

**ONE WEEK COMPULSORY TRAINING COURSE ON FOREST GENETIC
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR INDIAN FOREST SERVICE OFFICERS AT THE
INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS AND TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE
04.07.2022 – 08.07.2022**

Inaugural Programme

A one week training course for the Indian Forest Service officers on "**Forest Genetic Resource Management**" is being organized at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, from 04.07.2022 to 08.07.2022, sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. A total of 15 IFS officers at the level of Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chief Conservator of Forests, Conservator of Forests and Divisional Forest Officers from 14 states of the country attended the training programme.

The Training programme was inaugurated on 04.07.2022 by Dr. V.Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Dr. R. Anandalakshmi, Scientist- F & the training co-coordinator gave a brief account on forest genetic resource management and explained the five days training module. Following this the IFS officers introduced themselves.

Dr.C.Kunhikannan, Director, IFGTB also welcomed the participants and explained the research activities undertaken by IFGTB under thrust area of Forest Genetic Resource Management and Tree Improvement. During his remarks, highlighted the importance of Forest Genetic Resources, need for networking and the lead role played by IFGTB in FGR research. He sought co-ordinated, co-operative and collective efforts from the Forest Departments for effective implementation of the Forest Genetic Resource Management Network.

The Chief Guest, Dr. V.Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore inaugurated the Refresher Course by lighting the lamp and released the training manual. During her inaugural address, she stressed that germplasm of Forest Genetic Resources is the foundation for the Tree breeding programs. She stressed about FAO reports on the sustained supply of wood and food from forests, improvement of soil health and water bodies in order to balance the ecological functioning of the ecosystem. She also insisted upon tree improvement of lesser known tree species. She suggested for the conservation of FGRs in sanctuaries, preservation plots and germplasm banks for sustainable utilization. She mentioned about conservation measures for plant genetic resources undertaken by TNAU in its field gene bank and Ramaiah Seed Gene Bank for agricultural, horticultural and agroforestry species. She also emphasized that State Forest Departments are the custodians of the forests of our country, and must play crucial role in *in-situ* conservation of FGRs and their support to FGR programme is indispensable.

Dr.D.Thangamani, Scientist proposed the formal vote of thanks.

Inaugural function of One Week IFS training course on Forest Genetic Resource Management at IFGTB, Coimbatore on 4th July 2022

