

HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SHIMLA

APPLICATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND RESEARCH INTERVENTIONS FOR ENHANCING FOREST PRODUCTIVITY

**A TRAINING PROGRAMME ORGANIZED AT
FOREST TRAINING INSTITUTE, CHAIL, SOLAN (HP)**

(05. 02.2013)

With the establishment of **Van Vigyan Kendras (VVKs)** and **Demo Villages**, each of the regional research institutes also started organizing specific and technology based trainings for the stakeholders in their mandated states. Accordingly, the institute started utilizing this platform also to broad base its presence amongst the end users thereby, enabling the council in general and its research institutes in particular to come up to the expectations of people.

In the process, **Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI)**, Shimla organized a one day training on “**Application of Technological and Research Interventions for Enhancing Forest Productivity**” on **05.02.2013** at **Forest Training Institute (FTI), Chail**, which was attended by about 30 participants comprising of field functionaries of the State Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh and local progressive farmers of the adjoining area. In-fact, aim of the training programme was to apprise the participants about the recent advances in the field of forestry, their applicability and use in the field for the benefit of society at large.

Sh. OP Solanki, IFS, Director of FTI, Chail inaugurated the training programme and was the Chief Guest during the occasion. In his inaugural address, Sh. Solanki, highlighted the importance of such training programmes and also appreciated the efforts of HFRI for coming closer to the end users through research findings directly benefiting the field functionaries and the communities as well. Another good effort of the institute is to involve the local people since, any technology standardized is not complete unless there is whole hearted support and participation of the farmers and other communities, he added.

After inauguration, **Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Scientist-F** besides, highlighting the activities of the institute delivered a talk on **Genetic Improvement in Forestry Sector**. During his detailed talk supported by the scientific findings of his work, he emphasized upon the importance of selection of Plus trees, Seed Production Areas (SPAs), seed orchards and Vegetative Multiplication Garden (VMG) and application of bio-technological tools like isozymes and DNA markers to study genetic variations in forestry in general and conifers in particular. Such tools are now becoming in-things in forestry, he further added.

Dr. A. Rajasekaran Scientist-C deliberated upon the application and importance of Geographical Information System (GIS) and GPS in forestry. The scientist highlighted the importance of these modern tools with special reference to the demarcation of forest boundaries, location of plus trees and populations, in tracking wild life etc. and exhorted upon the field functionaries of the State Forest Department to know and use these technologies for keeping pace with modern trends/ tools in the forestry sector.

Dr. Pawan Rana Scientist-C delivered a talk on the insect-pests of forestry species and also highlighted their importance in forestry. Both beneficial and harmful effects of the insects besides, their control measures and productivity aspect of the same were discussed at length by him. One should go in for eco-friendly measures instead of plunging directly into the chemical measures, he added.

Dr. KS Kapoor, Group coordinator Research of the institute deliberated at length on climate change and its effects on the Floral Diversity. He also informed the participants about the emergence and extinction of the species as found in various studies conducted by the institute during this period. He further informed the trainees that the climate change has a role to play on the productivity aspects in Forestry Sector and correlated the related aspects accordingly. He also highlighted the significance of fragile ecology of Himalayan Ecosystem and the need for its conservation in view of the changed climatic scenario witnessed in the recent past.

In the concluding session which was presided over by **Sh. Solanki, Director FTI**, Chail, views of the trainees were sought again and discussions were held on their input accordingly. In-fact views of the participants echoed in unison while discussing about the importance of these trainings. In the end Chairperson appreciated the efforts of the institute for imparting this training to the field functionaries and suggested to include trainings on nursery and field plantations of the important species of the Himalayan region including medicinal plants in their future agenda.

Dr. Rajesh Sharma on behalf of Director, HFRI, extended a special vote of thanks to the Forest Department in general and Forest Training Institute, Chail in particular and also to other stakeholders present in the training.

Some of the Moments during Training Programme at FTI, Chail.



