

**One day training on**  
**“Capacity building on the development of Tree Rich Biobooster to Irular tribes  
in forest fringe villages of Coimbatore, Tamilnadu: An alternate source of  
livelihood support”**

**on 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2018**

**at**  
**Singapathy Village, Coimbatore**

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore has organised one day training on **“Capacity building on the development of Tree Rich Biobooster”** for the indigenous dwellers of Singapathy, Vellapathy and Pottapathy villages of Thondamuthur, Coimbatore district on 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 at Singapathy Village, Coimbatore. The training was organised under the project entitled **“Transfer of products/technology on biobooster to Irular tribes in forest fringe villages of Coimbatore, Tamilnadu: An alternate source of livelihood support”** sponsored by Natural Resource Data Management System (NRDMS-DST), Govt. of India New Delhi. About 50 Irular tribes, members of WSHGs in particular were participated.

The bioproduct **“Tree Rich Biobooster”**, a well nourished comprehensive potting mix alternate to conventional potting mixture developed by Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore for production of healthy saplings potentially results in reduction of fertilizers, irrigation, decreases nursery cost and enhanced the growth performances and yield of crops. The Tree Rich Biobooster is developed using coconut fibre waste (locally available in plenty and cost effective) duly decomposed using beneficial microorganisms. The biobooster is nutrient rich, organic, ecofriendly and cost effective, hence received overwhelming response from various stakeholders. Therefore, IFGTB has decided to transfer it to Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs) of Irular tribes to improve their livelihood and organised onsite training at their premises. Irular tribes fully depend on forests for their income. In order to reduce the pressure on forests and forest produce, capacity building on this developed technology will be an alternate source for their income and livelihood as well.

Various aspects of the development of the bioproduct **“Tree Rich Biobooster”** which included selection of raw materials, processing, compost making, preparation of discs, and evaluation of their efficacy were demonstrated to them in detail with all necessary materials. This is an approach towards the livelihood support to Irular tribes in forest fringe villages to alleviate their poverty. The consumers such as farmers, State Forest Departments, Forest Development Corporations and plantation companies may benefit through increased productivity through organic farming.

Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist-G and Group Coordinator Research inaugurated the training and insisted the WSHGs to enhance their skills through such trainings to become entrepreneur and to generate their own source of income for the uplift of their standard living, children education and their family wealth as well. He also assured that this training will be startup programme for the upcoming scale up project in which forming a cluster of five such villages and linkage will also be established for market. He also judged the interest of the tribes towards the technology and further improvement in their skill. Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist É, Head, Division of Chemistry and Bioprospecting and the Training Co-ordinator briefed the importance of the training and insisted the trainees to learn each and every step of the technique with respect to preparation of the product thoroughly and promote the technology for their income generation and livelihood. A detailed demonstration was given to the trainees utilizing the raw materials necessary for the product preparation. A research team consists of Smt. R. Sumathi, Smt. K.S. Rathinam, Shri R. Sathish Kumar, D. Suresh Babu and S. Rampriya was involved in imparting the training and the training programme concluded with the formal vote of thanks by Smt. R. Sumathi, ACTO.



**Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist -G & Group Co ordinator Research addressed the trainees**





**Dr. N.Senthilkumar, Scientist- E & Head, Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division IFGTB addressed the Women SHG trainees**



**Team members clarified the doubts raised by the participants while learning**