

Minutes of the stake holders meeting held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat on September 21st , 2016



The stakeholders meeting of Gujarat state was organized jointly by the Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur and Gujarat Forest Department, Gandhinagar on September 21st, 2016 at Conference Hall (Research & Training), Gujarat Forest Department, Gandhinagar. Dr. D.K. Sharma, IFS and Addl. PCCF(Research & Training), GFD, Gandhinagar coordinated stakeholders meeting at Gujarat. Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS, PCCF and HoFF, GFD chaired the stakeholders meeting and Dr. D.K. Sharma, IFS, Addl. PCCF(R&T), GFD co-chaired the meeting. Stake holders meeting was attended by the officers from the Gujarat State Forest Department, representatives from various Universities & Industries, progressive farmers, NGOs, scientists from AFRI, Jodhpur (List of participants enclosed as an Annexure-1).

At the onset, Shri N.K. Vasu, Director, AFRI, Jodhpur welcomed the chairman of the stakeholders meeting Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, co-chairman Shri D.K. Sharma, IFS, Addl. PCCF (Research & Training), Shri R.L. Meena, IFS, Addl. PCCF, Shri Jagdish Prasad, IFS, Addl. PCCF and all officers of GFD, stakeholders from various institutes and organizations. He highlighted aims and objectives of the stakeholders meeting. Shri Vasu requested all the participants of the meeting for their active participation and invited suggestions related to problems faced in forestry sector. He also

informed the house that at ICFRE level, prioritization of research thrust areas and themes have been made. This meeting is a platform to listen from the stakeholders and then formulate the projects as per their needs. Mr. Vasu expressed that new projects are prepared based on the regional needs of the stakeholders.



Dr. D.K. Sharma, IFS, Additional PCCF (Research and Training) addressed the house and emphasized that the technology developed and outcome of the research carried out by the officers and scientists of AFRI, should reach to stakeholders. Farmers can get more income and industries could be benefited by one or other way. Transfer of technology is essential from laboratory to field. Past experiences should be shared and discussed to workout future prospects. He emphasized need to translate research findings of AFRI, Jodhpur into Gujarati language. Dr. Sharma has mentioned that stakeholders have problems, but they do not have solution, field staff have field data, but cannot analyze them, therefore, these data remain unused. He pointed out that threatened plant species should be preserved to develop gene pool. Preservation of gene pool and increase in productivity of degraded lands should be taken up on priority. He expressed needs to hold an annual meet to present AFRI's research findings to all the field staff of the GFD for which Gujarat Forest Department will provide financial support.

Dr. Dinesh Misra, PCCF & HoFF, GFD, chairman of the stakeholders meeting emphasized need of applied research useful for the GFD, farmers and industries. He mentioned that stakeholders have

problems, but don't have solution, which need to be addressed by the research institutes and universities. Dr. Misra asked stakeholders to tell their problems to AFRI to find out solution. There is a need of formal interaction between AFRI and stakeholders to translate knowledge and technology in field. He emphasized research work on conservation, assessment and prioritization of rare plant species. Dr. Misra suggested to look into the issues to increase productivity. Develop models for the rehabilitation of degraded salt affected land and utilization of wasteland. He also suggested to work on how to reduce cost of fancing in plantations. PCCF & HoFF also emphasized that new clones are coming from the industries which should come from research wing of GFD and AFRI.

Dr T.S Rathore, Group co-ordinator (Research), AFRI, Jodhpur made brief presentation of Research highlights and activities of the AFRI, list of ongoing and completed projects, purpose of stakeholders meeting and list of new concept notes prepared by the scientists and officers of the AFRI, Jodhpur. Dr. Rathore also presented concept note on Sandal wood project. He informed the house that though in some areas farmers have started planting of sandal wood in Gujarat, but there is a lack of scientific cultivation of sandal wood, which is very much required to get maximum benefits.



During the technical session, Shri O.P Shukla GM, JK Paper Mills Tapi presented work done by the J.K. Paper Mills for generating raw material for paper industry. He requested collaboration and help from AFRI in research field in the following areas;

- Research and development on *Eucalyptus*, *Casuarinas* species in Godra, Saurashtra etc to develop high yielding clones to increase productivity up to 100-150 mt in 3yr rotation.
- Research and development of high yielding pulpable species, which are suitable in saline area like; Bahuch Ankelashwar.
- DNA sequencing and fingerprinting of high yielding clones and promising CPTS for higher productivity.
- Association of AFRI with JK paper mill for joint plantation research and development in symbiotic basis.

Sh R.L. Meena IFS, Additional PCCF (NAREGA) emphasized that various technical findings should be integrated in programmes of the Gujarat forestry.

Shri Nitin Patel, Secretary, Gujarat Sandal wood association, informed the house that about 600 farmers have taken up sandal wood plantation, but they are lacking knowledge/package of scientific cultivation. He emphasized that AFRI should make concerted efforts on scientific cultivation practice of sandal wood for farmers of Gujarat. Mr. Patel expressed that more and more farmers are taking interest in growing sandal wood with the support of government and other agencies and in future Gujarat State can be made a sandal wood hub.

Dr Beena Patel, Senior General Manager, Abellon Clean Energy & Abellon Agri Sciences expressed that in addition to capacity building and awareness, it is essential to promote research projects that support harvest and post-harvest processing technology along with species specific plantation model and market linkages. Dr Beena requested the house that Forestry R & D should be promoted in area of capacity building and pilot studies, testing and action oriented research. Dr Umesh Kabade, Technical Director, Global Technology Association and Dr Pratap Ray Bhatnagar from ICAR, Research centre Vasad, Anand also expressed their views regarding forestry research and present needs.

