

One-week MoEF&CC sponsored training of IFS officers

on

**BEST PRACTICES FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE
ALIEN PLANTS**

10th to 24th February 2025

Organized by

Forest Ecology and Climate Change Division

Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun

The Forest Ecology and Climate Change (FE&CC) Division of the Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun, under the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), is organizing a five-day training program on "Best Practices for Effective Management of Invasive Alien Plants." The training will be held at Chilla, Rajaji National Park and aims to equip forest officers with essential knowledge and strategies for managing invasive alien species. Training course is being attended by IFoS officers of Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Odisha.

The inaugural session of the training, was held on February 10, 2025. The event commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Parul Bhatt Kotiyal, Scientist-F & Head, FE&CC Division, followed by an introduction of the participants and was graced by Dr. Renu Singh, IFS, Director, FRI, Dehradun, as the Chief Guest. During her note, she focused on how 66% of Natural systems are endangered by Invasive alien species and how these species are changing the species composition and the landscape of an area. She also talked about the impact of these species as ½ of India's tiger reserves are under the threat of Invasive Alien Species. She expressed concern about how changing climate is helping to propagate these species and how savannahs are the most susceptible to being infested. She also focused on how FRI has been actively working in the control and eradication of Invasive alien species and how successful extraction of organic dyes from species like *Eupatorium*, *Parthenium* and *Lantana* is being done in the institute. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Tara Chand, Scientist-E, FE&CC Division, FRI.

The program will go on from 10th-14th February with prominent experts in forest ecology and invasive species management serving as resource persons, sharing their expertise and experiences throughout the training. The program will include interactive lectures, hands-on field demonstrations, and site visits to areas impacted by invasive species, with venue being Chilla, Rajaji National Park, Haridwar. By providing both theoretical and practical exposure, the training aims to enhance the capacity of forest managers and researchers in addressing the challenges posed by invasive alien species.

