

Organization of 34th Research Advisory Group (RAG) meeting (24/09/2025)



The 34th meeting of the Research Advisory Group (RAG) was inaugurated at the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) – Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur.

Dr. P. S. Rawat, ADG (R&P), ICFRE, highlighted the rigorous scrutiny process adopted for project proposals, emphasizing the importance of constructive suggestions to strengthen projects and secure in-house funding from ICFRE.

Welcoming the participants, Dr. H. S. Ginwal, Director, ICFRE-TFRI, presented an overview of the institute's jurisdiction spanning Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra. He highlighted the diverse research and extension programmes carried out by a team of 26 scientists, 3 IFS officers, and supporting technical staff. Referring to the stakeholders' consultation during the Regional Research Conference, he emphasized that the new project proposals had been formulated to address the research priorities identified in these discussions. He also outlined notable achievements of the institute, such as supplying 80,000 improved teak plants to the Gujarat State Forest Department, 8 lakh bamboo planting stock to the Maharashtra State Forest Department, and quality planting material to various agencies in Chhattisgarh. He urged a transition towards futuristic research areas in line with national commitments, moving beyond conventional approaches.

On the occasion of completing 50 years of TFRI's research contributions in its jurisdiction, Smt. Neelu Singh, Group Coordinator (Research), presented an overview of the institute's activities and achievements.

Dr. Pradeep Vasudeva, Director, SFRI attended the meeting along with Shri Amit Pandey, Director, IFP Ranchi; state representatives from CAMPA; industry stakeholders; and academicians from GGU, JNKVV, IFP Ranchi, and other ICFRE institutes joined through online mode.

During the session, performance of seven ongoing projects was reviewed and total 03 project proposals were presented under the following 02 thrust areas:



Thrust Area: Managing forests and forest products for livelihood support and economic growth

1. Technological dissemination of improved seed handling practices of RET and plantation species in Central India.
2. Low-cost seedball greening technology for afforestation and reforestation of forest landscapes.

Thrust Area: Forest genetic resource management and tree improvement

1. Periodic viability monitoring and longevity assessment of seed accessions under medium- and long-term storage regimes.





