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Front Cover: (clock wise from top)

1. 13th Silviculture Conference
2. National Bamboo Craft Mela at FRI, Dehradun
3. Bamboo Treatment Centre at Kanchanpur, Tripura
4. A Biopesticide – Ento Fight Nasa and a bio-control agent 'Tricho - K'
5. Hindi Saptah at ICFRE, Dehradun

Back Cover: *Swachha Bharat Abhiyan* across the ICFRE Institutes

Patron's Column



The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, a leading organization in forestry sector, is actively engaged in forestry research, education and extension. The Council has a rich tradition of promoting silvicultural practices through hosting pan Indian Silviculture Conferences since 1918. Continuing the legacy, FRI, Dehradun organized the 13th Silviculture Conference in November 2014. This 5 day event centering on the theme of multiple values of forests, was attended by over 400 participants from all over the country. I am also glad to inform that IWST, Bengaluru is celebrating golden jubilee of its establishment and, as a part of the yearlong celebrations, it conducted an International Conference "Wood is Good: Current Trends and Future Prospects in Wood Utilization" at Bengaluru.

The Council is known for development of innovative technologies, processes and products. In keeping with this, IFGTB, Coimbatore developed and released a bio-pesticide :Ento~fight Nasa- a mineral oil based preformulated endophytic fungal *(Nigrospora sphaerica)* insecticide for teak, Ailanthus defoliators and other insect pests of important forestry species. Similarly, a bio-control agent 'Tricho - K' was formulated and released by the Institute for use by farmers.

ICFRE is also striving to upgrade infrastructure for research and extension. IFGTB, Coimbatore has recently established a geomatics lab with GIS and Remote Sensing facilities at the Institute. Further, two more research stations have been established by it at Thuvarankurichi Research Station in Trichy Forest Division and Manakarai Research Station in Tirunelveli Forest Division. Out of these, the Manakarai Research Station in Tirunelveli is supposed to contribute towards the promotion of dry land agro-forestry with special emphasis on silvi-pasture. Besides, CFLE, Agartala, a centre under RFRI, Jorhat has strengthened its infrastructure by establishment of two Bamboo Treatment Centres in Tripura.

In another significant achievement wherein ICFRE has been entrusted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for developing R&R Plans for various categories of mines in Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur districts of Karnataka, eight more Plans have been prepared and submitted to CEC of the Hon'ble Supreme Court during the last six months. Apart from this, FRI, Dehradun has initiated ecological restorations of degraded mine spoils in two sites Northern Coalfield Limited (NCL), in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

I earnestly hope that this issue of the Newsletter will be successful in giving you a glimpse of the diverse activities being conducted at the Council.

Dr. Ashwani Kumar
Director General

FRI, Dehradun convened the five days Silviculture Conference from 24 to 28 November 2014 which was inaugurated by His Excellency, the Governor of Uttarakhand, Dr. Aziz Qureshi.

The Conference that centered on the theme of multiple values of the forests, aimed to address various issues placed under eight broad themes related with forestry. Four concurrent events were held during the Conference that were the 'National Seminar on Role of Technology in Enhancing Bamboo Use', 'National Workshop on Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants and NTFPs', 'National Stakeholders Meets Trees Outside Forests and Wood Based Enterprise' and, 'Forestry and Mining: Interface in Service of the Nation'. More than 400 participants including officers from the State Forest Departments, scientists, NGOs, other stakeholders, students and farmers from all over the country attended the Conference.



DG, ICFRE at Bamboo craft stall in National Bamboo Craft Mela at FRI, Dehradun

On this occasion a National Bamboo Craft Mela was organized at FRI, Dehradun from 25 to 27 November 2014. ICFRE Institutes, craftsmen and bamboo-based industrialists from different parts of the country participated in the fair.



Release of the book "SLEM - Some best practices from India"

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "WOOD IS GOOD: CURRENT TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS IN WOOD UTILIZATION"

IWST, Bengaluru conducted an International Conference "Wood is Good: Current Trends and Future Prospects in Wood Utilization" from 21 to 23 November 2014 at Bengaluru. Sh. H. N. Ananth Kumar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers graced the inaugural function as the Chief Guest. Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Director General, ICFRE, presided over the function. Shri G.V.Sugur, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Karnataka Forest Department; Dr. Sim Heok Choh, Executive Secretary, Asia Pacific Association of Forestry



International Conference "Wood is Good: Current Trends and Future Prospects in Wood Utilization"

Research Institutions, Malaysia; Distinguished Professor Jeffrey J. Morrell, of Oregon State University, USA and Sh. Ramu Ramakrishnan, Executive Director, Leitz Tooling Systems India Pvt. Ltd. were the Guests of Honour. Apart from India, more than 150 delegates from other countries like USA, Canada, Malaysia, UK, New Zealand, Philippines participated in the Conference.

PARTICIPATION IN FOREIGN MEETINGS/ WORKSHOPS/ SYMPOSIA ETC.

- Shri Aditya Kumar, Scientist-B, IFP, Ranchi participated in one week exposure visit to China from 16 to 22 August 2014 as a part of the training programme sponsored by the DST under "National Programme for Training of Scientists/ Technologists working in Government Sector" at IIPA, New Delhi.

- Smt. Neena Khandekar, IFS, Head, RS& M Division, Dr. H.S. Ginwal, Head, and Shri Rajendra Kumar Meena, Scientist-C ,FG & TB Division, FRI, Dehradun; Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS, IWST, Bengaluru, Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Scientist- F, HFRI, Shimla, Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist F, Dr. Maheswar Hegde, Scientist E, Dr. Kannan C.S. Warrier, Scientist E, and Dr. A.C.Surya Prabha, Scientist-C, IFGTB, Coimbatore participated in study tour on Tree Crop Improvement at Indiana and California in the US under USAID-India-MoEF&CC collaborative programme from 02 to 12 September 2014.

