

SAARC Forestry Centre, Thimpu, Bhutan Delegation : A Visit to Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

A three member delegation comprising of Dr. Sangay Wangchuk, Director; Sh. Passang Norbu, Sustainable Forest Management Specialist and Sh. Chado Tshering, Participatory Forest Management Specialist from SAARC Forestry Centre, Taba, Thimpu, Bhutan visited **Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla** and had detailed discussions on various research issues of common interests with the officers and scientists of the institute on **5th March, 2012**. An institutional presentation on the salient features encompassing the thrust areas, achievements made in the past, ongoing research activities including future agenda of the institute was made by Dr. KS Kapoor, Director In-charge, HFRI, Shimla. The team in general and Dr. Sangay in particular showed keen interest in the institutional agenda and it was underlined that SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan has many research issues in common with HFRI, Shimla and hence, stressed that the research projects especially on the vulnerability of Himalayan Ecosystems like ecological shift of the species, insect-pests and disease incidences including Sustainable Management of High altitude medicinal plants should be initiated for the mutual benefit of SAARC nations.

The team was also apprised of the ongoing research activities of various research divisions of the institute during their visit to the research laboratories. Issues pertaining to Nursery Management were discussed during to the Model Nursery, Baragaon located nearer to the institute.

In his thanks letter received by the institute, Dr. Sangay categorically thanked HFRI for organizing fruitful interactive discussion with the SFC team members and also hoped that the potential area of cooperation as discussed during the meeting will go a long way in the collaborative efforts to implement mutually beneficial programmes in the near future.



Dr. Sangay Wangchuk, Director, SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan sharing his view point with the officers and Scientists



Ongoing Discussions on the Research Issues impinging upon the Himalayan Ecosystem



Dr. KS Kapoor sharing his view point with the SAARC team and other officers and scientists at HFRI



Concluding remarks by Dr. Sangay Wangchuk, Director, SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan