

## Monthly Seminar on Harnessing Geospatial Techniques for Development of NER-NESAC Initiatives

**Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat** organized a Monthly Seminar on ‘*Harnessing Geospatial Techniques for Development of NER – NESAC Initiatives*’ on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2018. The speaker of the Seminar was Dr. K. K. Sarma, Scientist-SG, North Eastern Space Applications Centre, Umiam, Meghalaya. It was attended by Scientists, Officers, Students and Research fellow of the Institute.

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat welcomed the guest speaker at the outset.

Dr. K. K. Sarma described about the general application of geospatial technologies. He familiarized the satellites infrastructure for earth observation, space technology for resource management, microwave remote sensing, Hyper-spectral remote sensing and LiDAR remote sensing. He explained about the work done by NESAC in this field. He informed that NESAC was established in 5<sup>th</sup> Sep, 2000. The main objectives of NESAC are to work on Remote Sensing and GIS application, Satellite Communication, Space and Atmospheric Science programme, Disaster Management Support, Capacity and Outreach activities. The major accomplishment is agriculture and allied sectors, Forestry and ecosystem management and geospatial inputs for forest working plan.

Dr. Sarma also emphasized on habitat mapping and identification of corridors for movement of wild animals using remote sensing and GIS in selective site of Assam. He also described the impact of slope in biomass estimation through GIS. In his talk he also familiarized the Space Based Information Kiosk (SBIK), NE District Resources Plan (NEDRP), Election e-Atlas for Meghalaya and Monitoring of project status by application of GIS. Dr. Sarma explained about various short term courses such as Project specific training, region specific workshop, student projects conducted by NESAC for Capacity building.

During discussion session, emphasis was given on formulation and execution of collaborative projects between RFRI and NESAC in the field of bamboo, biomass mapping, phenology monitoring, wild habitat and corridor mapping, monitoring protected areas, tree species mapping using hyper-spectral data, forest cover monitoring and change mapping etc.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division offered vote of thanks.

**GLIMPSES OF THE SEMINAR**