- Dr. R. Sundararaj, Scientist G, IWST, Bengaluru, Dr. Meena Bakshi, Scientist-E, FRI, Dehradun and Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist F, IFGTB, Coimbatore participated in the IUFRO's XXIV World Congress held at Salt lake city, USA from 4 to 11 October 2014 and presented papers.

- Dr. T.P. Singh, ADG (BCC), ICFRE participated in a three day workshop titled "REDD Plus Planning Workshop-cum-Impact Pathway Training" at Thimpu, Bhutan from 28 to 30 October 2014 as an observer organized by ICIMOD, in collaboration with GIZ, and the Watershed Management Division and Forest Resource Management Division of the Ministry of Forest and Agriculture, Royal Government of Bhutan.

- Dr. T.P. Singh, ADG (BCC), ICFRE participated in USAID sponsored regional training on Triple Bottom Line Multi Criteria Analysis at Chiang Mai, Thailand from 16 to 21 November 2014.

- Shri V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist- E, ICFRE participated in the SBSTA/SBI 41 and COP 20 meetings of the UNFCCC held in Lima (Peru) from 01 to 12 December 2014 as a member of Indian delegation. The delegation was headed by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

- Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extension), ICFRE visited USA on a study tour on 'Valuation of Ecosystem Services' from 02 to 11 December 2014 under USAID.

WORKSHOPS/ SEMINARS/ MEETINGS ETC.

- **ICFRE, Dehradun** organized the following meetings/workshop :
  - An inception meeting of Uttarakhand REDD+Pilot Project on 21 July 2014 at ICFRE, Dehradun attended by the officers and scientists from ICFRE, FRI and Uttarakhand State Forest Department.

  - The first meeting of the India-US Joint Working Group (JWG) on Combating Climate Change on 30 July 2014 in New Delhi initiated by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI and Mr. Todd Stern, Special Envoy for Climate Change, US. Shri V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist- E, BCC Division represented the ICFRE.

50th and 51st BOG Meetings of ICFRE

50th meeting of ICFRE Board of Governors was convened on 31 October 2014 at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi and, the 51st BOG Meeting on 28 November 2014 at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. Both the meetings were chaired by the Secretary, MoEF&CC, New Delhi. The meetings were attended by the DG, ICFRE, Dehradun and other members of the Board. ICFRE Annual Report 2013-14 and Audited Annual Accounts of ICFRE for the year 2013-14 were approved in the 51st BOG meeting.

- A three day planning workshop in collaboration with ICIMOD and GIZ at Dehra Dun from 26 to 28 August 2014 for finalizing the operational part of REDD+ capacity development programme for Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar and India. The



Participants and organizers of REDD Plus Planning Workshop

participants from ICFRE Hqs., FRI, Dehradun RFRI, Jorhat, G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (Almora) and State Forest Departments of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh attended the workshop.

- A one-day first consultative workshop on preparation of India's Biennial Update Report to UNFCCC- Forestry Sector- Mitigation and gap & constraints on 11 September 2014 at ICFRE, Dehradun. Officers and scientists from ICFRE, FRI and Uttarakhand SFD participated in the workshop.

- A one-day 2nd consultative workshop on "India's biennial update report to UNFCCC- Forestry Sector – Mitigation and gaps and constraints" was held at Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) on 16 September 2014. Dr. N.S. Bisht, Director, RFRI, Dr. T. P. Singh, ADG (BCC), ICFRE, Shri V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist E, ICFRE made presentations in the technical sessions that were attended by the officers and scientists from ICFRE as well as from, RFRI and Forest Departments of N–E States.

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** organized a "Bamboo Growers & Entrepreneurs Meet, 2014 (BGEM-2014)" on 18 July 2014 as a part of "Bamboo Bazaar" project funded by National Bamboo Mission through Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency (TANHODA), Chennai – the implementing agency of NBM in Tamil Nadu. A bamboo structure constructed within the Forest Campus to house the "Bamboo Market Information Centre (BMIC)" was inaugurated and a helpline (0422 2484222) to facilitate flow of information between bamboo farmers and bamboo entrepreneurs was also made operational.

- **IWST, Bengaluru** organized a one day consultative workshop on "Alignment of National Action Programme on Combating Desertification to 10 years Strategy of United Nation Convention to Combating Desertification (UNCCD)" on 12 November 2014. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. P.J. Dilip Kumar, IFS, former Director General (Forests) Government of India.

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized an interactive meet on forest-based livelihood planning for field demonstration at CFLE, Agartala on 20 December 2014 for the beneficiaries of Kanchanpur.

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized training cum workshop on bamboos handicrafts for dropout students of Mishing Tribe community of different districts of Assam & Arunachal Pradesh under Direct to Consumer Scheme from 18 to 30 August 2014.
- **HFRI, Shimla** organized two meetings in Kishtwar Forest Division of J&K on 06 August 2014 in collaboration with the officials of the Division including local communities under NMPB funded project. The farmers from Galhar Nagsni and Kaligarh villages were taught about the cultivation of medicinal plants.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- **FRI, Dehradun** organized following training programmes:

  - A five day training on "Community Based Natural Resource Management" for the staff of Emanuel Hospital Association, New Delhi from 21 to 25 July 2014.

