

REPORT ON THE VISIT OF DR. P.J. DILIP KUMAR, IFS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS & SPECIAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS, GOVT. OF INDIA

Dr. P.J. Dilip Kumar, IFS, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India visited Gass Forest Museum on 09.07.2011. The Gass Forest Museum, established by H.A. Gass is the oldest in the country. This museum was the first institution to house forestry exhibits. The museum is a single storied Gothic style red stone mansion having high ceiling and tiled roofing in two tiers. The museum houses a rich collection of wildlife, armaments used by department personnel in earlier days, all important timber and non-timber forest products, insect, eggs of birds, wood fossils, wood crafts etc. The Director General and Special Secretary was happy, seeing the old museum and appreciated the single man's collection made by H.A. GASS.

I also apprised him about the EFC one time grant, where 65 Lakhs has been allotted for improvement of the museum. The fund has to be spent to arrest the leakage of the roof top of the heritage building as well as for bringing in new exhibits on a thematic basis. Director General and Special Secretary was informed that the first floor exhibits are likely to be changed and thematic exhibits on forestry will be built up, depicting current day scenario and the situation of forestry in India. Director General suggested that the history of forestry in India, its mandate and management may be one of the theme on which exhibits can be made. The Extension wing of IFGTB will be working on such a concept. The Museum is being visited by large number of students and general public and appreciated for the educational exhibits depicted there in. Shri Ajay Kumar, Director of Forest Education and Dr. S. Balaji, IFS, Director, Tamil Nadu Forest Academy were also present during the visit.

(Dr. N. Krishna Kumar)
Director, IFGTB
Coimbatore







