



ICFRE-REGIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Forestry Research and Issues in Northern Region of India

***Organized by: Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla and
Forest Research Institute, Dehradun***

Venue: HFRI (Hybrid mode on 27th June, 2022)

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla and Forest Research Institute, Dehradun organized Joint Regional Research Conference in hybrid mode on 27th June, 2022 on the theme “Forestry Research and Issues in Northern Region of India”. The conference constituted of one inaugural session and three technical sessions, followed by brainstorming and chalking out the research agenda on the theme of the workshop. PCCFs of the Northern States/UTs, different stakeholders involving State Forest Departments of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Chandigarh, Delhi, State/ UT Agriculture and Forestry Universities and other Universities, Central and State Govt. Organizations, Non-governmental organizations, representatives of the forest-based industries, progressive farmers, tribal youth etc. participated in the conference.

At the outset, **Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Director (In-charge)** extended warm welcome to Sh. A.S. Rawat, IFS, Director General, ICFRE and chief guest of the occasion and all dignitaries including PCCF&HoFF of Himachal Pradesh and Haryana and other participants, who attended workshop offline and virtually. He informed that forestry research need of state forest department and other stakeholders, as well as the issues and problems faced in agroforestry and clonal technologies will be discussed. **Sh. R. K. Dogra, IFS, DDG (Research)**, ICFRE Dehradun outlined the theme of the R.R.C & highlighted the importance of ICFRE institutes in fulfilling the research needs of stakeholders especially of northern region of the country. He told that ICFRE is apex forestry research organization in the country and its research focuses on biodiversity conservation, genetic resource management, climate change, land degradation, desertification, and natural forest resource management. ICFRE also carry out research keeping in the view the objectives of National Forest Policy, 1988. **Sh. A. S. Rawat, IFS, DG, ICFRE**, Dehradun in his inaugural address as a chief guest stressed upon that Forestry Research and Issues in Northern Region of India shall be deliberated in length and breadth and he hoped that outcomes of the conference will be important for forestry research. He told that traditional agroforestry is being

practiced for long, however, there is need to have scientific inputs in agroforestry so that its productivity can be enhanced. ICFRE is working continuously to develop technologies, which will ultimately benefit farmers. He further told that role of agroforestry in meeting the goal of 33% percent geographical area under forest is very crucial. The gaps in the field of agroforestry need to be identified and fulfilled through scientific ways. ICFRE is developing clones of important agroforestry species and these can be of great use for farmers. Agroforestry not only help in ecology and environment improvement but also boost the income of farming communities. There is need of support from state forest departments to enhance the research work in the field of agroforestry. He hoped that different experts would give their valuable inputs and ICFRE will works on suggestions and recommendations of this conference. **Sh. Ajay Srivastava, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Himachal Pradesh State Forest Department** and Guest of Honor of the occasion told that research and monitoring are important aspects of forest management and role of ICFRE in this area is very important. There is need to give more emphasis on research areas like restoration ecology, forest fires, etc. **Sh. Jagdish Chander, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Haryana** stressed upon scientific harvest of timer to generate revenue. Agroforestry and clonal technology can play major role in meeting the demand of timber, fuelwood and other forestry services. He informed that India has 17 % of world human population and 16% of cattle population of the world and however, the country has less than 4% of forest area of the world. Agroforestry and clonal technology can bridge this gap. He further told that there are more than 45000 species of plants, however, at present research is on very less species, therefore research need to be explored on more species. He stressed upon in-situ and ex-situ conservation of forestry species. Research must be focused on keeping the sustainable development goal in the view. Thereafter, technical sessions of the conference were started.

Technical session I dealt with forestry research problems and issues of forest department of northern states and UTs. This session was chaired by **Sh. Jagdish Chander, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Haryana**. The session started with a presentation on overview of the research programmes in ICFRE by Vimal Kothiyal, ADG (Research & Planning), ICFRE, Dehradun. **Dr. Renu Singh, IFS, Director, FRI** and **Sh. N.K. Upreti, GCR, FRI** presented over view of research at Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. They highlighted the different research interventions under various AICRPs, MoUs signed, DPRs on rejuvenation of Yamuna rivers & other extension & research achievements of their institute. Thereafter representatives from northern states gave power point presentations on forestry research status and issues in their respective states. **Sh. Sanjeev Chaturvedi, IFS, CCF (Research), Uttarakhand Forest Department** talked about forestry research, Clonal Technology disseminations and initiatives in Uttarakhand. **Dr. Sushil Kumar Kapta, IFS, APCCF, Management, HP** informed about forestry research activities, initiatives and issues in Himachal Pradesh through power point presentation. **Sh. Satnam Singh, IFS, CF**

(Research) Hoshiarpur, Punjab Forest Department briefed about forestry research, Clonal Technology disseminations and initiatives in Punjab. **Sh. Jagdish Chander, IFS, PCCF &HoFF, Haryana** talked about forestry research, Clonal Technology disseminations and initiatives in Haryana. **Sh. Rakesh Abroal, JKFS, DFO, SFRI, Janipur, Jammu, J&K UT forest department** talked about forestry research needs and initiatives in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. **Sh. N.K. Janu, IFS, CCF, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department** presented forestry research, Clonal Technology disseminations and initiatives in Uttar Pradesh.

Technical session-II was also chaired by **Sh. Jagdish Chander, IFS, PCCF &HoFF, Haryana**. **Sh. Debendra Dalai, IFS, CCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chandigarh UT** deliberated upon Urban Forestry research initiatives and needs in Chandigarh. Thereafter, **DFO Kargil, Ladakh** highlighted the forestry research initiatives and needs in Ladakh. **Dr. Surbhi, IFS, CCF, Delhi (Res.)** talked about urban Forestry research activities and initiatives in Union Territory of Delhi. **Dr. D.R. Bharadwaj**, Principal scientist, UHF, Nauni, Solan, H.P.; **Dr. Sandeep Sehgal, Associate Professor, SKUAST, Jammu, J&K U.T.** and **Dr. S. A. Gangoo, Dean, SKUAST Kashmir, J&K U.T.** briefed about forestry research initiatives and future issues by their universities.

Technical Session-III of the regional conference dealt with Agroforestry and clonal technology dissemination: problems and issues and the session was chaired by **Dr. Savita, IFS, Ex-PCCF and HoFF, HPFD**. **Dr. Ashok Kumar, Scientist-G, FRI, Dehradun** gave presentation on Clonal Technology disseminations initiatives and issues. **Dr. R.C. Dhiman, Ex-Head WIMCO Seedling ITC Ltd. Rudrapur, U.K. India** talked about Agroforestry and Clonal Technology for productivity enhancement. **Dr. Sanjeev Chauhan, Head, College of Horticulture and Forestry, PAU Ludhiana** talked about agroforestry research, Clonal Technology dissemination in Punjab. **Dr. R.S. Minhas, Director, HIMOARD, Rampur, Shimla, H.P.** gave presentation on agroforestry and organic farming initiative in tribal areas. **Sh. Mukund Mohan Shandil**, Vice- President, Gram Panchayat Rajhana, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh briefed about green fodder issues in hills and raised concern regarding farm productivity enhancement and **Sh. Shiv Pal and Sh. Juber Ahmad** representatives from tribal youth talked about agroforestry issues in Tribal Areas. The conference ended with formal vote of thanks forwarded by Dr. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-F, HFRI, Shimla to all dignitaries and distinguished participants of this one-day conference.

Some Glimpses of North India Regional Research Conference