  - Three days training on "Sensitization course in forests, wildlife and environment conservation" from 9 to 11 October 2014 for

personnel of other services under the sponsorship of MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

- A session on "Managing forests for multiple values: Landscape approach" in Tropical Ecology Congress 2014 organized by International Society for Tropical Ecology at School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi from 10 to 12 December 2014.
- Three days training on "Preparation of bamboo handicrafts for farmers/artisans of Himachal Pradesh" from 10 to 12 December 2014.
- One day training on cultivation of medicinal and edible mushroom for the farmers of Haryana on 17 November 2014.
- A training programme on "Forestry in landslide risk management" from 7 to 11 July 2014 with the collaboration of NIDM, New Delhi for officers of SFDs.
- A training programme on "Forest fire disaster risk mitigation" from 13 to 17 October 2014 with the collaboration of NIDM, New Delhi for officers of SFDs.
- A training programme on "Silviculture/ Forestry" from 15 to 19 December 2014 for the personnel of Eco Task Force of Territorial Army.

- **IWST, Bengaluru** organized seven one week training programmes on "Research on important tree species" for Range Officer probationers from Karnataka Forest Department during July to October 2014.

The Institute also organised a three day training programme on "Forests, wildlife and environment conservation" from 03 to 05 December 2014 at IWST, Bengaluru for different departments.

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized following training programmes:
  - A three -day training programme on "Lac cultivation and bamboo charcoal making and its briquetting" for livelihood support for trainees from Assam and Arunachal Pradesh at RFRI, Jorhat from 22 to 24 December 2014.
  - Awareness cum training programmes on "Promotion of bamboo plantation in degraded jhum land for livelihood security and carbon sequestration" among jhumias at Phumen Ingti village on 26 August 2014 and on "Bamboo plantation in degraded jhum land for livelihood development and creation of carbon pool" at Deohari Rongpi village, Assam on 30 September 2014.
  - Farmers-to-farmers trainings on 'Bamboo propagation, cultivation and nursery techniques' on 20 August 2014 and 23 August 2014 at CFLE, Gandhigram and Noagaon Demo Village, Bamutia.
  - A training and demonstration on low-cost bamboo treatment tank at Lankamura on 27 November 2014. Two training programmes, one on 12 September 2014 for refreshers trainees from Central Academy for State Forest Service, (CASFOS) Burnihat and another on 02 October 2014 for trainees from CASFOS, Dehradun were also held.
- **AFRI, Jodhpur** organized training on "Integrated approach for sustainable development of fragile desert ecosystem" for IFS officers at AFRI from 15 to 19 December 2014. Trainees also visited IGNP Canal, Akal Fossil Park, silvipasture & sand dune stabilization works, etc.
- **HFRI, Shimla** organized a training and demonstration programme for farmers from

Distt. Kullu and Lahaul & Spiti on "Cultivation of high valued temperate medicinal plants" on 23 September 2014 at Mansari, Haripur, Manali (H.P.).

The Institute also organized a three -day training programme on "Eco-restoration of wastelands" for stakeholders from 29 to 31 December 2014 at HFRI, Shimla, on 30 December 2014. Participants from educational institutes, media, representatives of mahila mandals, representatives of the panchayats and NGOs attended the training programme.

BAMBOO TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUPS (BTSG), ICFRE ACTIVITIES

- **FRI, Dehradun** conducted training on "Raising, managing & marketing" under BTSG for farmers from 8 to 12 September 2014.
- **IWST, Bengaluru** organized two five day training programmes for field functionaries of Karnataka and adjoining states, one, from 8 to 12 September 2014 at Bengaluru and another, from 15 to 19 September 2014 at IWST, Bengaluru
- **HFRI, Shimla** organized a five- day training programme on "Production, management and marketing of bamboo" from 10 to 14 August 2014 at Forest Training Institute, Sunder Nagar.
- **HFRI, Shimla** organized a two -day national seminar on "Hill bamboos – An important resource for improving the rural livelihood" on 17 and 18 October 2014 at Manali, District Kullu, Himachal Pradesh. Eminent scientists from the country, who have worked on bamboos



Training Programme on "Production, Management and Marketing of Bamboo"

participated in the seminar with their research papers.

A Bamboo Craft Mela was also organized from 17 to 21 October 2014 in which bamboo artisans from Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh participated with their products.

ACTIVITIES UNDER VVKs

- **FRI, Dehradun** organized a training on "Monitoring and evaluation of health of urban trees and plantations" at VVK, Chandigarh on 09 August 2014 for officers/ field staff of Municipal Corporation, Horticulture Department and Forest Department Chandigarh.
- **TFRI Jabalpur** organized following training programmes
  - One day training programme on "Integrated Management of pests and diseases in forest nurseries and plantations"(वन रोपणियों तथा वृक्षरोपणों में कीटों तथा रोगों का समन्वित प्रबन्धन) at VVK Jabalpur on 27 August 2014. Training programme was attended by Vandoot, Farmers and front line staff from SFD.

- One day training programme on "Suitable agroforestry practices and their management in central region" (मध्य क्षेत्र हेतु उपयुक्त कृषि वानिकी पद्धतियाँ एवं उनका प्रबधंन) at VVK Jabalpur on 18 September 2014. Training programme was attended by Vandoot, Farmers, NGOs and front line staff of SFD.

- One day training programme on "Advanced nursery techniques for production of high quality seedlings and selection of seeds and its storage (उच्च गुणवत्ता के पौधे उत्पादन हेतु उन्नत नर्सरी तकनीकी एवं बीजो का चयन तथा भंडारण) at VVK Jabalpur on 29 September 2014.

