

CHAPTER 2



INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

The activities of forestry research, education and extension at ICFRE headquarters are as under:

FORESTRY RESEARCH

1. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE (BCC) DIVISION

Biodiversity and Climate Change (BCC) Division, ICFRE has taken up several short and long term policy programmes to address the problems of Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change.

A. Biodiversity

- i. **Preservation Plots:** Preservation plots are important instruments for meeting the targets of significantly maintaining or monitoring changes in biodiversity under Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). In this direction the BCC Division has prepared a concept note on Preservation Plots for incorporation in all India coordinated project proposed by Silviculture Division, FRI, Dehradun. Research Policy Committee of the Council accepted the project in February 2008.
- ii. **Forest Invasive Species:** The Convention on Biological Diversity in the 8th Article calls on Governments 'to prevent the introduction, control or eradication of those alien species which threaten ecosystem, habitat or species'. An attempt has been made by BCC Division to examine the invasion and spread of introduced plantation tree species and the problems associated with these in India. For this purpose, brief information on some Forest Invasive Species was compiled and placed on ICFRE website.
- iii. BCC Division contributed in providing suggestion to Ministry of Environment and Forests on 'Constraints in Operationalising the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004' in June 2007.
- iv. **IV National Report on Biodiversity to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD):** BCC Division, ICFRE compiled and prepared a report on ICFRE input for 4th National Report on Biodiversity to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) after receiving inputs from different regional institutes of ICFRE and submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India in March 2008.



B. Climate Change

BCC Division has taken up one externally aided project related to Climate Change.

Assessment of soil carbon stocks and dynamics in forest soil of India for the period 1995-2007: The project is funded by the UNDP-GEF, the project activity is subcontracted to ICFRE by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India through Winrock International India under its project: 'Enabling activity for preparation of India's Second National Communication to the UNFCCC'.

The Second National Communication (SNC) to UNFCCC also known as NATCOM –II, is a national reporting which is obligatory under the UNFCCC agreement. Preparation of Second National Communication is a time bound activity and Ministry of Environment and Forests on behalf of Government of India, require to furnish the information in accordance with the decisions of Conference of the Parties (CoP) of UNFCCC towards fulfilment of obligation under the convention.

Second National Communication has given the following tasks to ICFRE:

- Estimation of soil organic carbon stock in forest soil of India.
- To assess soil carbon dynamics due to land use change from forest to non-forest and *vice versa*.
- To review and compile related emission factors.
- To develop QA/ QC plan and estimation of uncertainties in the assessment.

ICFRE intends to complete this national reporting in collaboration with Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun. BCC Division of ICFRE is the nodal point of communication with collaborator and regional Institutes of ICFRE, initiated all activities pertaining to the project.

C. Other Activities

- Participation by DG, ICFRE and Head, Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, ICFRE in 26th SBSTA / SBI Meetings of the UNFCCC:** Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE and Shri Sandeep Tripathi, Head, BCC Division, ICFRE participated in the 26th SBSTA/SBI meetings organized by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) from 7th to 18th May 2007 at Bonn, Germany on nomination by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.

During SBSTA, among other issues, the following important issues related to LULUCF were deliberated at length: (i) Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries, (ii) Demonstrating the eligibility of land for CDM A&R Projects, and (iii) Increasing the limit for small scale CDM A&R Projects. As an outcome, CDM-EB in its 31st meeting has again decided to call for public input on issue of demonstrating land eligibility for CDM A&R Projects. ICFRE has made its submission as an observer organization to UNFCCC and also through Government of India. Regarding increasing the limits of small scale CDM A&R Projects, India has a position not to increase the limit at present.

ICFRE delegation puts forcefully its input and intervention on the issue of REDD. On this hotly debated issue of REDD, the Indian concept of “Compensated Reduction” got wide support during SBSTA–26. United States also supported India’s stand by asserting that a “Range of Actions” to reduce emissions from deforestation needed to be considered which according to United States, included “Forest Conservation and Stabilization” efforts also. European Union considered using the phrase “Range of Actions” as a compromise formula because of Brazil’s opposition to the Indian proposal. Congo Basin countries led by Cameroon/Gabon stressed on including ‘stabilization of forest’ as the policy approach suitable to countries in their region with low rate of deforestation. Since stabilization is an outcome of the process of conservation, India has been supportive of Congo Basin approach. Many countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Singapore expressed support in their interventions for ‘forest conservation’.

