneously a two-days national seminar on “Bamboo productivity in forest and non-forest areas” on 30 and 31 January 2014. Both the activities were sponsored by BTSG-ICFRE. Over thirty participants from various self help groups and NGO's participated in the training.
- **IWST, Bangalore** organized a five-days specialized training on bamboo handicrafts for artisans from 17 to 21 March 2014. A total of twenty five artisans and two master trainers from Mahabubnagar (Andhra Pradesh), Denkanikote (Tamilnadu), Bangalore, Mysore, Malur and Kanakapura (Karnataka) participated.
- **TFRI, Jabalpur** organized two training programmes under MP State Bamboo Mission consultancy at Dhooma district, Seoni from 09 to 13 June 2014 and at Balaghat from 16 to 20 June 2014 for skill upgradation of bamboo artisans.
- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized a district level workshop on ‘Bamboo propagation and management’ on 30 June 2014 jointly by FDA, Jorhat under National Bamboo Mission at RFRI, Jorhat. The trainees visited the Bamboo Composite Center where various bamboo preservation techniques were demonstrated to them. The trainees were also exposed to bamboo handicraft aspects and they were sensitized about various innovative products of bamboo. Twenty- eight participants attended the programme.

- **HFRI, Shimla** in cooperation with Hamirpur circle of the State Forest Department, HP organized a three -days training programme on ‘Capacity building of farmers in bamboos’ at Hamirpur (HP) from 03 to 05 January 2014 to promote bamboo cultivation amongst the farmers of Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh, under BTSG Scheme of National Bamboo Mission.



HFRI, Shimla organized three days training programme on capacity building of farmers in bamboos at Hamirpur (HP)

VVKs & DVs

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized ‘Field functionaries training on bamboo propagation and management’ jointly with FDA, Jorhat under NBM from 16 to 20 June 2014. Twenty five field functionaries from Forest Department, Agricultural Development Officers, JFMC Presidents and NGO members from Golaghat, Jorhat, Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts participated in the training.
- **Advanced Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (ARCBR), Aizawl**, a centre under RFRI, Jorhat, hosted a VVK Training programme for forty farmer participants of Mizoram from 26 February to 04 March 2014. Farmers were given 'hands-on' training on bamboo nursery techniques, bamboo charcoal briquetting and vinegar making techniques.
- **TFRI, Jabalpur** organized one day training programme in Van Vigyan Kendra, Chhattisgarh on the topic ‘Bamboo cultivation in Van Vigyan Kendra’ on 26 May 2014 and ‘Bamboo cultivation in Van Vigyan Kendra’ on 27 May 2014 at Raipur.
- **AFRI, Jodhpur** organized a two-days training for farmers of VVK Bikaner and Demo Village, Salawas, Jodhpur from 28 to 30 January 2014. In the inaugural session, Shri I.A. Mugal, Chief Conservator of Forests emphasized the importance of forests. Dr. T.S.Rathore, Director, AFRI explained importance of technology for quality seedlings and other forestry operations. Forty participants attended the training.

NETWORKING OF VVKs WITH KVKs

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** organized “Workshop on tree cultivation technologies” for transfer of technologies developed by the Institute to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry on 21 March 2014. Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB and Dr. T. Manoharan, Professor, e-Extension Centre, TNAU delivered the introductory remarks. Participants from twenty six KVKs from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry attended the programme. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU) and Tamil Nadu Forest Department (TNFD). Opinion was expressed by all the participants for strengthening of VVK-KVK tie-up in Tamil Nadu and Kerala during the concluding session. The first interactive meeting of IFGTB, Coimbatore with Van Vigyan Kendra and Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Kerala was also organized at KVK Thrissur on 09 January 2014.
- **IWST, Bangalore** organized a three days training on “Sandal based agroforestry models” from 06 to the 08 January 2014 for subject matter specialists from thirty KVKs of Karnataka and two KVKs of Goa. The basic objective of this programme was to establish linkages between the VVKs and KVKs of

ICAR, who have rich experience in extension activities and are also extensively distributed in all the states. Subject matter specialists from all over Karnataka and Goa participated in the programme. Dr. Sairam, Principal Scientist, ZPD was the Chief Guest of the inaugural function.