- Two, one day workshop-cum-training programme in VVK, Jabalpur from 17 to 30 October 2014 for strengthening network for outreach of research findings of ICFRE and its institute under one time special grant. In this programme 20 technologies developed by TFRI and other ICFRE institutes, suitable for Madhya Pradesh were presented and extended to the participants. Included SHGs, VSS members, Forest guards, Farmers, NGO, and other officials from Madhya Pradesh SFD.

- One day training programme on "Advanced nursery, seed technology, tree improvement techniques and agroforestry" (उन्नत नर्सरी, बीज प्रौद्योगिकी, वृक्ष सुधार तकनीक एवं कृषि वानिकी) in VVK Jalna on 7 December 2014 and on "Integrated management of insect pests and diseases in forest nurseries and plantations (वन रोपणियों तथा वृक्षारोपणों के कीटों तथा रोगों का समन्वित प्रबन्धन)in VVK Maharashtra, Jalna on 8 December 2014 for farmers, NGO's and staff of Maharashtra SFD.



TFRI organized training programme in VVK, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur

- Two days workshop-cum-training programme in VVK Jalna for 9 and 10 December 2014 on strengthening network for outreach of research findings of ICFRE and its institute. 20 technologies developed by TFRI and other institute of ICFRE, were presented and extended to the participants.

NETWORKING OF VVKs WITH KVKs

IWST, Bengaluru organized following training programmes :

- A training programme on “Sandalwood cultivation” was organized jointly by VVK-KVK at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Research Complex, Old Goa on 14 October 2014.

- A training programme on “Sandalwood cultivation” was organized under KVK-VVK programme at K.H. Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, Dharwad on 16 October 2014.

- A training programme on "Sandalwood cultivation" was jointly organized by IWST, Bangaluru, College of Horticulture, Sirsi and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Uttar Kannada, Sirsi at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Uttar Kannada, Sirsi on 28 October 2014.

CONSULTANCIES

- **ICFRE** completed and submitted eight R & R Plans to CEC of the Hon'ble SC of India during the period under 'Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans' for 166 mines in Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur districts of Karnataka.



Severely eroded encroached O B dump of ML-2451 (Category-C mine) at Sandur taluk of Bellary district

- Draft final report on "Cumulative environment impact assessment of hydropower project in River Sutlej Basin, Himachal Pradesh" was submitted to the Department of Energy, Government of Himachal Pradesh. DoE conducted Public consultation meetings on 8 and 9 December 2014 at Reckong Peo and Poo in district Kinnaur, H.P. The meeting was attended by the various stakeholders.

- Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan Study Report for 48 MW Surgani Sundla hydro-electric project in Chamba district was submitted to Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation (HPPCL). Public hearing meeting was held on 28 December 2014 at Surgani, Chamba, H.P.

- Draft Report of Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan of the 460 MW Nakthan Hydro Electric Project was submitted to HPPCL. Further, Environmental Public Hearing meeting was conducted at Barshaini, Kullu, H.P. on 20 September 2014. The report is in the process of revision in light of observations by HPPCL and HPSPCB.

- **FRI, Dehradun** initiated ecological restoration of degraded mine spoils in two sites of 5 ha each in Northern Coalfield Limited (NCL), one at Nighai in Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh and, other at Krishanshila in Sonbadhra district of Uttar Pradesh. Saplings of forestry, horticulture and medicinal plants were planted and after a period of three months the results quite promising.



Exposed coal mined out area at Nighai



Process of community development after 2 months



Process of community development after 3 months

Process of community development after 2 and 3 months

- **TFRI, Jabalpur** prepared final report of the consultancy project titled "Preparation of conservation plan and comprehensive studies of impact on the wildlife for Rajgamar underground project, SECL Korba, C.G" and submitted to the funding agency SECL Korba.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

- At FRI, Dehradun bamboo culm sheath was pulped, beaten in a valley beater and handmade sheets were prepared from this underutilized biomass. Pulping of the culm sheath material was performed in alkaline condition. The strength properties of the prepared sheets met the required standards.



A bio-control agent 'Tricho - K'

- A bio-control agent 'Tricho - K' was released by IFGTB, Coimbatore for farmers' use. This bio control agent consists of an antagonistic fungus *Trichoderma viride* and a Potassium solubilising bacteria *Fratueria aurantia*. *T. viride* was found more effective to control the soil borne diseases such as root rot and stem wilt caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* and *F. solani*. *T. viride* not only kills the pathogens in soil but also protects the plants/trees from the soil pathogens.



A Biopesticide – Ento Fight Nasa

- A Biopesticide – Ento Fight Nasa - based on endophytic fungus isolated from teak leaves has been formulated which is effective against defoliators of *Tectona grandis* and *Ailanthus excelsa*.
- Established a provenance trial of *Casuarina equisetifolia* at Neyveli.
- Two species provenance trials of 15 *Eucalyptus mallee* species have been established at Neyveli and Thuvarankurichi field stations. This is the first time line species are subjected to field testing in India.

NEW RESEARCH FACILITIES

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** has recently established a Geomatics Lab with GIS and Remote Sensing facilities.
- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** has, in the recent past, established Research Stations at i) Kurichi, Coimbatore, ii) Kurumbapatti, Salem, iii) Gudalur, Chennai and Neyveli. In continuation of this effort, two more Research Stations viz. Thuvarankurichi Research Station in Trichy Forest Division and Manakarai Research Station in Tirunelveli Forest Division were inaugurated on 13 August 2014.

