

**A Report on Two Days Training Workshop on
“Bioprospecting - Role of the State Forest Departments”
for Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers in**

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding
Coimbatore

Date: 21.07.2016 & 22.07.2016

A two days training programme on “Bioprospecting – Role of the State Forest Departments” for Indian Forest Officers sponsored by MOEF&CC, GOI, New Delhi has been organised in the institute from 21st to 22nd July 2016. The training workshop was inaugurated by Padmashri Dr. P.R. Krishnakumar, Chancellor, Avinashilingam University, & MD, Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, Coimbatore. Dr. B. Gurudev Singh, Group Co-ordinator Research welcomed the gathering and highlighted the research undertaken in this institute on bioprospecting. Dr. S. Murugesan, Course Co-ordinator briefed about the details of training programme and also gave brief account on scope for looking value added products. Shri. R. S. Prashanth, IFS, Director of this Institute in his keynote address emphasised that since active ingredient content of many plant species is not known, bioprospecting potential of important plant species including endemic plants need to be explored. He also informed that the training intend to disseminate the existing knowledge on bioprospecting to the participants on its value addition. Dr. P.R. Krishnakumar, Chancellor, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore and Chief Guest of the training programme mentioned that Indian herbal plants are more valuable and almost all the plant species have one or more medicinal uses, however, he felt that the traditional practices followed right from the harvest of medicinal plants to administration of drugs are presently not followed by all the practitioners and some of the medicinal plants need to be used in combination with suitable plants for effective remedy. He requested all the forest officers to help in conservation and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants for the betterment of human beings.

A total number of 15 IFS officers in the rank of DCF to CCF from various states attended the training. The training module included class room sessions on Nanotechnological bioprospecting of forestry products, Microbial bioprospecting, Natural dyes in textile industry, Role of medicinal plants/trees in preparation of traditional Ayurveda and siddha systems, and laboratory demonstration of biopesticide and biobooster formulation developed in Bioprospecting lab. The participants of the training also visited the vegetative propagation complex and other facilities of the institute. The recommendations were also drawn for forwarding to MoEF&CC for further necessary action. The training workshop ended with formal vote of thanks by Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist, Bioprospecting Division.

