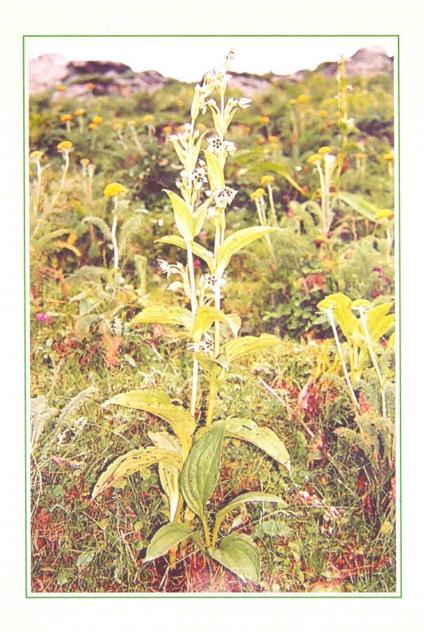
ANNUAL REPORT

2003-2004





INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

(an Autonomous Council of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India)

DEHRADUN (Uttaranchal)

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INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Council of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India) **DEHRA DUN**

Patron:

Shri R. P. S. Katwal, IFS
Director General
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
Dehradun

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Compiled and edited by:

Shri A.K. Rana, IFS, DDG (Extension) Dr. Mehar Singh, IFS, ADG (M&P) Dr. K.S. Bhandari, Scientist - F

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Print Vision
41-C, Rajpur Road, Dehradun
Tel.: +91-135-2652627, 2629970
e-mail: print_vision@yahoo.co.in, print_vision@vsnl.net

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Back Cover: Mixed Tropical Forest, Bodhghat, Chhattisgarh

FOREWORD

here have been major changes in the forestry science in India as well as world over. One such change is focus on Biodiversity Conservation. Global Warming and thrust on participatory research are other areas of focus. The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) has taken a lead in this direction and is a part of the Climate Change Core Group of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.



As part of extension approach, ICFRE developed a Training Module for Capacity building of stakeholders and the forest frontline staff which has been circulated to all the States. The technologies developed by ICFRE can render support to the JFM Committees in augmenting their resources and for value addition. The MoU signed with the National Research Development Corporation will help in commercializing these technologies.

ICFRE has ventured in new areas of Environment Impact Assessment and has extended Environment Management Plan Consultancy to various agencies. The final mine closure plan developed by ICFRE for Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. in Karnataka is an example of its proficiency in this field as it has been prepared within a year. We have also vetted Projects of many organizations regarding their suitability.

The forestry education has been given renewed thrust and besides re-orienting the courses run by the Deemed University of FRI; grant-in-aid was released to 19 Universities. We are increasing the facilities for our students and efforts are being made to make their lectures more interactive with input from the forest based industries.

ICFRE in its pursuit of liaisoning with the State Forest Departments, State Forest Research Institutes and other stake holders organized a series of national level Workshops on identified issues like Conservation of Mangroves, Rehabilitation of land under Anthropogenic Degradation, Management of Degraded Forests for Productivity Enhancement, Participatory Research for Natural Resource Management and Augmentation of Rural Livelihood, Lesser Known Tree Species, Sacred Groves and Forests and Water. We have initiated steps to write the 'History of Forests in India after 1947'. This will help in documenting all the forestry development and related activities up to 2004 at one place.

I, personally, look forward to ICFRE flourishing in the scientific arena by dint of hard work put in by my officers, researchers and scientists in all the Institutes and Centres. The achievement in computerization of herbarium database for 900 economically important forestry species, development of Wood Anatomy Information System, Plasticization technique for Palms and Bamboo of selected species, Development of tissue culture protocols for *Tectona grandis* and *Gmelina arborea* are few of several noteworthy achievements which have laid contours for future action in the field.

We have collaboration with various international donor agencies and are implementing 9 Projects in different disciplines. Over 100 nationally funded Projects have been sanctioned in this year besides already ongoing Projects which are at various stages of progress. ICFRE also played a key role in developing the State Development Reports of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.

These achievements give just a bird's eye view of the enormous task we have undertaken to serve the nation for poverty alleviation and greening of our country. This being the Platinum Jubilee year of our majestic Forest Research Institute Building at Dehradun reminds us of the challenges ahead for which I and my entire ICFRE Team stands committed and dedicated.

(R. P. S. Katwal)

Director General

Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education

Dehradun

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