VISITS OF DIGNITARIES

- Shri M. M. Lakhera Ex-Governor, of Mizoram visited FRI, Dehradun on 23 July 2014.
- A group of 9 delegates from Royal Government of Bhutan visited RFRI, Jorhat on 03 September 2014.
- Ms. Uma Bharti, Union Minister of Water Resources, Government of India visited FRI, Dehradun on 16 September 2014. She visited the Timber Museum and the NTFP Museum of



Ms. Uma Bharti, Union Minister of Water Resources, Government of India visited FRI, Dehradun

the Institute. She also addressed the officers and scientists of the Institute. Dr. Ashwani Kumar, DG, ICFRE; Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, Director FRI; Dr. G S Goraya, DDG Research and Shri Saibal Das Gupta, DDG Extension were also present during her visit.

- Japanese delegation visited FRI, Dehradun on 16 October 2014.
- Sh. Prakash Singh Badal, Chief Minister of Punjab visited FRI, Dehradun on 27 November 2014.

RAJBHASHA NEWS

- ICFRE celebrated Hindi Week from 18 to 29 September 2014. The closing ceremony on 29 September 2014 at ICFRE was presided over by Dr. Ashwani Kumar, DG, ICFRE. Five competitions were organized in which 44 participants took part. About 100 officers, scientists and employees were present during the closing ceremony.
- ICFRE, Dehradun organized district level hindi essay competition on the topic *"Ghatate van, badti aapdayen"* under the aegis of TOLIC, Dehradun on 21 November 2014 at ICFRE Auditorium. Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extn.), ICFRE was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Smt. Neena Khandekar, ADG (M&Extn.), ICFRE welcomed all the guests and participants. Shri Dhoom Singh, Member Secretary, TOLIC, Dehradun was present at the event as observer from TOLIC, Dehradun.



ICFRE organized district level Hindi essay competition



Dr. Ashwani Kumar, DG, ICFRE addressing the gathering during the closing ceremony of Hindi Saptah at ICFRE, Dehradun

- **IWST, Bengaluru** observed the Hindi Week from 15 to 28 September 2014.
- **RFRI, Jorhat** celebrated Hindi Week- 2014 from 15 to 19 September 2014. Different competitions were organized for the staff and officers. Extempore Speech competition was also held for school children.



IFGTB, Coimbatore celebrated Hindi Day



Celebration of Hindi Pakhwada at AFRI, Jodhpur

- **RFRI, Jorhat** organized a Hindi Workshop at RFRI, Jorhat on 28 November, 2014. Scientists, officers and other staff of the Institute were present in the workshop.
- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** celebrated Hindi Day on 15 September 2014.
- **HFRI, Shimla** organized a Hindi workshop on 27 August 2014 in which various officers, scientists and officials of the Institute were present. The Institute celebrated *Hindi Saptah* from 19 to 24 September 2014. Various competitions were organized during the week.
- **AFRI, Jodhpur** organized *Hindi Pakhwada* from 12 to 26 September 2014. Various competitions were organized during the fortnight.
- **IFP, Ranchi** observed *'Hindi Pakhwara'* from 01 to 15 September 2014 during which various competitions were organized.

ANNUAL REVIEW

- **ICFRE, Dehradun** regularly conducts the annual review and evaluation of all the ongoing research projects of its Institutes. During August – December, 2014 the annual review of ongoing and completed research projects of all ICFRE Institutes was conducted. Annual Review of 363 projects (258 ICFRE funded and 105 externally funded) of AFRI, HFRI, FRI, IFGTB, IFP, IFB, IWST, RFRI, TFRI will be submitted

STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS

- Stakeholder consultation of the Uttarakhand REDD+ project with the officers of the Uttarakhand Forest Department was held at Forest Training Academy, Haldwani on 19 September 2014. Forest officers of Uttarakhand Forest Department and project team members from ICFRE participated followed by interaction with the representatives of Van Panchayat from Dolgarh watershed of Nainital district.
- IWST, Bengaluru organized stakeholders meeting on 28 October 2014. Stakeholders from Forest Departments, wood and allied industries and academicians attended the meeting.
- HFRI, Shimla organized a one- day stakeholders workshop to identify forestry research needs on 17 September 2014, which was attended by the senior forest officers and field staff of the state, scientists from the universities /research institutions, NGOs, progressive farmers, Mahila Mandals etc.

RESEARCH ADVISORY GROUP (RAG) MEETINGS

RAG Meetings of ICFRE institutes for 2014-15 have been conducted on the dates specified below ;

Institute	Date/s
TFRI, Jabalpur	10 and 11 November 2014
RFRI, Jorhat	12 November 2014
AFRI, Jodhpur	13 and 14 November 2014
HFRI, Shimla	14 November 2014
IFP, Ranchi	18 and 19 November 2014
IFB, Hyderabad	05 December 2014
IWST, Bengaluru	16 and 17 December 2014
IFGTB, Coimbatore	18 and 19 December 2014

ACCREDITATION OF UNIVERSITIES

Proposals from HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Science, Allahabad, University of Agricultural Sciences, Shimoga, University of Horticulture and Forestry, Jhalawar, Kerala Agricultural University, Trissur, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Kumaun University, Nainital, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Dr. YSP University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Odisha have been received for accreditation for which Inspection Teams have been constituted for visit to the universities for evaluation.

NETWORKING FORESTRY EDUCATION WITH RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

The Status Reports and Detailed Project Reports (DPR) received from the universities were evaluated by the Committee constituted under **"Networking Project on NTFPs".** During the period, funds to the tune of Rs. 4,86,250.00 have been released to 2 universities, i.e., HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar (Uttarakhand) and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Mettupalayam (Tamil Nadu).

