

Report of National Seminar on Recent Advances on Bamboo Research and Development in India

A two-day National Seminar on **Recent Advances on Bamboo Research and Development in India** was organized by RFRI, Jorhat on 6-7 February, 2014 at Jorhat. The Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. G. S. Goraya, Deputy Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun. Dr. N. S. Bisht, Director, RFRI welcomed all the delegates, guests, dignitaries and others. Dr. K. G. Prasad, ex-Director, RFRI (1997-2004) delivered Key Note Address and appealed to all the members of RFRI to work hard to make RFRI leading Institute in South East Asia. Dr. Manoranjan Bhanja, Additional PCCF, Andhra Pradesh also spoke on the occasion.

All together around 50 research papers were presented under eleven broad themes in four sessions. These themes are Taxonomy and distribution of species, Resource Mapping and Estimation, Silvicultural practices, mass multiplication and certification of quality planting stock, Bamboo based plantations/ agroforestry models, Disease, Pest and Postharvest Technology, Improving productivity of bamboo in natural forests and plantations, Flowering of bamboos and post flowering management of bamboo areas, Bamboo & Climate Change, Bamboo based livelihood opportunities in India, Bamboo Trade, Marketing and Policy Issues and Bamboo Biochemistry and Bioprospecting.

Few eminent scientists namely Dr. Jamaluddin from Jabalpur, Dr. E. Muralidharan from KFRI, Dr. V. R. S. Rawat from ICFRE, Dehradun, Dr. Syam Viswanath from IWST, Bangalore delivered lead papers on various topics.

A spectacular cultural show was organized in the evening of 6th February, 2014 to showcase the cultural heritage of Assam. "*Satriya Nritya*", one of the classical dance forms of India was performed on the occasion. "*Bihu Nritya*", a traditional folk dance of Assam enthralled the guests, delegates and other audience. An Orchestra with 82 numbers of traditional musical instruments of Assam was performed that illustrated the cultural diversity of NE. A mesmerizing performance on Violin by Sri Kalyan Hazarika, an employee of RFRI was also noteworthy.

As a side event of the Seminar, a Bamboo Craft Mela was organized which was inaugurated by Dr. G. S. Goraya, Deputy Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun. Craftsmen and Craftswomen from Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland participated and exhibited their products.

The Seminar was smoothly organized by Sri R. K. Kalita in the capacity of Organizing Secretary with full cooperation from each and every member of the Institute.

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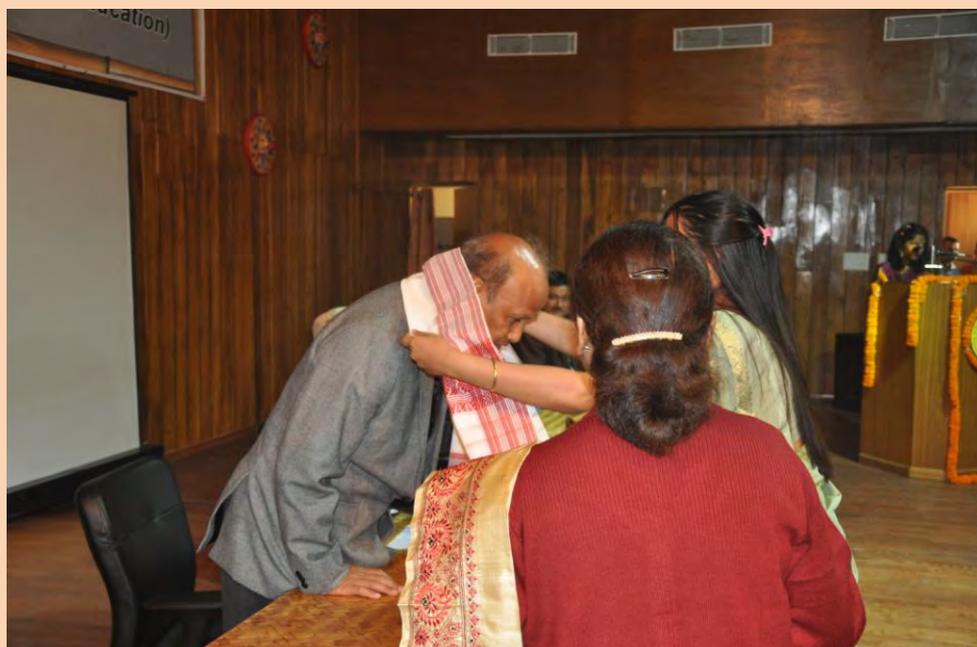
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