

## **Training Workshop for State Mission Directors on ‘National Bamboo Database’ web portal at Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015-07-13**

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Bamboo Mission (NBM) under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). National Bamboo Mission envisages promoting holistic growth of bamboo sector by adopting area-based, regionally differentiated strategy and to increase the area under bamboo in potential areas with improved varieties for enhancing yield. It also envisages promoting marketing of bamboo based handicraft.

Bamboo Technical Support Group – Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (BTSG-ICFRE) was set up by the National Bamboo Mission to support different Research and Developmental (R&D) activities of the mission and those of the States implementing it. The work of design and development of National Bamboo Database Web Portal for collating base line information on assessment of area under bamboo plantation, status of nurseries, gregarious flowering, etc., was assigned to BTSG-ICFRE by NBM during the year 2013-14, with a view to achieve the growth in bamboo sector as envisaged by NBM and efforts made by other agencies.

To achieve this objective it was felt necessary to have over all information on bamboo resource and demand at the national level. Therefore the dynamic web portal / database was designed and developed by BTSG-ICFRE with a view to provide plausible answer to various queries on bamboo resource of the country which entailed a lot of efforts and extensive deliberations on the subject. The software encompasses attributes like: Assessment of area under bamboo plantation; Status of bamboo stock in the country, its demand and supply at national / state /division/ district/ FDA level; Information about total area under bamboo species, harvesting done, bamboo sold and distributed free of cost under various schemes ; Details and type of bamboo plantation carried out under various schemes in the states including those in mixed plantation; Status of existing bamboo areas, in states (Natural stand, pure, mixed, and scattered and other bamboos such as homestead etc.); Details and type of nurseries existing in states along with their capacities and demands of seedlings / ramets from the nurseries; Occurrence of gregarious flowering in various states and its extent; Expected gregarious flowering in plantation (other than natural bamboo area) in the states; Details of improvements of bamboo stock under NBM and other schemes; Estimation of area under bamboo plantation under the jurisdiction of DCF/ State which is outside the administrative records; Bamboo based value addition enterprises in states. Details of bamboo based industries in the states (based on end use) and Average annual demand of bamboo in bamboo based industries in states

In the Phase-I of the project on ‘National Bamboo Database’ web based software/portal was pilot launched in March 2015. The second phase of this project envisages building capacity of the State Mission Directors and their teams to enter data in the web portal and its operation. BTSG-ICFRE looks ahead to organize hands-on training workshops on regional basis for State Mission Directors (SMDs) to familiarize them in operating the web portal and uploading data.

The first Training Workshop on “National Bamboo Database Web Portal” for State Mission Directors (SMDs) under National Bamboo Mission was successfully organized at Van Vigyan Bhawan, (ICFRE Guest House), RK Puram, Sector – V, New Delhi on 01.07.2015. This training workshop was of one days’ duration. All State Mission Directors, BTSGs and DDG (NBM) and his team members were invited to participate. A total of 42 participants representing 16 States, 03 BTSGs and NBM, New Delhi attended this event.

The Training Workshop was organized by BTSG\_ICFRE. For the convenience of participants this training workshop was divided into six sessions as follows:

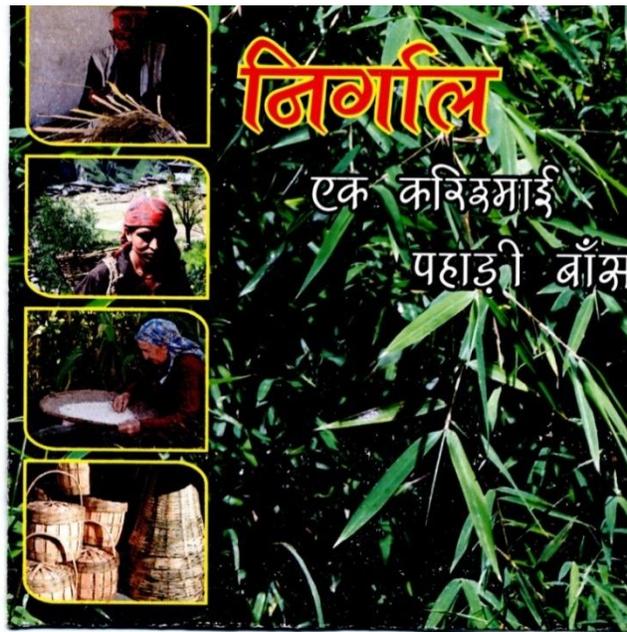
1. Welcome session and Introduction about National Bamboo Database by National Bamboo Mission, New Delhi.
2. Presentation by Dr Vimal Kothiyal, ADG(RP) for BTSG-ICFRE on Web portal/Database (basic information flow and structure).
3. Presentation on Web Portal of National Bamboo Database (Working of web portal/database functioning) by Sudhir, Consultant, BTSG- ICFRE.
4. Training on Web Portal/database.
5. Question hour session, solving problems of SMDs and suggestions of SMDs.
6. Wrap up of Meeting.

In the inter session period of workshop Dr HS Ginwal, Scientist-F and Coordinator/Nodal officer, FRI, Dehra Dun was requested to make a PowerPoint Presentation on the work they have done on improvement of bamboo genetic resource. In continuation he also presented the work that will be taken up in the second phase of project entitled “Bamboo Genetic Evaluation, Improvement and Propagation: Follow-up Project (Phase II)” submitted to the National Bamboo Mission for funding. This was done with view to apprise the participants about the activity being executed by ICFRE institutes in the field of developing quality planting material through genetic evaluation, improvement and propagation. This was appreciated by all the participants and they stressed the need to bring the results to the field.

Besides, following documentary films developed by BTSG-ICFRE under the aegis of the National Bamboo Mission were also screened:

1. ***Nirgaal Ek karishmaai Pahaari Baans:***

This documentary has been prepared in association with Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla. Concept of this documentary was conceived during the National Seminar on Hill Bamboos organized by BTSG-ICFRE through HFRI, Shimla at Manali during October 2014. It is prepared in Hindi for the benefit of the local community especially artisans and craft persons who depend on this resource for their livelihood. Nirgaal is a reed-like



shrubby bamboo distributed in the hills. The title literally means; Nirgaal A Charismatic Hill Bamboo. Hill bamboos are a very important group from ecological, socio-economic and wildlife management point of views. Being highly elastic, straight and easy to work Hill bamboo has the potential to provide as a suitable alternative to the plastic. This documentary has a background commentary on introduction, economic importance, botanical information which is interspersed with comments of subject matter specialists.

2. ***Dendrocalamus stocksii* – Multi-use Bamboo Species:** This video film/documentary of about 20

minutes duration is a comprehensive documentary about *Dendrocalamus stocksii* – an important bamboo species distributed in the Western Ghat Region. It was developed through Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), Bangalore. This documentary encompasses important topics related to *Dendrocalamus stocksii* such as: introduction of the species with historical and current relevance of its uses by local population; botanical information and natural distribution; various usage and possibility of growing it as plantation crop/commercial crop or value added crop in farm bunds; IWST interventions on cultivation and product development; propagation: nursery and production of planting



material; reducing threat on natural forests through cultivation; case studies of successful farmers and farmers cooperatives; impact on income generation and livelihood alternative and concluding statement in the form of message or appeal. This DVD is available at present in English and Kannada versions. This documentary has a background commentary on introduction, economic importance, botanical information which is interspersed with comments of subject matter specialists, forest managers, entrepreneurs, bamboo farmers etc.

**Photographs of Training Workshop for State Mission Directors on 'National Bamboo Database' web portal at Van Vigyan Bhawan, N. Delhi on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015**

























