



MONTHLY SEMINAR

16.06.2020

Theme: FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Topics: IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS AND ITS RELEVANCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Speaker: Dr. S.N. Mishra, Chief Technical Officer, IFP, Ranchi, (Jharkhand)

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, IFP, Ranchi welcomed all the participants through virtual platform (Video Conferencing) and briefed about the significance of the topic “IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS AND ITS RELEVANCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE”. He said that climate change is one of most burning topics today and how adversely is global warming affecting the environment. He congratulated Dr. S.N.Mishra for choosing such a relevant topic and hopeful for an interesting presentation. Dr. Mishra ended a detailed power point presentation on “Importance of Forests and its Relevance to Climate Change”. Dr. Mishra said that Forest is the house to many living organisms and is a precious resource provided by nature. He said that the earlier forest management was timber centric but now the focus has been changed to forest conservation, increasing role of forest in environment improvement and climate change mitigation/adaptation has been recognized. There is need for a simple management tool for the forester to address the issues like livelihood, hydrology and climate change. He elaborately discussed that trees are an important component of the environment which help in preventing global warming, maintaining the temperature and oxygen level of the atmosphere and also helps in maintaining the ground water table by upholding the rain water flow. He briefed about the Indian National Forest Policy of 1894 which provided the motivation to conserve India’s forests wealth with the prime objectives of maintaining environmental stability and meeting the basic needs of the fringe forests user-groups. He appraised that there is broad-based agreement within the scientific community whether the climate change is real or not. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration concur that climate change is indeed occurring and is almost certainly due to human activity. He briefed about Forest management practice that helps to increase carbon sequestration and conserve carbon stock in forests. He said that some forest ecosystems are vulnerable to climate change like Management of fragile forest ecosystem, Management of mountain forests and watersheds, Management of dry land forests, Management of coastal forests including mangroves etc. He briefed that the mitigation and adaptation are the two strategies for addressing climate change. How do forests relate to adaptation and mitigation and ecosystem-based adaptation? He concluded the topic with the need of awareness among us to protect the environment and how forest will be helpful in it.

Expected outcome of the Seminar:

- Awareness will be developed to protect the environment.
- How forest will be helpful in protecting the environment.

- How forest ecosystems are vulnerable to climate change.

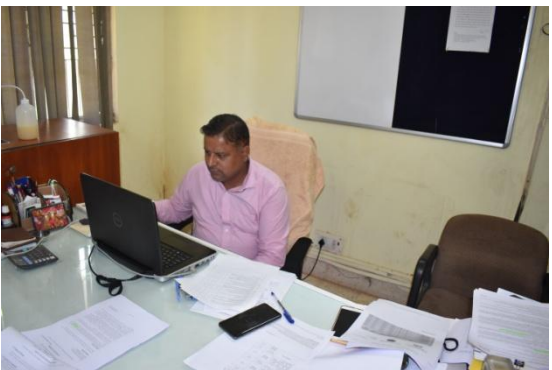
Identification of future strategies/road map

- Plantation of tree can minimize the effect of climate change
- Plantation can be emphasized for water conservation, to maintain water table, to minimize soil erosion and to maintain oxygen level of the atmosphere
- Awareness among the people should be created against burning of fossil fuels, use of renewable energy should be strengthen so that impacts of global warming of 1.5°C can be achieved
- We have to pursue 'forests for adaptation' and 'adaptation for forests' together

Networking research option and opportunities

- Forest management practices that increase carbon sequestration
- Forest management activities that conserve carbon stock in forests
- Management of fragile forest ecosystem,
- Management of mountain forests and watersheds,
- Management of dryland forests,
- Management of coastal forests including mangroves





Glimpses of the Participants through Webinar



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