PUBLICATIONS

SLEM – TFO

published the following documents besides a film on SLEM Project:

- SLEM Baseline Report: Issues, Challenges and Prospects in Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation Indicator Framework for UNCCD-Desertification Land Degradation and Drought
- Sustainable Land & Ecosystem Management Some Best Practices from India

IFGTB, Coimbatore

published the following Training Manuals and a booklet:

- “*Diagnosis of soil for production*”. A.C.Surya Prabha, R.S. Prashanth and N. Krishnakumar.
- ‘*Agroforestry models – establishment and Management*’ S. Saravanan.
- *Butterfly Diversity of Forest Campus.*

HFRI, Shimla published the following pamphlets:

- *Podophyllum hexandrum* Royle
- *Ashtvarga Aushdhiya* Paudhey
- *Hyoscyamus niger*
- Deodar Tall Plant
- Flowering shrubs of Shimla



mines in the mining districts in Karnataka i.e., Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga was assigned to ICFRE during March, 2012. Individual R&R plans are being prepared after detailed evaluation of the approved mine plans, existing field operational conditions and keeping in view various environmental parameters for effective adaptive management. During the period under report, thirteen Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans were prepared and approved by Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Out of the total ninety three R&R Plans submitted to CEC so far, ninety R&R Plans have been approved by it.



Partially stabilized overburden dump at Banashankari Iron Ore Mine in Bellary district, Karnataka

- Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan study report for 48 MW Surgani Sundla Hydro-Electric Project in Chamba district was submitted to Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation (HPPCL). The Public Participation meeting with the project affected villagers was held at Panchayat and village Sundla, in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh on 28 June 2014 to incorporate their views in the report.

CONSULTANCIES

- Formulation of Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans for individual



- Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan study report for 180 MW Bunakha Hydro- Electric Project proposed near Bunakha village in Chukha Dzongkhag of Western Bhutan was submitted to Tehri

Hydropower Development Corporation, Rishikesh. Further the report was presented before the Environment Assessment Technical Committee and Environment Assessment Advisory Board of National Environmental Commission, at Thimphu, Bhutan in February 2014. The suggestions made by the committee are being incorporated in the report.

- Basin wide approach for hydropower development in India has contributed to the process of Cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment (CEIA) studies. The study awarded by the Directorate of Energy, Government of Himachal Pradesh to assess the cumulative environmental impact of hydropower development in Sutlej river basin was completed. The draft final report was submitted during June, 2014.

VISITS OF DIGNITARIES

- Mr. Alexis K. Mopampa, the Governor of Western Kasai province from Congo and Mr. Francois B. Nkuna, the Ambassador of Congo to India and their team members visited FRI, Dehradun on 12 April 2014.



Dignitaries from Congo at FRI, Dehradun

- Mr. Rakibul Hussain, Minister, Forest, Environment and P&RD, Assam visited FRI, Dehradun on 26 April 2014.
- Prof. Liang Kunnan, Prof. Zhou Zaizhi, Dr. Ma Huaming and Dr. Huang Guihua from Research Institute of Tropical Forestry (RITF), Chinese Academy of Forestry, China visited IFGTB on 26 February 2014.
- A fourteen member delegation of senior officers from the Department of Plant Resources (DPR), Ministry of Forests & Soil Conservation, Government of Nepal visited HFRI, Shimla on 05 June 2014. The delegation expressed the desire to take initiative for preparation of collaborative research projects in the field of medicinal and aromatic plants for the socio-economic development of rural communities and conservation of these bio-resources in different agro-climatic zones of both the countries.

- **ICFRE, Dehradun** organized a training workshop on official language Hindi on 25 February 2014. The Chief Guest, Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extn.), ICFRE, Dehradun emphasized the need to work in Hindi. He elaborated that people in the countries like China, France, and Germany etc., use their mother tongue in their day- to- day business and this is an important factor in their progress. He further called upon all the officers and staff of ICFRE to make every effort for promotion and implementation of official language Hindi in our official work.

The main speaker of the workshop Dr. Dinesh Chamola, In-charge Rajbhasha, Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun elaborated the meaning of Akshar i.e. a thing which never deteriorates. He told that we are using the language as a tool and as a result we are being deprived of the power of the word. He also stated that for the sake of greater communication we should be open to accepting words from different languages. Shri Vivek Khandekar, ADG (Media and Extension), ICFRE welcomed the participants. He opined that the language must



ICFRE organized a training workshop on official language Hindi

be spontaneous. More than fifty participants from ICFRE participated in the workshop.

