RFRI, Jorhat conducts Training on Bamboo for IFS Officers 2023

RFRI, JORHAT CONDUCTS NATIONAL LEVEL TRAINING FOR INDIAN FOREST SERVICE OFFICERS ON BAMBOO

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) organized a week-long training programme for Indian Forest Service officers from 27th November to 1st December, 2023 on ‘Bamboo Resource Development for Addressing Livelihood Concerns of communities’. The Training is sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. The Training was attended by 19 senior level officers from 14 different states of India. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. G. Narahari Sastry, Director, CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat (Assam). Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat welcomed all the distinguished participants and guests and briefed about purpose of training programme. He highlighted the various bamboo research and development activities conducted by ICFRE-RFRI.

Dr. G. Narahari Sastry, who inaugurated the training programme was the Chief Guest of the training programme. In his inaugural speech, Dr. Sastry appreciated the effort of ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat for organizing such training. He emphasized the importance of North East India for the diversity of bamboo and encouraged the participants to explore the possibilities for the utilization of bamboo resources for livelihood opportunities and societal development of native communities. Vote of thanks of the Inaugural session was delivered by Rajib Kumar Kalita, Course Director of the training programme. During this training period, wide range of issues related to bamboo and its development will be deliberated.

First technical session was delivered by Dr. R.K. Borah, Scientist-G, ICFRE-RFRI, on different research, development and extension activities on bamboo being undertaken by the Institute. Invited speaker Dr. T. C. Bhuyan, Consultant, North East Cane and Bamboo Development Council, Burnihat, Guwahati (Assam) presented an overview of bamboo sector in India. Dr. Bhuyan spoke about the species diversity of bamboos, trade value of bamboo commodities, significance of bamboo as resource in wood industries sector, paper and pulp industries, food and beverage industries, bio-energy industries, housing sector and farming industries in India. Participants witnessed various research and development activities of the Institute.

On the second day, Participants visited Assam BioRefinery Pvt. Ltd., Numaligarh Golaghat (Assam) on 28th November, 2023. This is first Refinery in the world to convert bamboo into Ethanol. Shri Anup Kumar Baruah, CEO of the BioRefinery welcomed the Participants and brief about the Project through power point presentation. His entire Team of Engineers assisted the visit of the Participants. After that, the Participants interacted with the authorities of Kaziranga National Park. Shri Arun Vignes, DFO of the Park delivered a detailed
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Presentation on the various aspects of the Park, including flood management, anti-poaching measures, eco-tourism, eco-development activities etc. The Participants visited the Park and enjoyed lush green and vibrant Kaziranga.

On the third day, there were five Sessions on 29 November, 2023. Dr. L. B. Singha Professor, Manipur University, Imphal delivered an illustrative presentation on Scientific Perspective of Bamboo. Dr. Satyam Bordoloi, Scientist E & Head, Genetics and Tree Improvement Division, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat delivered on Green Gold Unveiled: The Journey of Bamboo Genetic Improvement. Dr. D. J. Das, Scientist F & Head F, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat spoke on Bamboo Utilization pattern by Tribal Communities: A Case Study from Nagaland. Dr. Abhinav Kant, BCDI, Agartala, Tripura delivered his presentation on Bamboo as Sustainable Future Material. Dr. R. D. Borthakur, CTO, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat shared her experience on Bamboo Charcoal and its Utilization for livelihood generation: Learning from Karbi Anglong.

A Cultural extravaganza was organized to showcase the cultural diversity of people of North East. Bamboo made musical instruments played pivotal role in the Cultural Programme.

On fourth day, Participants visited world’s biggest River Island, Majuli which is also the epicenter of Vaishnavite Culture. They visited one of the oldest Satras of Majuli, Auniati Satra. Visit was made to Samaguri Satra where the Participants witnessed the art of making bamboo Mask (Mukha). Shri Khagen Goswami of the Satra explained various processes of making bamboo Mask. He also performed different mythological roles using bamboo Mask. Participants tasted the ethnic cuisines at Majuli. Two saplings of Bamboo (Bambusa wamin) were planted as mark of their presence on this day.

On the last Day on 1st December, 2023, three presentations were delivered by Shri Priyam B. Goswami on Bamboo in Structural Constructions; Shri Saurabh Saikia on Industrial Applications of Bamboo as Wood and Shri R. Arun Kumar on Bamboos in the culture and uplifting of tribes and forest dwellers of Tripura. It was followed by Valedictory Session where participants shared their experiences. Shri R. Arun Kumar, Secretary, ICFRE, Dehradun spoke on the occasion. Certificates and mementos were presented to the participants at the Valedictory Session. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat (Assam) delivered Valedictory address. Shri R. K. Kalita, Course Director of the Training Programme offered Vote of Thanks.
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GLIMPSES OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME
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RFRI, Jorhat conducts national level training of India Forest Service Officers

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November 29, 2023