- ii. **Participation by DG, ICFRE in High Level Meeting on Forests and Climate:** Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE participated in the high level meeting on ‘Forests and Climate’ which was organized under the ‘Global Initiative on Forests and Climate’ by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, AusAID, and Department of the Environment and Water Resources, Government of Australia from 23rd to 25th May 2007 at Sydney, Australia.
- iii. **Participation by DG, ICFRE in the Expert International Workshop on Global Carbon Monitoring System, Forest Biodiversity Measurement and Assessment Methodology:** Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE attended the expert international workshop on ‘Global Carbon Monitoring System, Forest Biodiversity Measurement and Assessment Methodology’ in Tuczno, Poland on 18th and 19th October 2007.
- iv. **International Round Table on Reducing Emission from Deforestation in Developing (REDD) Countries :** Shri V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist ‘D’, BCC Division attended the international round table on Reducing Emission from Deforestation in Developing (REDD) Countries in Brussels on 24th October 2007, which was organized by Climate Focus BV, the Netherland and CATIE (Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre) at Le Chatalain Hotel in Brussels.
- v. **Participation of ICFRE delegation in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP/ MOP) Bali, Indonesia:** Bali hosted the third meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 3), in conjunction with the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-13) to the Climate Change Convention from 3rd to 14th December 2007. The ICFRE delegation, comprising Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE; Shri Sandeep Tripathi, Secretary, ICFRE and Advisor, BCC, Dr. Renu Singh, Head, BCC Division; and Dr A. Ramachandran, Forest Utilisation Officer, Tamil Nadu participated in the United Nations Climate Change Conference along with the Government of India delegation.

About 180 nations participated in the conference. The ICFRE delegation actively participated in different agenda items of the COP, COP/MOP and SBSTA assigned to it during the Bali



conference. In particular, the delegation was fully involved in the negotiations in agenda items 5 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Developing REDD Countries and 9(b) (implications of possible changes to the limit for Small Scale Afforestation and Reforestation Clean Development Mechanism Project) of the SBSTA related to forestry during the conference.

In Bali, the Indian delegation achieved a breakthrough in putting forth India's concern of forest conservation as a mitigation measure on the centre stage of the REDD. India was putting forth the concept of 'Compensated Conservation' since Nairobi COP, through workshop in Cairns and SBSTA meeting in Bonn.



Participation of ICFRE Delegation in United Nations Climate Change Conference Bali, Indonesia

The Indian proposal on forest conservation/sustainable management of forests, and increment in forest cover as a *policy approach to enhance carbon stocks found place not only in the preamble but also in the operative part (paras 3rd and 7th) of the COP decision on REDD*. Similarly, COP decision on Bali Action Plan (BAP) contains reference, inter-alia, to *policy approach and positive incentives relating to the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks*.

vi. Forestry Projects for Climate Change Mitigation in India: Stakeholders Dialogue and Capacity building:

A two days national workshop was organized by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, at New Delhi on 21st and 22nd February 2008 under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. The workshop was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, TERI and Former Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri P.R. Mohanty, Director General Forests and Special Secretary to the Government of India, was the Guest of Honour. A total of 88 delegates participated in the workshop.



Delegates in National Workshop

- vii. **Developing Methodology for Assessment of Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks due to Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Increase in Forest Cover:** An international workshop was organized by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education on 7th and 8th March 2008 at New Delhi under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. The workshop focussed on the possible methodological approaches, and modalities and procedures for assessing positive increment in forest carbon stocks due to increase in forest cover and sustainable management of forests/conservation.



Delegates in International Workshop

The workshop was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Shri Namo Narain Meena, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India. A total of 68 delegates including representatives from eight countries: China, United Kingdom, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, Bhutan and Malaysia participated in the workshop. Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General, ICFRE welcomed the participants, Shri J.C. Kala, Former Director General of Forests and Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, was the Guest of Honour.

