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FOREWORD

The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun is a premier institution in the country coordinating and undertaking forestry research, education and extension activities for achieving sustainable development of natural resources. The year 2013-14 has been particularly important for the Council as several important events were organised by it, such as the 'Asia Pacific Workshop on Forest Hydrology' in collaboration with Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI), Malaysia and Korea Forest Research Institute (KFDRI) Korea at FRI Dehradun; International seminar on 'Sandalwood: Current trends and future prospects' at IWST, Bangalore and, the Fifth International Casuaria Workshop under the aegis of IUFRO Working Party S2.08.02, Improvement and Culture of Nitrogen-Fixing Trees at Mamallapuram, Chennai by IFGTB, Coimbatore.

Acknowledging the significance of extension activities, the Council implements several schemes like 'Direct to Consumer', 'Van Vigyan Kendras' (VVks), 'Demo Villages' (DVs), 'Networking of VVKs with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVks)' of ICAR to take the research outputs to the end users. Under one such programme, introduction of the new lac host Flemingia spp. by IFP, Ranchi is proving to be very promising to the farmers in enhancing their livelihood. Similarly, ICFRE through the Bamboo Training Support Group (BTSG), is training different end users to enhance their income.

The Council also extended its expertise in the field of environment management under which, the Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans for individual mines in the mining districts of Karnataka i.e., Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga are being prepared. In this regard, I am happy to inform that so far 93 R&R Plans have been prepared and submitted to the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, out of which, 90 have been approved.

Further, the ICFRE regularly holds workshops, trainings etc. under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). In another major development, the National Working Plan Code 2014 has been prepared by incorporating provisions that address the emerging issues at the national and global level.

The ICFRE, acting as Technical Facilitation Organization for the SLEM Project (SLEM TFO), has come up with various important publications on best practices and other key aspects, besides making an informative documentary on SLEM. Also, two regional and one national consultative workshops were organised for finalization of indicators for Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD), at Hyderabad, at Kolkata and at New Delhi.

The Council is striving to put up modern infrastructural facilities across the ICFRE Institutes. New research facilities created include Teak Vegetative Multiplication Garden (VMG) at Walayar, Kerala, research centre at Neyveli, Tamil Nadu by IFGTB, Coimbatore; 'Open Top Chamber Facility' at FRI, Dehradun and establishment of an Interpretation Centre for Jharkhand by IFP, Ranchi to name a few.

Another significant step has been the evolution of a comprehensive Intellectual Property Management (IPM) policy governing generation and management of intellectual property emanating from ICFRE Institutes along with Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) and License Agreement (LA).

It gives me immense pleasure in presenting this Annual Report giving an overview of the activities of the Council along with Audited Annual Accounts for the year 2013-14.

(Dr. Ashwani Kumar)