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

National:

- Project "Establishment of herbal garden" funded by National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) to Institute of Forest Biodiversity (IFB), Hyderabad.
- Project on "Measurement of vegetation and biomass parameters under Vegetation Carbon Pool Assessment (VCP) sub-project of the ISRO-Geosphere Biosphere Program (IGBP) National Carbon Project (NCP)" between Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad and NRSA, Hyderabad
- Two Collaborative Research Projects of IFGTB Coimbatore with ITC Life Science and Technology Centre, Bengaluru viz. "Developing varieties of *Acacia mangium* Willd with low heartwood content and lower wood density" and "Selection of suitable bamboo species for quality agarbathi sticks production"

International:

- Approval for extension of ongoing project "New Bio-control opportunities for prickly *Acacia:* Exploration in India" with Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia and IFGTB, Coimbatore.
- Approval for research contract with Tetra-tech under Forest Plus Program of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and FRI to become "on call partner" with Tetra-tech Associates in Rural Development (Tetra-tech ARD) for implementing Forest Plus Program of USAID.

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

- The President of India gifted Mahabodhi tree sapling to Vietnam Government. A team of FRI scientists examined and treated the sapling on 12 and 13 September 2014 at Rashtrapati Bhawan. After the re-examination the phytosanitary certificate was issued.

- A team from FRI, Dehradun examined the Mahabodhi tree sapling and issued phytosanitary certificate after requisite treatment for planting the sapling in the Mahamaya Temple at Lumbini by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during his tour to Nepal in November 2014.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



New Website of HFRI, Shimla

ICFRE, Dehradun plays an important role in supporting research, administrative and other activities through its IT services. Apart from providing the regular services, new initiatives are also being taken from time to time. New website of HFRI was designed and developed by IT Division, ICFRE which was inaugurated by DG, ICFRE during 13th Silviculture Conference held from 24 to 28 November 2014.

AWARDS

- Dr. J.P. Jacob, Scientist-E, Forest Protection Division, IFGTB, Coimbatore received Certificate of Merit from NBAII (ICAR) for outstanding contribution to the classical biological control of *Eucalyptus* Gall wasp in India.

- Rajesh Kumar, Shailesh Pandey, Ashwani Tapwal, R. Raja Rishi, Krishna Giri and Gaurav Mishra, RFRI, Jorhat were awarded Photon Young Scientist Award-2014 for the research article "Ethonomycological knowledge on wild mushrooms by tribes of Mokokchung, Nagaland, North East India".

- A poster on "Evaluation of anti-oxidative activity in selected wild edible fruits for harnessing their health benefits" by Nishat Anjum and Y.C. Tripathi, FRI, Dehradun in Symposium on "Phytochemistry and Ayurveda: Potential and Prospects held on 24 December 2014 at Dehradun has been awarded the best poster presentation.

- A poster on "Studies on Phelvonoid Glycosides and Polysaccharides from *Malvastrum Coromandelian*m" by Dr. Vineet Kumar and Shanti Devi, FRI, Dehradun in 29th Carbohydrate Conference organized jointly by Centre for Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing Mohali and Association of Carbohydrate Chemist and Technologists (India) on 31 December 2014 has been awarded the best poster presentation.

- A poster on "Ecofriendly extraction of sisal fibre and its FT-IR spectroscopy characterization" by Davesh Tiwari and Y.C. Tripathi FRI, Dehradun in workshop on "Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants and NTFPs held during 13th Silvicultural Conference has been awarded second prize.

World Environment Day and FRI Day

World Environment Day & FRI Day celebrated on 05 June 2014 at Forest Research Institute. A special exhibition was held in which all the Divisions of the Institute participated by showcasing the recent scientific and technical achievements useful to the general people. All museums of the Institute were kept free for public on this day.

Van Mahotsava

FRI, Dehradun celebrated Van Mahotsava on 04 August 2014. Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, Director FRI, special guest, Dr. N. Krishan Kumar, Dr. S.P. Singh, Dr. G.S. Goraya and other officers and scientists of FRI and ICFRE planted saplings on the occasion.



FRI, Dehradun celebrated Van Mahotsava

HFRI, Shimla celebrated Van Mahotsava on 12 August 2014. Saplings of Deodar and other important medicinal plants were planted.

Van Mahotsava, the annual tree planting festival was celebrated on the 7 July 2014 at **IWST, Bengaluru.** Saplings of tree species were planted in the campus.

IFP, Ranchi celebrated 'Van Mahotsav' on 11 July 2014. On the occasion, various species viz. *Mallotus roxburghianus, Musea ferra, Melia dubia, Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* etc. were planted.



Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi celebrated 'Van Mahotsav'

Van Mahotsav was organized jointly by **AFRI, Jodhpur** & J. N. Vyas University Jodhpur. Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Jodhpur was the Chief Guest. Seedlings were planted to mark the occasion.

Vigilance Awareness Week

- **IFGTB, Coimbatore** observed Vigilance Awareness Week 2014 from 27 October to 01 November 2014 . Essay competition was held and the prizes were distributed to the winners. Vigilance week was also observed at **IWST, Bengaluru** and **HFRI, Shimla.**

- **FRI, Dehradun** observed "Vigilance Awareness Week" from 27 October to 01 November 2014. An essay competition on the subject *"Brasthachar se sangarsh me prodhyogiki ki samarth bhoomika"* was organized during the week.