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized a Hindi workshop on 04 June 2014. Dr. Praveen Kumar Verma, Hindi Officer, welcomed all and described about the aim and objectives of the workshop.
- In pursuance of the Official Language Policy of the Union, **IWST, Bangalore** organized the Official Language Orientation Programme for scientists and officers on 30 June 2014. Dr. Vijaya Thilagam, Hindi Officer, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore delivered a lecture on the importance of encouraging the use of hindi in day- to- day functioning of the Institute.

ANNUAL REVIEW

- **ICFRE, Dehradun** conducts annual review and evaluation of all the ongoing research projects of ICFRE institutes. It suggests corrective measures for timely completion of the projects and achievements of the objectives with perfection.

During, 2013-14, 93 ICFRE plan funded and 33 externally aided projects were completed and 18 ICFRE plan funded and 8 externally aided projects have been initiated. In 2013-14 there are 293 ongoing research projects in ICFRE out of which 228 are plan projects and 65 are externally aided.

RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

- XV Research Policy Committee (RPC) Meeting was convened from 06 to 08 March 2014 in Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Director General, ICFRE to give the final approval to the new research proposals recommended by nine research institutes under ICFRE.
- In the meeting, 106 new research proposals were discussed by the RPC members, out of which 72 new projects amounting to Rs.13.38 crore with current year budget requirement of Rs 4.11 crore were approved for ICFRE funding.

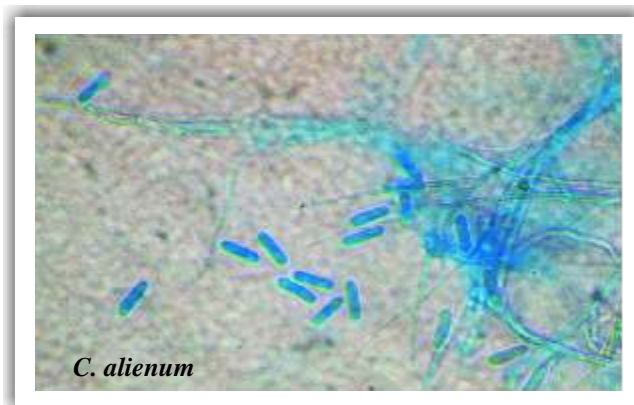
- Also 168 ongoing projects were reviewed by the Research Policy Committee with budget outlay of Rs 43.86 crore for their continuation with current year budget requirement of Rs 6.96 crore.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

- Nanosized cellulosic fibres were prepared by using physicochemical methods at FRI, Dehradun. A process for preparation of nano-cellulose particles was developed through different processing steps. Confirmation of the nano sized particles was done through Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) studies. A nano sized cellulose additive was evaluated for enhancement of physical strength properties of paper. The additive so formed significantly enhanced the strength properties of the paper.
- FRI, Dehradun developed a low cost technology for manufacturing handmade paper from Pine needles. Pine needles in different proportions with gunny bag were utilized for manufacturing of the paper.
- Anthracnose disease in *Swietenia macrophylla* was managed at IFGTB, Coimbatore using *Trichoderma viride*. The biocontrol potential of *Trichoderma viride* against anthracnose pathogen *Colletotrichum alienum* was studied *in vitro* and under greenhouse conditions. *In vitro* antagonism test carried out between *T. viride* and *C. alienum* showed radial growth inhibition of the pathogen by 75% at 35°C. The results showed that *T. viride* (AUDPC=120) and fungicide (AUDPC= 93) significantly ($P<0.05$) reduced the disease compared to the untreated control (AUDPC= 1200). This study also revealed that the application of *T. viride* has good potential in controlling the anthracnose disease of *S. macrophylla*.
- RNAi silencing construct for EcHKT1 was developed by IFGTB, Coimbatore.
- UV resistance of rubberwood coated with zinc oxide nanoparticles dispersed maleic anhydride



T. viride treated *S. macrophylla* seedlings showing recovery from anthracnose disease



modified polypropylene (MAPP) and polyurethane (PU) exterior clear coating was evaluated by IWST, Bangalore. Dispersion of ZnO nanoparticles in MAPP and PU coatings significantly restricted the colour changes and photo-degradation of wood polymers. Method of dispersion of nanoparticles in polyurethane base material based on functionalisation of the nanoparticles with silanes was developed. Weathering performance of rubberwood specimens coated with nano object embedded PU was evaluated under outdoor conditions. Results indicate potential of nano-particle based wood coatings for providing protection from harmful UV radiation in outdoor environment.

