

Brief report on the training on ‘Biological Diversity Act, 2002’ conducted from 02 to 04 January, 2019

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)

Coimbatore

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India is one of the 17 megadiverse countries of the world, having rich biological resources with present and potential value. The country is also a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which emphasises conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the genetic resources. As a follow up of CBD signed at Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the Govt. of India enacted an umbrella legislation called ‘Biological Diversity Act, 2002’ in the same lines of CBD. This act has also created the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), located in Chennai, State Biodiversity Boards (SBB) in each State and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) at Local Self Government (LSG) level.

In order to create awareness on this important Act, the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore organized three day training on ‘Biological Diversity Act, 2002’ for the Faculties and Research Scholars from universities and Colleges in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry, during 02 to 04 January, 2019. The training was sponsored by the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.

A total number of 25 participants attended the training programme. During the inaugural function on 2nd January, 2019, Dr. B. Nagarajan, Scientist-G and Head, FECC Division of IFGTB welcomed the gathering. Dr.K.R.Sasidharan, Scientist-F and Training Co-ordinator gave an overview of the training programme. Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist- G and Group Co-ordinator (Research), IFGTB addressed the participants. The training

programme was inaugurated by Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director of IFGTB. Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Scientist-G, FECC Division proposed vote of thanks.

There were a total of eight lecture sessions on topics like overview of Floral, Faunal and Microbial Diversity of India; Biodiversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004; Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing; Preparation of People's Biodiversity Register; Intellectual Property Rights on Biological Resources as well as Biodiversity and Bioprospecting. The topics were handled by different experts on the above aspects. A field visit to the tribal hamlet of Singapathi, situated in the foot-hill of Siruvani was also organized, where the participants interacted with the traditional medical practitioners of different communities in this area and got familiarized with the utilization of various medicinal plants among the tribal communities for curing various ailments.

The participants were taken to various research divisions of IFGTB, Gass Forest Museum, Fischer Herbarium and the VAM Production Unit, where they interacted with the Scientists and other researchers.

A group presentation on three different topics assigned to the participants was also organized as part of the training programme. The team members presented their views on those topics, followed by interaction among the participants and the resource persons.

The Valedictory Function was organized on 4th January, 2019. Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Scientist- G, FECC Division welcomed the gathering. Dr. K. R. Sasidharan, Scientist-F and Training Co-ordinator presented a brief report on the training. Dr. B. Nagarajan, Scientist- G & Head, FECC Division of IFGTB addressed the gathering. The Chief Guest, Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist- G and Group Co-ordinator (Research) delivered the valedictory address and distributed certificates to the participants. Dr. K. R.Sasidharan, Training Co-ordinator proposed vote of thanks.



Inauguration of the training by Dr.Mohit Gera, Director, IFGTB



Inaugural address by Dr.Mohit Gera, Director, IFGTB



View of participants



Group photo



Visit to Chemistry and Bioprospecting laboratory



Visit to Biofertilizer laboratory



Visit to Fischer Herbarium



Visit to Gass Forest Museum



Field visit of participants to foot hills of Siruvani



Field visit of participants to foot hills of Siruvani



Interaction with tribal medical practitioners at Singapathi, Coimbatore



Group discussion



Valedictory function



Certificate distribution by the Chief Guest, Dr. S. Murugesan, GCR, IFGTB