

ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun

Training Report on “Silviculture and Forestry for the Personnel of Eco Task Force of Territorial Army at ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun from 20th to 25th November, 2023

The Forest Trees Seed Laboratory, Silviculture and Forest Management Division, ICFRE-FRI, organised a one-week training programme on “Silviculture and Forestry” for the personnel of the Eco Task Force of Territorial Army, from 20th to 25th November, 2023. This course is a joint venture of FRI, Dehradun, and 127 Infantry Bn. Ecological (TA) Garhwal Rifles were attended by 41 participants of the Eco Task Force, including officers, JCOs, and Jawans from 4 Eco Battalions of the Territorial Army, viz., 127 ETF, Garhwal (Dehradun), 130 ETF Kumaon (Pithoragarh), 132 ETF Bn (Delhi), and 137 CETF Bn (Prayagraj).

At the outset, Mrs. Richa Misra, Head of the Silviculture and Forest Management Division, welcomed the gathering and outlined the main activities of the training programme. Dr. Renu Singh, Director, FRI, delivered the inaugural speech and mentioned the commendable afforestation efforts of Eco battalions of the Territorial Army in degraded, disturbed, and difficult sites and the stabilization of the Ganga River, which thus also contributed to enhancing the forest and tree cover of the country as envisaged in the National Forest Policy. Col. Rohit Srivastava, Commanding Officer, 127 ETF Garhwal, briefed about the plantation projects carried out by the unit. Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Scientist-G., Course Coordinator, proposed a vote of thanks.

The training was designed to provide practical knowledge and skills in Silviculture and Forestry aspects. The training covered various topics such as Seed collection, handling, quality evaluation; Nursery establishment, nursery design, and layout techniques; plant identification and biodiversity conservation; Vegetative Propagation Techniques; Plantation techniques for selected Forestry species; Insect pest management; Restoration activities in various landscapes; River bank stabilization, etc. The training also included practical sessions on nursery techniques, seed handling and pre-treatment, bamboo propagation, soil fertility management, and planting techniques for important forestry and medicinal species. The training also included visits to the Botanical Garden, Bambusetum, Forest Tree Seed Laboratory and Seed Processing Unit, Pathology Lab, Soil Lab, and FRI Museums. The final day of the training program included a visit to the project area for trainees.

During the closing session, trainees from four battalions presented plantation activities and field experiences and also interacted with subject experts to resolve major issues during field activities. Participants filled out a feedback form. Overall, the feedback from participants reaffirmed the effectiveness of the training programme, and the main recommendations in the feedback were to increase the practical sessions in the training programme. Dr. Renu Singh, Director, FRI, interacted with trainees during the valedictory session and expressed her commitment to incorporating more interactive elements and hands-on experiments in future sessions to foster greater engagement and knowledge retention among participants. She also distributed certificates to training participants. Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Course Coordinator, proposed a vote of thanks.

Training Photographs