- **IWST, Bangalore** studied fusion property of PVC and has optimized its processing temperature and time at 175 °C and 10 minutes respectively.

- **IWST, Bangalore** completed rheological studies of PVC- biofibers (coir, bamboo, rubber wood & baggase). The experiments were conducted at filler loading from 10% to 50%. The results show that increase in fiber content increases torque. This study helps in processing thermoplastic-biofiber composites in the extruder.
- Studies at IWST, Bangalore reveal that important fouling organisms at Chennai port are barnacles, bryozoans (encrusting), hydroids and serpulids. At Tuticorin, test panels were mostly occupied by molluscan egg mass. Other fouling species were ascidians, hydroids and bryozoans. At Haldia port, fouling was very less and consisted of barnacles, bryozoans and serpulids.
- Two new stem borers on sandalwood were encountered during the study viz, *Purpuricenus sanguinolentus*- Olivier, *Derolus volvulus* Fabricius and *Exocentus* sp. by IWST, Bangalore. The stem borer *P. sanguinolentus* was found to cause extensive damage to sandalwood plants grown with *Acacia auriculaeformis* plants.
- A new sandal wood seed borer *Araecerus fasciculatus* Linn.(Anthribidae: Coleoptera) was also found to cause serious damage to sandalwood seeds in silvi-horti plantations . The overall percentage of damage stood at 20%.
- New weevils, i.e., *Peltotrachelus cognatus* Faust *Myloccerus delicatulus* Bohemman, *M. undecimpustulas*, *M. transmarinus*, *Dereodus vigilans* and *D. denticolis* were recorded as defoliators of sandalwood grown with *Sesbania grandifolia*. The other new defoliators belonging to the order Lepidoptera were *Amata passalis*, *Micronia aculeate* and *Parallelia* sp.
- Experiments to assess the efficacy of the botanical formulation from few selected plants viz., *Lobelia nicotianeafolia* leaves, *Erythrina indica* seeds, *Acacia concinna* leaves and pods, and *Chromolina odareta* leaves conducted at IWST, Bangalore showed upto 50% mortality of major insect pests of teak plantations at 5% formulation. Further liquid formulation developed using the weed *Lobelia nicotianeafolia*, was having 6 to 7 days of residual toxicity and shelf life of more than 8 months and the results are comparable with neem. It can therefore be recommended as a supplement to neem based biopesticides.

NEW RESEARCH FACILITIES

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** established a Geomatics Laboratory covering Geographical Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) facilities. The lab was inaugurated by Dr. K. A. Ponnusamy, Director (Extension Education) and Dr R. Sivasamy, Professor and Head, Department of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 21 January 2014.
- FRI, Dehradun established a central facility “Open Top Chamber Facility” to study tree species response to elevated CO₂ and temperature under controlled conditions. This facility has been established under the umbrella



Open Top Chamber Facility established at FRI, Dehradun

of All India Coordinated Project on Climate Change funded by ICFRE Dehradun.

MISCELLANEOUS

World Wildlife Day

HFRI, Shimla observed the 'World Wildlife Day' in collaboration with the local WWF and Wildlife Wing of the State Forest Department on 03 March 2014 at the upcoming Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum, Potters Hill, Shimla.

World Forestry Day

FRI, Dehradun observed the World Forestry Day on 21 March 2014. An exhibition was organized at the FRI Information Centre which included posters and models depicting the achievements of the Institute. The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, Director FRI. The Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun also participated in the exhibition. Furthermore, entry to all the six museums of FRI, Dehradun was made free on the occasion.



World Forestry Day exhibition at FRI, Dehradun

Earth Day

HFRI, Shimla celebrated the "44th Edition of Earth Day" on 22 April 2014 at Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum (WHTA), Potters Hill, Shimla. The Programme was attended by the school children from different schools of Shimla town where they were apprised of the various issues impinging upon the environment.