- viii. **Participation of DG, ICFRE in the Bangkok Climate Change Talks 2008:** As part of the Government of India delegation led by Shri Shyam Saran, Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Climate Change, Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education attended the United Nations sponsored meeting in the Thai capital, from 31st March to 4th April 2008, aimed at developing a work programme for the next two years to help countries draw up a deal to cut greenhouse gas emissions after 2012, when the first phase of the Kyoto Protocol expires. The Climate Change talks in



Bangkok convened sessions of both the Adhoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWGLCA) under the Convention (first session) and the Adhoc Working Group on further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (first part of the fifth session), during which Parties needed to advance the Bali Road Map agreed last December 2007. The AWGLCA work programme finalised at Bangkok includes a workshop on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks.

The five days conference was aimed at building on the Kyoto Protocol, in which 37 industrialised countries and the European community committed to reducing emissions by at least five percent against 1990 levels by 2012.

- ix. **ISO 9001 : 2000 Certification for ICFRE:** BCC Division also works for maintenance of ISO 9001 : 2000 Quality Management System. ICFRE has been awarded ISO 9001 : 2000 Quality Management System certification.
- x. **Climate News Letter:** BCC Division prepared quarterly Climate News Letters regularly covering latest developments and upcoming events etc. in the field of Climate Change which were placed on the ICFRE website during 2007-08.

D. Training

- i. A one week refresher training course sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi for Indian Forest Service officers on “Climate Change and Relevance to Forestry Sector” was organized by the BCC Division at ICFRE Dehradun from 7th to 11th January 2008. Sixteen IFS officers of different states participated in the training course. The programme was highly appreciated and rated by the participants.



Participants and Organisers of one week refresher training course for IFS officers

- ii. Shri V.R.S. Rawat, Scientist 'D', BCC Division, ICFRE Dehradun attended 10 days training course on "Micro-meteorological Measurement and CO₂ Flux Measurements" during 17th to 26th July 2007 at Younsei University, Seoul, Korea. The training course was organized by AsiaFlux, a network of CO₂ flux study sites in Asia.

2. RESEARCH PLANNING (RP) DIVISION

Research Planning Division, Directorate of Research deals with the planning, processing and execution of new research project proposals funded by ICFRE following bottom-up, transparent and participatory approach. Also the Research Planning Division is dealing with Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) – ICFRE, Dehradun.

During the year 2007-08, following achievements have been made by this division :

- It coordinated the Research Advisory Group (RAG) meetings at Institute level on the dates mentioned below:

TFRI, Jabalpur	-	30 th –31 st Aug. 2007
IWST, Bangalore	-	4 th –5 th Oct. 2007
HFRI, Shimla	-	23 rd –24 th Oct. 2007
FRI, Dehradun	-	6 th –7 th Nov. 2007
IFP, Ranchi	-	6 th –7 th Sept. 2007
RFRI, Jorhat	-	27 th –28 th Nov. 2007
AFRI, Jodhpur	-	21 st –23 rd Sept. 2007
IFGTB, Coimbatore	-	12 th –13 rd Dec. 2007
- Research Policy Committee Meeting (RPC): The projects approved by RAGs were placed before RPC, which was convened on 25th to 28th February 2008 under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE to give the final approval to the new research proposals submitted by eight research institutes under ICFRE.

During IX RPC, 100 new projects were discussed by RPC members, out of which 10 projects were not approved and 8 projects were approved for external funding and 82 project were approved for ICFRE funding. The Institute wise outcome of IX RPC is as follows:



Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Placed before RPC	Not approved	Approved	
				For External Funding	ICFRE Funding
1.	Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bangalore	19	3	1	15
2.	Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla	7	—	1	06
3.	Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat	7	—	—	07
4.	Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore	20	5	—	15
5.	Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi	9	1	2	06
6.	Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur	4	1	1	02
7.	Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur	5	—	1	05
8.	Forest Research Institute, Dehradun	29	—	2	26
	Total	100	10	8	82

During the RPC, it was desired by the chairman that every project will have extension and IPR component. Also, The All India Coordinated projects on identified species were presented by the directors of the lead institute and were discussed in length.

Name of the Species	Nodal Institutes	Name of the Species	Nodal Institutes
Eucalyptus	IFGTB, Coimbatore	Preservation Plots	FRI, Dehradun
Poplar	FRI, Dehradun	Forest Soils of India	FRI, Dehradun
Invasive species	FRI, Dehradun	Bamboo	RFRI, Jorhat
Lesser known tree species	FRI, Dehradun	Jatropha	AFRI, Jodhpur
Sissoo	FRI, Dehradun	Teak	TFRI, Jabalpur
Sal	FRI, Dehradun		

Second Directors' Meet :

On 19th and 20th November 2007, Second Directors' Meet was organized in the Board Room of ICFRE hqrs, under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE. The Directors' Meet was organized to discuss some of the important issues for which agenda was fixed by different directorates in consultation with the Directors of the Institutes.

Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) - ICFRE was recognized as Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) by the National Bamboo Mission, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Government of India under Ministry of Agriculture, in July 2007 with a budget of Rs. 34.30 lakhs for 2007-08. It was constituted for 11 States viz. Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

The Council has designated Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun and Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur for the purpose of conducting training programmes for farmers and field functionaries of the eleven constituent States of BTSG, the former is responsible for the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan, while the latter for Bihar, Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. The trainings are imparted as per the guidelines of the Mission and cover aspects pertaining to nursery, plantation, and utilization and marketing bamboos.

Activities carried out by BTSG - ICFRE, Dehradun during 2007-08:

- i. Training for farmers/field functionaries was provided through FRI, Dehradun and TFRI, Jabalpur.
- ii. March 2008 issue of the Indian Forester was published as special bamboo issue and other literature including manuals, brochures, posters, pamphlets, handouts etc were also published on bamboo.
- iii. National Conference on Bamboos: Management, Conservation, Value addition and Promotion was organized by Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur from 12th to 14th March 2008.

3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) DIVISION

Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Directorate of Research, deals with the review and evaluation of all the ongoing research projects of ICFRE Institutes. It suggests corrective measures for timely completion of the projects and achievement of the objectives with perfection. During 2007-08, the review/ evaluation of 423 (ICFRE funded-254 and 169 externally aided) ongoing research projects of all ICFRE Institutes was done. Apart from above, independent review of 19 (completed/ ongoing) research projects has also been carried out through independent subject matter experts/agencies. This Division also collects information on Annual Action Plan from the institutes for preparation of consolidated Annual Action Plan for ICFRE.



4. PROJECT FORMULATION (PF) DIVISION

Project Formulation Division, Directorate of Research acts as a facilitator between the ICFRE Institutes/Centres and potential donor agencies for the formulation of Research Projects in the identified thrust areas and their submission to various National and International donor agencies for funding as per their funding requirements. It also co-ordinates the release of the funds to ICFRE Institutes/Centres and evaluates the project proposals with regard to their suitability in the identified thrust areas.

The Division is collaborating with a number of National and International donor agencies for project funding. Presently, 163 projects funded by National donor agencies and 5 projects funded by International donor agencies are being implemented in eight Institutes and three Centres of ICFRE. Besides this, 79 projects and 6 projects are in the pipeline for funding by National and International donor agencies respectively.

Main National donor agencies are Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), Department of Bio-technology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB), National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NBARD), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and National Mission of Bamboo Applications (NMBA) etc.

Main International Donor Agencies are Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), International Foundation for Science (IFS), International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO), United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department for International Development (DID) etc.

The Division co-ordinated the formulation of a number of project proposals of ICFRE Institutes as per the guidelines and funding requirements of donor agencies in the identified thrust areas and suitable proposals were processed for their approval and submission to National / International donor agencies such as the collaborative project proposals of AFRI, Jodhpur and IFGTB, Coimbatore on “New biocontrol opportunities for prickly Acacia: exploration in India” with Allen Fletcher Research Station Australia; All India Co-ordinated Project (AICP) of IFGTB, Coimbatore on Eucalyptus Gall Wasp, All India Co-ordinated Project (AICP) of FRI, Dehradun on Poplar.

Besides this, the Concept Note of All India Co-ordinated Project (AICP) of RFRI, Jorhat on Bamboo was scrutinised, redrafted and submitted to NMBA for financial assistance. Concept note on the “Establishment of Van Vigyan Kendras and Demonstration Villages” worth Rs 19.00 crores was also redrafted (based on the write-up received from Directorate of Extension), and submitted to MoEF for onward submission to JICA for funding.

A number of MoUs and Agreements for the implementation of collaborative projects/ programmes of ICFRE Institutes / Centres were scrutinised and processed for the approval of the competent authority viz. MoUs of IWST Bangalore with Department of Bio-technology (DBT),

Konkan Speciality Poly products Pvt. Limited (KONSPEC), National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) and Italian Trade Commission; MoUs of IFP, Ranchi with Chandrapura Thermal Power Station (CTPS), Collaborative Agreements of IFGTB, Coimbatore and AFRI, Jodhpur with Allen Fletcher Research Station (AFRS), Australia etc.

Bihar Project:

The Division Coordinated the execution of comprehensive Bihar Project titled, “Samudai Adharit Samanvit Van Prabandhan Evam Sanrakshan Yojana in Bihar State” (Phase – I) being implemented by ICFRE with Environment and Forest Department of Bihar State. Activities related to ICFRE component on Poplar based agroforestry programme on farmer’s fields in Vaishali’s District of North Bihar were monitored through field visits. Review meetings were arranged regularly and minutes were issued by this Division to monitor the progress of the cited project and to record the decisions for taking further necessary actions in this regard.

History of Forests of India –After 1947:

In continuation with the Book titled “The Forests of India” written by E.P. Stebbing in 4 volumes which gives the chronology of forest development in India from 1796 to 1947: It has been decided to document the History of Forests in India for the subsequent period from 1947 to 2005 and the work has been entrusted to ICFRE. After detailed consultations with the Experts, the Chapters of this Book have been finalized which include Forest Policy, Forest Acts and Laws, Forest Administration, Forest Management, Wildlife Management, Forestry under Five Year Plan, Social Forestry, Participatory Forest Management and Out - turn Revenue etc.

Ten Chapters have been finalized and the first part of the proposed book “Post – Independence Developments in Indian Forestry”, Vol. I” is likely to be published very soon.

FORESTRY EDUCATION

5. EDUCATION DIVISION

Education Division, Directorate of Education provides financial support to the Universities imparting forestry education in the country in order to strengthen the infrastructural facilities of the forestry faculties such as infrastructural development, purchase of scientific equipments, books/ journals, to make mist chambers and similar other teaching/research facilities at teaching campuses, sports/games and other student’s amenities, establishment of interpretation centre-cum-museum, computers, teaching manuals, organization of workshop/seminars etc., participation of teachers in workshop/seminar etc and students’ educational tours. Overall Rs. 500.50 lakhs as Grant-in-aid was released to the 12 universities in the financial year 2007-08 i.e. from April 2007 to March 2008.

Standardization and unification of forestry syllabus for under graduate/post graduate courses: This directorate has finalized syllabus of B.Sc./M.Sc. (Forestry) courses being run in various state agricultural universities so as to ensure delivery of quality education to safeguard the interests of student community in general and forestry sector in particular.



Accreditation of Forestry College/Course Curriculum: To validate the course curriculum and the college imparting the same, process of accreditation on the pattern of AICTE has been initiated by framing the necessary guidelines.

H.R.D. Programmes: The ICFRE has adopted a five years HRD programme for capacity building of the managerial, scientific and the technical cadre. HRD programme of ICFRE, aims at-

- Increasing the management skills of the manager and senior researchers and to keep them abreast with current thinking and trends in forestry research.
- Enhancing the core competence of the researchers in their area of specialization through training, research workshops, seminars etc. and
- Providing in-service training in professional skills, lab management, field investigation etc. to all levels of supporting staff.

Trainings organised

1. Training on “Research Methodology” held at IASRI, New Delhi, from 7th to 18th January 2008.
2. Training on “Research Management and Administration” held from 3rd to 14th March 2008 at ASCI, Hyderabad.
3. Training on “Basic Forestry” held from 11th February to 18th April 2008 at State Forest Service College (SFSC), Dehradun.

6. POLICY RESEARCH (PR) DIVISION

Policy Research Division, Directorate of Education has been mandated to conduct “Policy Research” works in the arena of forestry. In consonance with the above mandate, a Committee was constituted by MoEF, GoI, vide order No. 12-1/2006-FP dated 23rd August 2006 to deliberate upon and finalize issues of the subject areas of Policy Research work.

The Committee decided to start the work on following three subjects :

- Scientific basis to assess the proportion of forest and tree cover in the country.
- Analyze the linkages of forestry to national priority of poverty alleviation thus bringing policy prescriptions in tune with the goals/objectives of National Development Perspective.
- Formulation of policy and legislative measures on certification mechanism for regulation and marketing of quality seeds/planting stock for tree improvement to give an impetus to plantation activities at regional/national levels.

On the recommendations and suggestions of the committee, this Directorate initiated consultancies on Policy Research Studies through following agencies :

Subject area

“Rationale for prescribing the requisite forests and tree cover in India”

Consultant

Academy of Forest and Environment Sciences, Dehradun

“Need for institutional and regulatory mechanism for certification of planting stock material of forest seed and vegetative origin”

M/S Piare Lal and others,
Phagwara (Pb.)

“Analyzing the linkage between Poverty Alleviation and Forestry Programmes”

M/S TNS India Pvt. Ltd.
New Delhi

Of the above, draft report has already been submitted by M/S Piare Lal and others consultants viz. “Need for institutional and regulatory mechanism for certification of planting stock material of forest seed and vegetative origin” and further follow up on the same is in process.

FORESTRY EXTENSION

7. MEDIA AND PUBLICATION (M&P) DIVISION

Media and Publication Division, Directorate of Extension looks into the extension activities and strategies being adopted by the institutes of ICFRE for the dissemination of research findings in forestry sector. This division maintains the monthly account of various R&D activities of ICFRE Institutes and keeps MoEF apprised of those. The division publishes the Quarterly Newsletter of ICFRE (that brings out the latest significant achievements made by the ICFRE Institutes) and the ICFRE Brochure. The reports of ICFRE and its institutes are collected, compiled, edited and published as the Annual Report of ICFRE, which is tabled in Parliament. Editing, vetting and processing of books, brochures, pamphlets and technical reports of ICFRE Institutes taken up by this division as mandatory before their final publication.

Work on establishment of Van Vigyan Kendras (VVKs) in collaboration with SFDs and selection of Demo villages for adoption by ICFRE Institutes have progressed considerably. The Van Vigyan Kendras at Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh have already started working while in other States these are at various stages of establishment. In the Demo villages selected by ICFRE Institutes, demonstration and extension of technologies for example agroforestry models, establishment of Model/Hi-tech nurseries, training and transfer of simple technologies, etc. are being carried out.

8. STATISTICS DIVISION

Statistics Division, Directorate of Extension published four volumes, Volume 51-54, of the Quarterly bulletin “Timber Bamboo Trade Bulletin”. Other activities of the division are as follows:

Project 1: Establishment of a Network to Facilitate Collection, Processing and Dissemination of Statistics Pertaining to Tropical Timber and other Forestry Parameters in India –Funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Status: a. Eight Regional workshops, in each of ICFRE Institutes, were conducted to sensitize the State Forest Departments about the Forestry Statistical Reporting System (FSRS).

b. National Seminar-cum-Workshop of stakeholders was held on 26th and 27th March 2008 for finalizing objectively verifiable indicators and presenting the proceedings of the regional workshops. The workshop was jointly funded by the CSO and the ITTO projects.



Project 2: A Sample Survey to Estimate Rates and Ratio of Timber and Non-Timber Forest Products of India – Funded by Central Statistical Organization (CSO)

Status: Data collection, analysis and report finalization was done.

Miscellaneous

1. Collection and dissemination of data for Joint Forest Sector, Questionnaire of International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).
2. Collection, compilation and data entry for the biennial publications of 'Forestry Statistics India' 2005 and 2007.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) DIVISION

Environmental Impact Assessment Division, Directorate of Extension has been undertaking EIA studies nationwide for various developmental activities. The following studies have been completed by the Environmental Impact Assessment Division during the year 2007-08:

1. Mid-Term Evaluation of National Afforestation Programme sponsored by NAEB, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

The NAP scheme is implemented by National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India as a 100% Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored Scheme (SC/CSS) under the IXth and Xth five year plans. To identify constraints and impediments in the implementation of NAP through the FDA-JFM mechanism and to suggest corrective measures to accelerate the pace



Training organized by Kolhapur FDA,
Maharashtra

of work to attain the envisaged targets/goals, the NAEB awarded the Mid-Term Evaluation of NAP scheme to the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun. Accordingly, ICFRE with the help of experts from the Institutes carried out the extensive survey in all the 27 states nationwide covering 182 FDAs. The final draft report of the consultancy has been submitted to NAEB.

2. Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment Studies for Talkatora Indoor Stadium upgradation project for New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC).

Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi is situated adjacent to the central ridge forest. NDMC has planned to upgrade the Talkatora stadium and proposed to construct a five story building within the stadium for Common Wealth Games to be held during 2010 in New Delhi. Accordingly, rapid environmental impact studies were carried out to get the environmental clearance from the MoEF. The ICFRE was awarded with the consultancy by the NDMC to conduct rapid EIA. The detailed study was conducted and the final report was submitted to the NDMC.



Talkatora Stadium upgradation site, New Delhi

3. Environmental Impact Assessment studies, socio-economic and ecological studies for exploitation of bauxite deposits areas in Galikonda, Rakthakonda and Chittamgondi of Visakhapatnam district for Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) Ltd.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) has major reserves of 600 million tonnes of bauxite deposits in the tribal areas of Eastern Ghats. Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) has proposed to expedite the extraction of minerals at three deposit sites such as Galikonda, Rakthakonda in Anantagiri Mandal and Chittamgondi in Araku Mandal of Vishakhapatnam district. In order to seek environmental clearance for the above mining activity M/s. APMDC has appointed the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun to undertake detailed EIA, SIA and EMP studies for the proposed mining sites. Accordingly, ICFRE with its expert team from Wood Biodegradation Centre (Marine), Visakhapatnam, and Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, undertook detailed survey. The draft report of consultancy has been submitted to APMDC.

4. Catchment Area Treatment Plan for Bauxite Mining in Galikonda, Rakthakonda and Chittamgondi for Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.

Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) has proposed to expedite the extraction of minerals at three deposits such as Galikonda, Rakthakonda in Anantagiri Mandal and Chittamgondi in Araku Mandal of Vishakhapatnam district. In order to seek environmental clearance for the above mining activity M/s. APMDC has appointed the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun to undertake detailed catchment area treatment plan for the proposed mining sites. ICFRE with its expert team from Wood Biodegradation Centre (Marine) Visakhapatnam and Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, undertook a detailed study. The draft report of consultancy has been submitted to APMDC.

5. Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for Renuka Dam Project in Sirmour district of Himachal Pradesh for Pabbar Valley Power Corporation Limited, Himachal Pradesh State Electricity.



The Renuka Dam, a storage structure, has been proposed to be constructed on the river Giri near Dadahu village in Sirmaur district, Himachal Pradesh by the Pabbar Valley Power Corporation Limited (Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board). This project is a joint venture between Himachal Pradesh Government and Government of Delhi in order to extend drinking water facility to Delhi before the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The project proposes to store rain water to facilitate drinking water for Delhi and to generate 40 MW electricity. The height of the dam will be 148 metres with the reservoir length of 24 kilometres in river Giri. This will lead to submergence of 1197.60 ha of land. The consultancy was awarded to ICFRE by HPSEB to conduct detailed EIA/EMP studies. ICFRE with its experts from Forest Research Institute, Himalayan Forest Research Institute and with the help of sub contracts to M/s MANTEC Ltd. Delhi, undertook the detailed study. The draft report of the consultancy has been submitted to HPSEB.

6. Preparation of EIA and EMP with Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP), Hydrology and Drainage Studies for Ankua Iron Ore deposits in Jharkhand for JSW Steel Ltd. Mumbai.

