

## Awareness Meeting on Revegetation in Coal Mined Land

ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat conducted awareness meeting for revegetation in abandoned coal mined area at Saipung block, East Jaintia Hill District, Meghalaya on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 in the Community Hall of Latyrke village. The meeting was organized under the scheduled activities of a project that is being implemented by a team of ICFRE- RFRI scientists, Jorhat led by Dr. Prosanta Hazarika in that area since 2020; funded by Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya. The meeting was conducted to create awareness and to minimize the cattle grazing & forest fire inside plantation area. Focusing on recent RFRI plantation technology for successful plantation in the coal mine degraded land Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, principal investigator, urged the people to undertake this advance approach of plantation for guarantee success. On this occasion, while delivering the speech Dr. R.K. Borah, Director ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat emphasized the needs of native tree plantation to combat climate change and to promote livelihood. He also requested the people to restore the coal mined degraded lands by planting native tree species implementing RFRI's plantation technology.

Mrs Nimanchawa Laloo, Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), in her speech requested to all the villagers of the area to stop forest fire & also take active participation in the plantation activities. She appreciated the project team of ICFRE- RFRI, Jorhat for implementation of such proven technology for successful revegetation in mined degraded area. She also requested the villagers to take benefit of this advanced plantation technology of RFRI, Jorhat for successful plantation in their own lands that were degraded due to mining. For that, she requested ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat to provide appropriate training to the villagers on nursery establishment & plantation adopting RFRI technology.

At the end of the meeting ICFRE-RFRI distributed seedlings of valuable timber and fruits species among the villagers to plant them in their own land. The village headman, Mrs Laloo (DFO), Director, ICFRE-RFRI took part in distribution of seedlings too. Distributing the seedlings Dr. Hazarika, Principal investigator of the project requested active cooperation for successful implementation of plantation programme.



Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, Principal Investigator of the project addressed the gathering



DFO wildlife Mrs Nimanchawa Laloo addressed to the villagers



Distribution of seedlings by Dr. R.K. Borah, Director, RFRI among the villagers a few moments



Dr. R.K. Borah, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat visited the project site in Latyre area, Saipung Block, East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.