International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD)

International Day for Biological Diversity 2014 was observed across the ICFRE institutes on 22 May 2014. The theme of IBD-2014 was 'Island Biodiversity', coinciding with the United Nation's declaration of the year 2014 as the 'International Year of Small Island Developing States' and the decision of the Conference of Parties (COP) to strengthen the implementation of the programme of work on Island Biodiversity. At **IFGTB, Coimbatore** more than three hundred participants, including officers, scientists and staff of



Participants and organizers of debate during IBD celebration at AFRI, Jodhpur

IFGTB and other institutions, 88 members of National Green Corps and Eco Clubs from Coimbatore and Tirupur Educational districts, along with their coordinators, students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and nearby colleges and members of Forest Campus Nature Club, took part in the celebrations. At **TFRI, Jabalpur** lectures, painting and essay competitions were organized to generate awareness about conservation of biodiversity. At **AFRI, Jodhpur** the day was observed by planting the seedlings of various species and organizing a debate on the topic "Island Biodiversity" for the school students.

RFRI, Jorhat organized quiz and extempore debate competition at Sorojini Devi Uccha Balika Vidyalaya, Kenduguri, Jorhat. A large group of school students and scientists, officers and supporting staff of RFRI participated in the celebration. At **HFRI, Shimla** 30 students from different schools of Shimla participated in various events/competition like quiz, painting competition and slogan writing on the theme "Island Biodiversity". On this occasion, a presentation "Biodiversity: Its Role in today scenario" was also made. At **IFP, Ranchi**, drawing and essay competition on 'Islands Biodiversity' were organized.

World Environment Day

FRI, Dehradun observed World Environment Day & FRI Day on 05 June 2014. A special exhibition was also displayed in front of the Information Centre of the Institute. The entry in all museums of the Institute was free for public on this day. At **IFGTB, Coimbatore** the day was observed by tree planting in the Forest Campus. A plantation ceremony and a drawing competition were organized at **AFRI, Jodhpur**. **TFRI, Jabalpur** also observed World Environment Day on 05 June 2014.

On this occasion over 400 participants attended the gala event organized by **RFRI, Jorhat** in collaboration with 'Rengoni', a Jorhat based NGO at Sessa Satra M. V. School, Mori Jhanji, Jorhat (Assam).

HR NEWS

Name & Designation	Date	
Appointments		
A. Deputation :		
Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director, HFRI, Shimla	26.05.2014	
B. Direct :		
Shri Parmanand, Scientist-B, FRI	21.01.2014	
Shri Sandeep Yadav, Scientist-B, RFRI	29.01.2014	
Promotion :		
Dr. Arvind Kumar, Scientist 'D', IFP, Ranchi	12.05.2014	
Dr. Anita Tomar, Scientist 'D', CSFER, Allahabad	12.05.2014	
Dr. Parul Bhatt Kotiyal, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. Y.M. Dubey, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Ms. Parveen, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. Rashmi, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. A.K. Bhowmik, Scientist 'D', TFRI, Jabalpur	12.05.2014	
Dr. Vijendra Pal Panwar, Scientist 'D', HFRI, Shimla	12.05.2014	
Shri A. Vijayaraghavan, Scientist 'D', IFGTB, Coimbatore	12.05.2014	
Dr. A. Rajasekaran, Scientist 'D', IFGTB, Coimbatore	12.05.2014	
Dr. B.N. Diwakara, Scientist 'D', IWST, Bangalore	12.05.2014	
Shri Ritesh Kumar D. Ram, Scientist 'D', IWST, Bangalore	12.05.2014	
Smt. D. Venmalar, Scientist 'D', IWST, Bangalore	12.05.2014	
Dr. T.N. Manohara, Scientist 'D', RFRI, Jorhat	12.05.2014	
Dr. Charan Singh, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Shri R.S. Topwal, Scientist 'D', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. P.S. Rawat, Scientist 'E', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Shri Ajmal Samani, Scientist 'E', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. Santan Barthwal, Scientist 'E', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Dr. Ajay Thakur, Scientist 'E', FRI, Dehradun	12.05.2014	
Shri Kannan C.S. Warriar, Scientist 'E', IFGTB, Coimbatore	12.05.2014	
Dr. A. Karthikeyan, Scientist 'E', IFGTB, Coimbatore	12.05.2014	
Dr. P.K. Gupta, Scientist 'F', FRI, Dehradun	04.06.2014	
Dr. Mohd. Yousuf, Scientist 'G', FRI, Dehradun	04.06.2014	
Dr. N. Roychoudhury, Scientist 'G', TFRI, Jabalpur	04.06.2014	
Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Scientist 'G', TFRI, Jabalpur	04.06.2014	
Repatriation:		
Shri Lalit Narayan, DCF, FRI	24.01.2014	
Shri Manoj Bhaik, IFS, C.F., HFRI, Shimla	01.03.2014	
Dr. V.R.R. Singh, Director, HFRI, Shimla	27.03.2014	
Shri M. Palanippa, FRO, IWST, Bangalore	31.03.2014	
Shri D. Chellachamy, DCF, IFGTB, Coimbatore	31.03.2014	
Shri S.D. Sharma, IFS, ADG (Admn.)	04.06.2014	
Shri J. Mohammed Shujauddin, DCF, IFGTB, Coimbatore	04.06.2014	
Shri Har Prasad, DCF, TFRI, Jabalpur	13.06.2014	
Retirement:		
Dr. V.S. Dadwal, Scientist-C	31.01.2014	
Dr. A.K. Raina, Scientist-F	28.02.2014	
Smt. Prabha Bisht, Scientist-C	28.02.2014	
Dr. N. Rama Rao, Scientist-G	31.03.2014	
Smt. Indira, Section Officer	31.03.2014	
Dr. Sabhapati Nath, Scientist-F	30.04.2014	
Shri Raja Muthukrishnan, Scientist-C	31.05.2014	
Dr. A. Ponnambalam, Scientist-C	30.06.2014	
VRS		
Dr. Ajay Karmarkar, Scientist-F, IWST, Bangalore	27.01.2014	
Transfer		
Dr. Paramjit Singh, Scientist-F	From Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi	To FRI, Dehra Dun
Dr. Tara Chand, Scientist-C	RFRI, Jorhat	FRI, Dehra Dun
Shri Manish Kumar Singh, Scientist-B	AFRI, Jodhpur	Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
Dr. Sumit Chakrabarti	HFRI, Shimla	TFRI, Jabalpur

