

IFGTB hosts Senegalese Researcher for Post Doctoral studies under the Prestigious CV Raman Fellowship



Dr. Nathalie Diagne, a researcher from Senegal, reported to the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, for pursuing the prestigious **C. V. Raman International fellowship**, funded by the DST and FICCI. The six months post doctoral study on "**Characterization of sodium transporter genes in *Casuarina equisetifolia***" will be carried out with the guidance of Dr. Mathish Nambiar-Veetil, Scientist E, Plant Biotechnology division. The study will build on the leads of an ongoing project at IFGTB, and is expected to contribute to the development of molecular markers in Casuarinas for salt tolerance. This endeavor **strengthens IFGTB's multi institutional collaboration for "*Transcriptome analysis of salt tolerance in Casuarina trees*"** between *Laboratoire Commun de Microbiologie* (LCM), Senegal, *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* (IRD), France, and the University of New Hampshire (USA), under the **Joint Genome Institute's community sequencing programme**.

Dr. Diagne is from the LCM, Dakar, Senegal, that brings together researchers from the IRD, Montpellier, France, Senegalese Institute of Agronomical Research (ISRA), Senegal, and the Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Dakar, Senegal. She finished a part of her PhD studies at the Rhizogenesis lab, IRD, France. While interacting with all the scientists at IFGTB, Dr. Diagne expressed her happiness in working at IFGTB and is looking forward to a fruitful period of research that would contribute to the development of salt tolerant varieties of *Casuarina* for planting in saline soils, a problem afflicting Senegal as well as India.