

**CHAPTER-XI**  
**INSTITUTE OF FOREST PRODUCTIVITY**  
**RANCHI**

The Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi was established in 1992, by upgrading the Directorate of Lac Development and delinking it from Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun with the main objective of catering to the forestry research needs of the states of Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The main activities of the institute and major achievements during the year 1997-98 are summarised below :

**PROJECTS COMPLETED DURING 1997-98**

NIL

**OLD PROJECTS CONTINUED DURING 1997-98**

**Project 1: Planting Stock Improvement Programme (PSIP).**

**Objectives:** Improving the quality of planting materials to increase productivity and quality of forest plantation on both private and public lands.

**Achievements**

50 hectares of seed stand of MPT species has been identified and is being maintained in North Bengal in collaboration with SFD, West Bengal. MOU for development of 50 ha SPA in Bihar was signed. Raising of seed base and clonal seed orchards of multipurpose tree species (Acacia, Eucalyptus, Gamhar and Sissoo) have been taken up. Multiplication gardens for vegetative propagation of Bamboo and *Paulownia* have been started. Provenance trials of MPTs like Acacia, Eucalyptus, Gamhar and Poplar have been initiated.

**Project 2: Lac Development.**

**Objectives:** Collection of data on lac production and demonstration of technology for improved methods of lac cultivation.

**Achievements**

Collection and compilation of statistical data on lac concerning production, prices, internal consumption, export, despatch etc. for use of Govt. departments and other user agencies was done. Monthly Lac News Letters and Annual Lac Bulletin was published.

Five regionally located Nucleus Brood lac farms were maintained in Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa for demonstration of scientific and improved methods of lac cultivation and supply of quality brood lac to growers. Trial on new lac host plants like *Acacia auriculiformis*, *Albizia lucida*, *A. procera*, *Cajanus cajan* and *Moghania microphylla* were initiated.

**Project 3: Eco-restoration.**

**Objectives:** Eco-restoration of degraded sites.

## Achievements

The following activities were undertaken :

- (i) Revegetation of mined lands, problem soil and other stress sites, and development of suitable reclamation packages.
- (ii) Study on biofertilizer response on forestry species in degraded and stressed site and optimisation of doses of NPK and micro-nutrient for forestry species.
- (iii) Hydrological studies in Balason catchment of Darjeeling district.
- (iv) Infiltration studies under different vegetational cover.
- (v) Studies on productivity, litterfall seasonality, litter decomposition, nutrient budgeting and nutrient cycling under plantation and natural ecosystems in lateritic soils.

## Project 4: Socio-economic aspects and other activities.

**Objectives:** Economics of plantations, market studies and plantation techniques.

### Achievements

Observations on growth parameters of MPT species in demonstration plantations under UNDP were made periodically to assess economic aspects of plantations. Studies were carried out for laying out experiments for development of suitable agroforestry models in South Bihar. Market study and collection of statistical data on timber, bamboo and NWFPs were carried out in Bihar and West Bengal.

Propagation technology of *Bambusa vulgaris*, *B. balcooa*, *B. tulda* and *B. arundinacea* were developed at FSVS, Midnapore. Nursery techniques for *Paulownia* and Poplar was developed for Chhotanagpur region.

## NEW PROJECTS TAKEN IN HAND DURING 1997-98

NIL

## EXTENSION

Video films were prepared on activities and achievements of the institute in various fields like PSIP, Lac and UNDP. Study of possible effects of underground blasting on biotic life for Hurlong Underground project of Central Coal Fields Limited was taken up. Consultancy services was provided to CMPDI Limited for reclamation of mined areas.

Short duration trainings were conducted in Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh for lac cultivators and forestry personnels on scientific methods of lac cultivation. Trainings, Seminars and Workshops-cum-field demonstrations were organised in Bihar and West Bengal on nursery techniques, plantation techniques, forest protection, agroforestry, multipurpose tree species and biofertilizer application.

MOU was signed with Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi to work in close co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration. Teaching support was provided to the students of Birsa Agricultural University (Forestry). MOUs were signed with the SFDs of Bihar and West Bengal for development of seed production areas.

Extension materials in the form of pamphlets, handbills and brochures on Gamhar, Bamboo, Augusti, Babul, Agroforestry, UNDP- Demonstration Plantation, Bamboo-Poorman's Timber were prepared and distributed. Monthly lac news letter and Annual lac bulletins were published.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

SL. NO.	HEAD/PROJECT	EXPENDITURE (Rs. in lakh)
(i)	Grants-in-aid (Plan & Non Plan)	Rs.85.00 lakhs
(ii)	FREE Project	Rs.29.27 lakhs
(iii)	UNDP	Rs.2.06 lakhs
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>Rs.116.33 lakhs</b>