Dr. Ashwani Kumar is the new Director General of ICFRE

Dr. Ashwani Kumar, IFS (UP:1980) has assumed the charge of the post of the Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun in the forenoon of 04 September 2014.



Awards

- Dr. Vineet Kumar, FRI, Dehradun was awarded the prestigious Dr. H. C. Srivastava Young Scientist Award by the Association of Carbohydrate Chemists and Technologists, India during the 'International conference on challenges in chemistry and biology of carbohydrates' organized at Dehradun from 20 to 22 January 2014.
- Paper entitled 'Do assorted approaches aid in determination of uronic acids: Structural studies on *Tinospora sinensis* polysaccharide' by Vineet Kumar, Shipra Nagar and Y. C. Tripathi bagged the First Poster Award and Certificate during the 'Science Model and Science Poster Competition' on February 27, 2014 in Innovate India Programme during National Innovation Award Function at University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES), Dehradun supported by National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), New Delhi
- Best Research Paper Award of CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow in the area of Botanic Garden and Distant Research Centres was received by Dr. Dinesh Kumar, FRI, Dehradun for the paper "Agro-technology of *Jatropha curcas* for diverse environmental conditions in India" Biomass and Bioenergy. 48: 191-202.
- Dr. P K Das, RFRI, Jorhat was honoured and enrolled as Independent Expert from Asian Region in Soil Science in Roster of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), UN Campus, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1, 53113 Bonn, Germany.
- Young Achiever Award-2013 of Society for Advancement of Human and Nature (SADHNA), Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan, Himachal Pradesh) was presented to Dr. Vipin Parkash, Scientist D by the Director, RFRI, Jorhat on 31 March 2014 in recognition to the outstanding contribution made by him to the society especially in the field of farming/agriculture/forestry. He is also awarded Life Membership of the Honorary Board and Authorship of the Society.

Disclaimer

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Obituary

The ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise of Shri S.D. Gupta, Senior Storekeeper on 15.01.2014; Shri Shyam Lal, Sanitation Attendant on 08.02.2014; Shri S.S. Chauhan, Assistant, FRI, Dehradun on 21.06.2014 and Smt. Manju Phukan Gogoi, UDC, RFRI, Jorhat on 24 June 2014 and prays for the peace of the departed souls.

WORLD Environment Day 2014



FRI, Dehradun



IFGTB, Coimbatore



AFRI, Jodhpur



RFRI, Jorhat

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Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun- 248 006
E-mail: adg_mp@icfre.org, Phone : 0135-2755221