DG, ICFRE leading *Swachha Bharat Abhiyan* at FRI, Dehradun

Swachha Bharat Abhiyan

Swachha Bharat Abhiyan was initiated with enthusiasm across all the ICFRE Institutes on 2 October 2014. At ICFRE Hqs. Dr. Ashwani Kumar, DG, ICFRE administered the pledge to all the officers, scientists and personnel of ICFRE. Later, DG, ICFRE and all the officers, scientists and personnel carried out cleaning of the building and surroundings of ICFRE. Pledge was administered and cleaning drive was carried out at Institutes too under the leadership of the Directors and senior officers/scientists.

National Unity Day

FRI, Dehradun celebrated "National Unity Day" on the occasion of 139th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 31 October 2014. Dr. P. P. Bhojvaid, Director, FRI administered the pledge of unity to entire staff of the Institute after which a run for unity was held. Officers, scientists, staff of FRI & ICFRE and all students of FRI (Deemed) University participated in this event.



HFRI, Shimla celebrated World Science Day

World Science Day

HFRI, Shimla celebrated World Science Day on 10 November 2014 at Potter's Hill, where students of St. Bede's College, Shimla participated actively.

VISIT OF DR. ASHWANI KUMAR, IFS, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ICFRE TO ICFRE INSTITUTES

- The Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun visited TFRI, Jabalpur on 01 and 02 November 2014. He inaugurated *Vaniki Parichay Kendra* (Forest Interpretation Center) and Museum and Mist Chamber at TFRI Jabalpur. He also chaired a meeting with all the scientists of the Institute to review the research activities being undertaken.



DG, ICFRE inaugurated *Vaniki Parichay Kendra* and Museum at TFRI, Jabalpur

- DG, ICFRE released a bio-pesticide named Ento Fight Nasa and a biocontrol agent Tricho – K during his visit to IFGTB, Coimbatore on 19 and 20 November 2014. A book on grasshopper was also released by him and declared open the newly constructed buildings of the Forest Genetic Resource Network Complex in the Forest Campus. He also declared open a new facility of vegetative propagation through mini-cutting technique. The DG also paid a visit to the century old Gass Forest Museum in the Campus and reviewed the ongoing renovation works.



DG, ICFRE inaugurating the library building at HFRI, Shimla

- Director General, chaired the concluding session of the 'National Seminar on Hill Bamboo' at Manali on 18 October 2014. He launched the new website of Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla on 28 November 2014 and also inaugurated the new building of library during the visit.

- Director General visited AFRI, Jodhpur during his two days programme & visited the experimental field. He also interacted with AFRI officers, staff and media people.

- Director General, ICFRE visited IFP, Ranchi on 23 and 24 December 2014. During the visit he also released e.magazine *"SODH TARU"*.



Release of e.magazine *"SODH TARU"* by D.G., ICFRE

ESTABLISHMENT OF BAMBOO TREATMENT CENTRES

A Bamboo Treatment Centre established at Nowagaon, Tripura by CFLE, Agartala was made operational under Padma SHG on 03 December 2014. The Centre is located at Noagaon, Bamutia. The technology was demonstrated to the villagers. Another Bamboo Treatment Centre was established at Kanchanpur, Tripura by Mars Socio Welfare Society, with technical support of CFLE, Agartala.

