



## **ICFRE-INSTITUTE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY, HYDERABAD**

### **Report on the Visit of 9<sup>th</sup> class section-C students from KVS Golkonda-I School, Hyderabad to ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad, on 26.11.2024.**

The ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity (ICFRE-IFB) organized a half-day interactive session with ninth-grade students from KVS Golkonda-I School, Hyderabad, Telangana. The session took place at the Extension Building of ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad, on 26 November 2024, as part of the Prakriti Program. A total of 45 students participated in the event.

**Smt. Shubhi Kulshrestha, Senior Technician at ICFRE-IFB**, provided an overview of the institute's activities, emphasizing its contributions to research, extension services, All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), and consultancy projects. Her presentation highlighted the institute's dedication to studying, conserving, and managing forest biodiversity. She outlined the institute's work on forest ecosystem research, the development of effective conservation strategies, and the promotion of sustainable forest management practices.

**Smt. R. Asha Kumari, CTO at ICFRE-IFB**, delivered an engaging presentation on **fodder cultivation**, focusing on strategies to optimize crop production by understanding plant responses to agro-climatic conditions. She explained that fodder crops, distinct from food and commercial crops, require specialized cultivation practices, with water being critical for their rapid

vegetative growth. In regions with small land holdings, irrigation plays a key role in intensive forage production. She also emphasized the importance of selecting suitable forage species based on varying soil types and climatic conditions. Common cereal fodders such as maize, sorghum, pearl millet, and oats were highlighted as energy-rich sources for livestock, valued for their adaptability in growth, regeneration, yield, and quality.

The sessions concluded with a **biodiversity walk** led by the institute's technical staff, designed to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity conservation and help participants identify native plant species on the ICFRE-IFB campus. During the walk, students explored nurseries, field experiment sites, and specialized laboratories, including those dedicated to Soil Science, Entomology, Molecular Biology, and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Research.

The entire program was meticulously organized by the **Extension Division Team** of ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad, successfully blending education and hands-on activities to inspire participants about the significance of forestry and biodiversity.

