

Visit of Chinese Academy of Forestry delegation to ICFRE, Dehradun

A high level 6 member delegation, headed by President, Chinese Academy of Forestry, Beijing, China visited ICFRE, Dehradun on 19th December, 2011. During the visit in an interaction meet identification of research areas for cooperation in the areas of forestry sciences were deliberated upon and a Memorandum of Understanding between Chinese Academy of Forestry and ICFRE, Dehradun to foster cooperative relationship between two countries on identified areas of research was signed by Prof. Zhang Shongong, Present, Chinese Academy of Forestry and Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, DG, ICFRE. Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, Director General, ICFRE dwelt upon the emerging areas of mutual interest viz. impact of Climate Change, on forest ecosystems, forest hydrology, tree improvement with scope of bilateral cooperation Dr. Bahuguna also harped upon the high expertise of China in the area of bamboo cultivation and technologies for bamboo products, which could be shared in a institutionalized manner for the livelihood support. Shri Sandeep Tripathi, Director (P&IC), ICFRE outlined the objectives of visit of the delegation under the over arching umbrella of BRICS Cooperation. A detailed presentation of the activities of ICFRE, research strength and challenges was made by Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, ADG. The CAF delegation made a presentation highlighting tree breeding, ecological improvement, germplasm conservation and sustainable forest management as the priority area of Chinese Academy of Forestry.

It was decided that a Umbrella Action Plan would be prepared under the over arching BRICS Cooperation Agreement, with main emphasis on bamboo cultivation and development of industrial bamboo products and tree improvement programme of important tree species like Teak, Sisso, Sandalwood, Red sander, Casurina, Eucalyptus etc. The modalities of exchange expert visit, sharing of research finding and technologies and capacity building programmes was also deliberated.

In the afternoon the CFA delegation visited various research labs and museums of Forest Research Institute. The delegation also visited the mining reclamation work undertaken by FRI in Maldevta.

This long term bilateral collaborative programme has a tremendous scope for exchange of technologies in the area of bamboo improvement and product development and tree improvement programme to address the livelihood issues and sustainable forest management.