



## Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Conifer Campus Panthaghati, Shimla – 171013, Himachal Pradesh



### A Report on Interactive Meeting of Heads of different Organizations at Leh, Ladakh (UT)

An interactive meeting was organized by Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla with Heads of different Organizations/ Institutes situated at Leh, Ladakh, UT on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Shri Preet Pal Singh, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Ladakh, Union Territory. At the outset Chairman welcomed all the participants for sparing their valuable time to attend this meeting. In his opening remarks he said that owing to harsh climatic conditions in cold desert of Ladakh viz., extreme weather conditions, limited working hours, less organic matter in the soil, water scarcity and very fragile ecosystem; there is a big challenge for forestry interventions in the region. He further urged that all organizations/ institutions should work in tandem to meet these challenges for sustainable development and augmentation of rural income of Ladakh, UT.

Dr. S.S. Samant, Director, HFRI, Shimla while highlighting the activities of the Institute, informed that the Nursery and Plantation technology of *Juniperus polycarpos*- An important tree species of Cold Desert, has been developed and the institute has established demonstration plantation of the same at VVK, Badamibhag, Leh. He further informed that the institute has identified the superior genetic stock of *Podophyllum hexandrum* from Suru valley of Kargil district of Ladakh and after mass multiplication, distributed among various stakeholders for taking up the commercial cultivation of the same. The institute has carried out extensive survey in the Ladakh region and documented many important plant species. He said that the HFRI has initiated 06 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), a Plan Project on Agroforestry Systems and a NMPB funded project on medicinal plant conservation. He further said that all the organizations through a consortium can work together and contribute for the carbon neutral development of Ladakh UT.

Dr. Padma Gurmet, Director, National Institute of Sowa Rigpa (NISR), Leh, while highlighting their institute's activities informed that NISR is already working with HFRI, Shimla in one of the NMPB, New Delhi sponsored collaborative project. He further hoped that there is great potential to work in the field of Traditional Knowledge and Cultivation of High Value Medicinal Plants.

Dr. Saha Dipankar, In-charge, Regional Research Station (RRS) Leh of ICAR-CAZARI, hoped that they can collaborate with HFRI, Shimla in the field of Agroforestry in Ladakh region.

Dr. F.A. Shah Khan, Scientist (Forestry), SKUST (K) said that they can collaborate in various field of Forestry for sustainable development of the region. Even extension facilities of his organization can be used for joint people outreach programmes.

Dr. O.P. Chaurasia, Director, DIHAR while highlighting their research activities said that DIHAR and HFRI, Shimla can work together in the field of high altitude medicinal plants for its sustainable development in the Ladakh, UT.

Dr. Stobden, Scientist – F, DIHAR informed that they can work together in the field of climate change its mitigation and adaptation.

Dr. Kunzes Angmu, TO, SKAUST (K) expressed her willingness to work for the development of *Juniperus polycarpus* in Ladakh region.

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-G & GCR, briefed about HFRI achievements in Cold Desert Research and invited the participants to grace the training programme scheduled on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Leh by HFRI, Shimla

All the Heads of the organization hoped that HFRI, Shimla being one the premier institute in the field of forestry research will definitely make its presence felt in couple of years to come and will initiate some collaborative projects with them.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Jagdish Singh, Head Extension Division, HFRI, Shimla.

#### **The participants present during the Interactive Meeting**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Mobile Number</b>
1.	Sh. Preet Pal Singh, CCF, Leh Forest Division	8527897317
2.	Dr. S. S. Samant, Director, HFRI, Shimla	9816316318
3.	Dr. Padma Gurmet Director, NISR, Leh	7298604808
4.	Dr. Saha Dipanker RRS , Leh of ICAR - CAZRI	8902069001
5.	Dr. O.P Chaurasia Director, DIHAR	9463896961
6.	Dr. Tsering Stobdan, Sci. - F DIHAR, Leh	9419176057
7.	Dr. Kunzes Angmo, TO, SKAUST (K)	9419179026
8.	Dr. Nawang Tundup Assistant Registrar Univ. of Ladakh	9419844717
9.	Dr. FA Shah Khan Scientist (Forestry)	9906984874
10.	Sh. Mohammad Ali DFO, Leh	9419844303
11.	Sh. GH Mehch DDK, Leh	9469728885
12.	Sh. Baqir Cho Correspondent – India Today and Aajtak	9622721771
13.	Sh. Mohammad Hussain Editor Ladakh AbTak	8086802747

14.	Sh. R. Ramesh Chanda AIR, DD News Ladakh	9622997522 9953952918
15.	Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist- E, HFRI, Shimla	9418054070
16.	Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-G & GCR, HFRI, Shimla	9418129759
17.	Dr. Jagdish Singh, Scientist- F & Head Extension, HFRI, Shimla	8219053585
18.	Sh. Ajay, Thakur, Forester, HFRI, Shimla	9857273492
19.	Sh. Lokesh, Forest Guard	7051792366
20.	Sh. Dalip Prasher, FA, HFRI, Shimla	9418963739
21.	Sh. Pankaj Kumar, PA, HFRI, Shimla	9816477789
22.	Sh. Brij Bhushan, PA, HFRI, Shimla	9459279129
23.	Mrs. Astha Chauhan, JRF, HFRI, Shimla	8626931379
24.	Miss Hasina Bano, JRF, HFRI, Shimla	9469509554
25.	Sh. Stanzin, Range Officer, Leh	

## Glimpses of interactive meeting



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