HR NEWS

Name & Designation	Date
Appointments	
Deputation :	
Dr. Ashwani Kumar, IFS, D.G., ICFRE	04.09.2014
Shri N.K.Vasu, IFS, D, AFRI, Jodhpur	03.08.2014
Shri B.R. Bhadu, IFS, CF, AFRI, Jodhpur	13.08.2014
Shri Uma Ram Choudhary, DCF, AFRI, Jodhpur	08.08.2014
Shri S. Senthil Kumar, IFS, CF, IFGTB, Coimbatore	20.08.2014
Shri P. Kathirvel, IFS, DCF, IFGTB,Coimbatore	19.08.2014
Smt. K. Yasodha, IFS, DCF, IFGTB, Coimbatore	07.10.2014
Dr.. Savita, IFS, DDG (Education), ICFRE	09.10.2014
Promotion :	
Sh. Sukhdev Sharma, Research Officer Gd.I, FRI	26.11.2014
Dr. Sachin Gupta, Research Officer Gd.I,FRI	26.11.2014
Smt. Sabi Gogoi Boara, R.O. Gd.I, IFP,Ranchi	22.12.2014
Shri R.K. Gupta, R.O., Gd.I, AFRI, Jodhpur	12.12.2014
Shri K.C. Jedia, R.O., Gd.I, AFRI, Jodhpur	12.12.2014
Shri S.L.Chauhan, R.O. Gd.I, AFRI, Jodhpur	12.12.2014
Shri R.S. Prasad, Research Officer Gd.I, IFP, Ranchi	25.11.2014
Dr.(Mrs.)Nizara Dutta Barthakur, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	29.10.2014
Dr. (Mrs.) Papori Sharma, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	28.10.2014
Shri H.R. Bora, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	28.10.2014
Dr. Dandeswar Dutta, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	28.10.2014
Dr. Pramod Kumar, Scientist-B, TFRI, Jabalpur	29.10.2014
Smt.Anubha Srivastava, Scientist-B, CSFER, Allahabad	28.10.2014
Shri Ram Bahadur Singh, Scientist-B, FRI, Dehradun	28.10.2014
Shri Shailendra Kumar, Scientist-B, FRI, Dehradun	28.10.2014
Smt.Ranjana Juwantha, Scientist-B, FRI, Dehradun	28.10.2014
Smt. Sneh Lata Chauhan, Under Secretary (Ad-hoc), ICFRE	28.10.2014
Smt. Rashma Dewan, Under Secretary (Ad-hoc), FRI	28.10.2014
Shri Y.P. Bajaj, Sr. PS	18.11.2014
Shri Vijay Kumar D. Kamble, Hind Officer	19.11.2014
Shri D.S. Thakur, Private Secretary, TFRI, Jabalpur	12.12.2014
Promotions under FCS	
As on 1 July 2014	
From Scientist - B to Scientist - C	
Ms. Ranjana Kumar Negi, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Dr. Maneesh Singh Bhandari, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Dr. Rama Kant, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Shri Rajendra Kumar Meena, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Mrs. Ismita Nautiyal, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Shri Sanjay Singh, TFRI, Jabalpur	
Shri Naseer Mohammad, TFRI, Jabalpur	
Shri Manish Kumar Singh, AFRI, Jodhpur	
Dr. Shiwani Bhatnagar, AFRI, Jodhpur	
Dr. Shailesh Pandey, RFRI, Jorhat	
Shri Hans Raj, RFRI, Jorhat	
Shri Mohd. Ibrahim, RFRI, Jorhat	
Dr. Surendra Singh Bisht, IWST, Bangalore	
Shri Aditya Kumar, IFP, Ranchi	
Shri Hari Om Saxena, TFRI, Jabalpur	
Ms. Deepa M., IFB, Hyderabad	
From Scientist - C to Scientist - D	
Dr. S. P. Singh, FRI, Dehra Dun	
Dr. Pramod Kumar, FRI, Dehradun	
Dr. K. P. Singh, FRI, Dehradun	
Dr. Shilpa Gautam, ICFRE	
Shri Dhrubjyoti Das, RFRI, Jorhat	
Shri S. H. Jain, IWST, Bangalore	
From Scientist - D to Scientist - E	
Shri R. K. Kalita, RFRI, Jorhat	
Smt. R. Anandlakshmi, IFGTB, Coimbatore	
Shri Maheshwar Hegde, IFGTB, Coimbatore	
Smt. Rekha R. Warrier, IFGTB, Coimbatore	
Shri D. Rajasugunasekar, IFGTB ,Coimbatore	
Dr. M. Malaji, IWST, Bangalore	
Dr. Animesh Sinha, IFP, Ranchi	
Repatriation/Relieving:	
Dr.N. Krishna Kumar, IFS, Director, IFGTB	20.08.2014
Shri T.S. Raghunath, IFS, CF, IFGTB	18.8.2014
Dr. T.S. Rathore, Director, AFRI, Jodhpur	03.08.2014
Shri Shailendra Kumar, A.O., FRI	21.09.2014
Shri S.S. Katait, IFS, HFRI	August 2014
Dr. Renu Singh, IFS,ADG (Edu.& PR),ICFRE	04.11.2014
Shri Rajbir Singh, IFS, CF, FRI	30.11.2014
Shri Biplav Kumar Mishra, DCF, IFP, Ranchi	04.12.2014
Smt. Jayshree Ardey Chauhan, CF, FRI	06.12.2014
Dr.Sudhanshu Gupta, IFS, Secretary	31.12.2014
Shri Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, ADG (EM)	31.12.2014
Shri Gautam Banerjee, DCF, RFRI, Jorhat	31.12.2014
Retirement:	
Shri G.S. Sarma, R.O. Gd.I, RFRI	31.07.2014
Shri Vinay Kumar, U.S. ICFRE (Hqr.)	31.07.2014
Shri B.J. Jagdishwar Rao, U.S., IWSt, Bangalore	31.07.2014
Dr. K.K.Soni, Scientist-E, TFRI, Jabalpur	31.08.2014
Shri Dharam Pal Singh Thakur, Logging Instructor, FRI	31.08.2014
Shri Mohan Lal, Scientist-D, ICFRE	30.09.2014
Dr. S.I. Ahmed, Scientist-G, AFRI, Jodhpur	31.10.2014
Smt. Sneh Lata Chauhan, U.S.	31.10.2014
Shri Nirmal Ram, Scientist-E	30.11.2014
Shri T.C. Bhuyan, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	31.12.2014
Shri Sonk Ram, FRO, HFRI, Shimla	31.12.2014
Shri Chabbi Lal, FRO, FRI	31.12.2014
VRS	
Dr. S.D. Sharma, Scientist-E	30.07.2014

Transfer

	From	To
Shri A.J.K. Asaiya, R.O. Gd.I	TFRI, Jabalpur	IFB, Hyderabad
Shri Hare Krishna Pandey, R.A. Gd.II	AFRI, Jodhpur	TFRI, Jabalpur
Shri Mohender Singh Chauhan, FRO	AFRI, Jodhpur	HFRI, Shimla
Dr. Praveen Kumar Verma, R.O. GD.I	RFRI, Jorhat	FRI,Dehra Dun
Smt. Tresa Hamalton, Scientist-B	TFRI, Jabalpur	IWST,Bangalore

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Obituary

The ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise of Dr. B.K. Pandey, Scientist-D, CSFER, Allahabad on 30 July 2014; Shri Dharam Singh Rana, Section Officer, FRI on 04 November 2014; Dr. Sunil Kumar, Scientist-E, AFRI, Jodhpur on 07 November 2014 and Shri Vinay Kumar, R.A. (Wood Workshop), FRI, Dehradun on 14 December 2014 and prays for the peace of the departed souls.


Inauguration of *Swachha Bharat Abhiyan* at ICFRE, Dehradun


ICFRE (Hq.), DEHRADUN


FRI, Dehradun


IWST, Bengaluru


TFRI, Jabalpur


AFRI, Jodhpur


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IFP, Ranchi

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