JSW Steel Ltd. proposes to set up and operate a 10 million tonne (MT) per annum capacity Integrated Steel Plant (ISP) along with 900 MW Captive Power Plant (CPP), iron ore mines, coal mines and limestones/dolomite mines in the state of Jharkhand. Ankua Iron Ore deposits are stretched over a forest area of 999.90 ha in the district of W. Singhbhum. JSW Steel Ltd. has awarded the study for EIA and EMP studies with Catchment Area Treatment Plan, Hydrology and Drainage studies to the ICFRE. The consultancy is in progress; so far one season (winter) data has been collected.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

10. ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CELL

(Admin. & IT)

The Information Technology Cell, Directorate of Administration, ICFRE caters to all the Information Technology needs of the users at ICFRE and its Institutes / Centres. The activities of the cell are broadly classified in the following;

- LAN-WAN - Support
- Procurement and Maintenance of Hardwares
- E-Governance
- New Proposals
- Trainings
- Providing IT Support for the technical presentations in the Video Conference, Meetings, Conferences, Seminars and Workshops etc.

LAN / WAN - Support

- Regular Maintenance / Monitoring of MPLS VPN viz.; 11 MPLS Leased Line and 2 Mbps 1:1 Internet bandwidth.

- Regular Maintenance and reporting of e-mail, Internet etc. for around 600 users across ICFRE Hqtrs, FRI, IFGTB, TFRI and AFRI.
- Updating of www.icfre.gov.in a CMS based website of ICFRE Hqtrs.
- Regular Maintenance of Proxy Server / Web Server for service provided to users of ICFRE Hqtrs. and ICFRE's Institutes.
- Regular Maintenance and reporting of Network Antivirus facility at the ICFRE Hqtrs. and FRI campus through a centralized AV Server.

Procurement and Maintenance of Hardware

The IT Cell undertakes the maintenance of computer and peripheral hardware installed at ICFRE Hqtrs. and FRI through the third party vendor's. The hardwares have been categorized and inventoried accordingly for its proper maintenance and coordination with the vendors. Different types of hardware are under AMC of five different vendors.

The IT Cell is also managing AMC of Photocopiers, ICFRE through three different vendors looking after their own brand of machines broadly, Xerox, HCL and Ricoh.

Rate Contract of consumable items and Printers cartridges is also processed and operated for provisioning of consumables to the users of ICFRE Hqtrs., through three different vendors.

E-Governance

- The Indian Forestry Research and Information System (IFRIS) was planed and after completion of two initial stages viz. conceptualization and project development including Business Process Re-engineering, now the third stage viz. software development and implementation is under way and the final roll out of the application is planned in March 2009.
- The ICFRE Wide MPLs – VPN is in place and the Internet / email services have been centralized and are being managed from the ICFRE Hqtrs.
- The Video Conferencing has been successfully installed at ICFRE Hqtrs. and its eight regional Institutes spread all across the various geographical regions of the country.
- New Content Management System (CMS) based ICFRE Website is in place.



Initiatives

- The upgradation of old hardware (Desktops, Printers and Laptops) shall be taken up on priority basis.



- The ICFRE Institute wise maintenance of Local Area Network shall be consolidated and managed through single third party vendor.
- A ICFRE wide single central antivirus is being envisaged and shall be place soon.

Training

- Imparted in-house training to Officers and staff of ICFRE and its Institutes.
- Securing computer through proposed usage of Centralized Antivirus.

MISCELLANEOUS

IT Cell provides technical support in conducting Video Conferencing among ICFRE institutes. IT Cell provided support to ICFRE Hqtrs. and FRI with regard to the IT and Visual Arrangements in all the Meetings, Conferences, Seminars and Workshops etc. organized at ICFRE Hqtrs. and FRI in the year 2007-08.

PUBLICATIONS

Brochures/Pamphlets

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2. रेनू सिंह, विजय राज सिंह रावत और ओमकुमार (2008). सी.डी.एम. सिकं परियोजनाये वनीकरण एवं पुनःवनीकरण परियोजनाओ के क्रियान्वयन पर प्रश्नोत्तरी। भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद देहरादून द्वारा प्रकाशित।
3. Renu Singh and V.R.S. Rawat (2008). Resource Manual on Climate Change and Relevance to Forestry Sector for Indian Forest Service Officers, ICFRE, Dehradun.
4. V.R.S. Rawat and Om Kumar (2008). Frequently Asked Questions about CDMA & R Project. Published by ICFRE Publication 2008.