



**Forest Tree Seed Laboratory
Silviculture and Forest Management Division
ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun**

Report on Academic Visit of 39th Batch State Forest Service (SFS) Officer Trainees of CASFOS to Forest Tree Seed Laboratory and National Seed Research and Referral Centre on 04th August 2026.

An academic visit was conducted for 39th batch State Forest Service (SFS) officer trainees (2026–2028) from Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFOS) as part of their Induction Course to Forest Tree Seed Laboratory, Silviculture and Forest Management Division, ICFRE–Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun on 4th August, 2026. The class was attended by 52 officer trainees from Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Nagaland.

At the outset, Dr. Anita Tomar, Incharge & Sci-F, FTSL and Sh. V. K. Dhawan (Retd. Scientist) welcomed the officer trainees and delivered an introductory lecture highlighting the importance of quality seed in forestry and the role of forest tree seed testing in ensuring successful afforestation and plantation programmes. Dr. Namitha N. K., Sr. Tech. Officer, provided detailed demonstrations on the principles and procedures of various seed quality tests. The trainees were introduced to various seed testing activities, including seed sampling, seed moisture content determination, seed purity analysis, germination testing, viability assessment using the Tetrazolium (TZ) test, seed storage and packaging techniques and seed health evaluation; and they were also introduced to various laboratory equipments, seed pre-treatment techniques and seed desiccation methodology for long term *ex situ* conservation of forestry seeds germplasm.

The officer trainees also visited the National Seed Research and Referral Centre, where they were briefed on various forestry seeds in displays, various types of fruits, seed gene banks activities at global level, milestones in Forestry seed science and gallery of eminent researchers who worked on seed research and also various theme posters related to seed technology.

The officer trainees actively participated in the practical exercises and positively interacted with resource persons and clarified various aspects of seed quality testing, seed storage methods and laboratory methodologies. This academic visit provided valuable practical exposure and enhanced their understanding of scientific seed testing and its importance in sustainable forest management and plantation programmes.



Group photograph with SFS Officer Trainees and FTSL Staffs during Lab visit



Introductory Session for the 39th SFS (IC) Officer Trainees



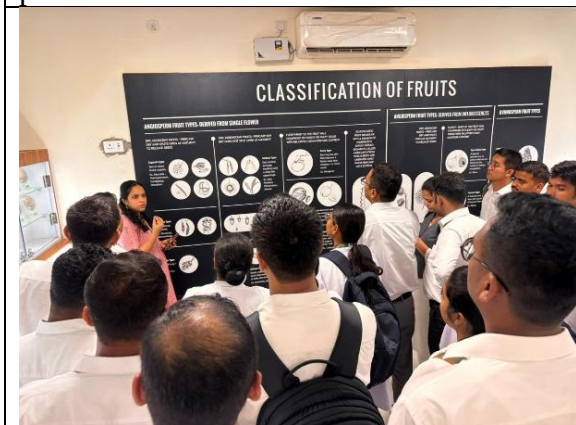
Practical Demonstration on Forest Tree Seed Testing



Demonstration of Seed Germination and pretreatments



Visit to the National Seed Research and Referral Centre



Theme Demonstration



Group photographs with SFS Officer trainees and resource persons at National Seed Research and Referral Centre