

## WORKSHOP CUM DEMONSTRATION OF E-PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Himalayan Forest Research Institute organized a one day workshop cum training demonstration of the e-procurement process in its campus at Panthaghati, Shimla on 22.12.2014. All the officers/scientist of the institute including officials from Purchase/Store, Estate and Information Technology participated in the workshop. The officers/officials from the office of the State Informatics Officer, NIC State Centre, Shimla (H.P.) namely, Shri Prithvi Raj Negi, Saurabh Thakur and Sandeep Kumar acted as resource person during this workshop.

At the outset, **Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director, HFRI**, Shimla welcomed all the resource persons and the participants and briefly outlined the objective of organizing this workshop. He informed that the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, New Delhi vide letter No. 10/3/2012-PPC dated 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 has issued directions to take necessary action to ensure that all tenders costing above Rs. 10 lakh are compulsorily processed through e-procurement. As a result, this office was unable to process the tenders of costly scientific equipments for want of access to the e-procurement facility.



He further informed that as per the directives of the Director General, ICFRE through Video Conferencing dated 10.12.2014, the matter was taken up with the Sh. Ajay Singh Chahal, Sr. Technical Director & State Informatics Officer, NIC, Shimla who was kind enough to depute his officers for training-cum-demonstration of the e-procurement software and process to judge its suitability as per requirement of the HFRI.

Sh. Saurab Thakur and resource team from NIC, Shimla demonstrated the detailed functioning of the online e-procurement software/module. A dummy exemplary demonstration on e-publishing of tenders, bid submission, tender opening, technical evaluation, financial bid opening, financial evaluation, award of contract etc. was given by the NIC, Shimla team to the participants. The various concerns raised by the participants were adequately addressed by the resource persons.



After the demonstration process is over, the Director, HFRI opined that e-tendering system is the process by which physical tendering activity is carried out with the e-Technology. It facilitates the user to introduce ease and efficiency without compromising the required procedures of the government. It also provides transparency, save time and money, shortens procurement cycle time, ease of operation to the implementing organization and to the bidders. He further informed that the concerned officers and officials of HFRI will deliberate over the issue separately to decide and recommend for the suitability of the software in institutional pretext. Accordingly, further necessary action will be initiated to implement e-procurement in HFRI by obtaining login access, SMCs and related trainings etc.

At the end, he especially thanked Sh. Ajay Singh Chahal, Sr. Technical Director & SIO, NIC Shimla for deputing his team for demonstration of the e-procurement process. He also thanked resource personnel's from NIC and workshop participants from HFRI.



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