A new concept note, on Sandal wood was prepared by Dr. Naveen Bohra Scientist B was discussed and stake holders expressed the need of scientific sandal cultivation programme in Gujarat. Many of the stakeholders present in the meeting presented their views and problem of marketing of the end products. The main points emerged in the stakeholders meeting are as follows:-

- Findings of AFRI should be translated in Hindi and Gujarati for which fund will be provided by SFD, Gujarat.
- The work which has been already carried out in Rajasthan can be shown to the Forest official of Gujarat.
- Collaborative projects with GFD and AFRI can be initiated in which the field data can be collected by the SFD officials and research data can be analyzed by the concerned scientist of AFRI.
- AFRI should prepare project on mapping forest soil (soil depth, texture, nutrient and carbon stock) in Gujarat on the lines of project already completed in Rajasthan.
- AFRI can also take up project on ecological studies in protected areas including permanent preservation plots in Gujarat.
- Scientific cultivation of Sandal wood should be promoted in Gujarat.
- Forestry Research Projects addressing value chains development of forest wood based products be priorities in linkage with plantation model.
- Research projects addressing fast growing trees / bushes / grasses on marginal and degraded farmlands and non-forest lands needs to be taken up keeping in view their uses for meeting various energy requirements for making profitable forestry or agro forestry practices along with social, environmental and job creation for local communities.
- Public private partnership (PPP) projects in urban areas be encouraged for road side/canal side/barren community land/other non-forest waste lands for promotion of forest tree plantation to provide opportunities of economic returns and contributing ecological services.
- Land-holding size of farmers are decreasing and therefore tree farming combined with agriculture is perhaps the only way forward to optimize the farm productivity and enhancing livelihood opportunities of small farmers, landless and the women. Research on such agro-forestry projects need to be promoted

- In addition to capacity building and awareness, it is essential to promote research projects that support dedicated harvest and post-harvest processing technology along with species specific plantation model and market linkages.

At the end, Dr. I.D Arya, Scientist G proposed a formal vote of thanks to Dr. Dinesh Mishra, PCCF & HoFF, Dr. D.K. Sharma, Addl.PCCF(R&T), Shri R.L. Meena, Addl. PCCF, Officers of the GFD, farmers, participants from Industries, Universities etc. for their active participation and valuable suggestions.



**List of Officials who attended the Stakeholders Meeting held at
Gujarat Forest Research Institute, Gandhinagar on 21.09.2016**

A. Officials of Gujarat Forest Department, Gujarat

1. Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS, PCCF (HoFF), Gujarat Forest Department, Arnaya Bhawan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat - **Chairman**
2. Dr. D.K. Sharma, IFS, APCCF (Research & Training), GFRI Building, Gandhinagar-**Co-chairman**
3. Shri Jagdish Prasad, IFS, APCCF, SF Gujarat Forest Department, Arnaya Bhawan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
4. Shri R.L. Meena, APCCF, Gujarat Forest Department, Arnaya Bhawan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
5. Shri B.A. Vyas, CF (Vigilance), Arnaya Bhawan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
6. Shri D.T. Vasanada, CF (TRC), Rajpipla
7. Shri N.S. Jain, CF, TRC, TRO Bhawan, Gandhinagar
8. Shri R.D. Kamboj, Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar
9. Shri Mukesh Kumar, IFS, DCF (Research), Gandhinagar
10. Shri V.J. Rana, DCF, Training, TRO, Gandhinagar
11. Shri D.A. Palsa, ACF, Res. Div. Gujarat
12. Shri K.C. Triud Asst. Research, TRO, Gandhinagar
13. Shri A.J. Gondhiya, RFO, R&D Center Rajkot
14. Shri C.P. Ranjia, RFO, Anjar
15. Shri S.T. Kotadi, RFO, Junagadh
16. Shri B.R. Solanki, RFO, Gandhinagar
17. Shri J.B. Patel, RFO, Gandhinagar
18. Shri M.H. Solum, RFO, Desa
19. Shri V.R. Desai, RFO, Kheralu
20. Shri V.J. Patel, RFO, Wild Life Training, Gandhinagar
21. Shri P.A. Bharadwa, RFO, PLO Division, Gandhinagar
22. Shri N.P. Rojusasa, Forester. Gandhinagar
23. Shri R.P. Joshi, Forester, Basan, Gandhinagar
24. Shri M.J. Thukor, Forester, Kheralu

25. Shri H.D. Pampuniya, Forester, Rajkot
26. Shri M.K. Chudagma, Forester, Range Anjar
27. Shri Karan Vasasra, Forester, Junagad
28. Shri B.L. Solanki, Forest Guard, Research Division, Gandhinagar
29. Shri M.A. Bambhaniya, Forest Guard, Bhavnager
30. Shri K.B. Chunrkar, Forest Guard, Bhavnagar
31. Shri V.K. Parmer, Forest Guard,
32. Shri Sarji Patel, Forest Guard,
33. Shri A.A. Baraiya, Forest Guard
34. Shri R.C. Choudhary, Forest Guard, Disa
35. Shri H.D. Choudhary, Forest Guard, Disa

Other stake holder (Progressive farmers, Professors and Researchers from other institute)

36. Dr. Pramod Mohnot Associate Director of Research, Junagadh
37. Shri Nitin Patel, Farmer, Secretary, Vadodara Sandal Wood Association. Vadodara
38. Shri Haresh Bhai K. Patel. President, Oeyort Wood Back Inst. Association Naroda, Ahmedabad
39. Dr. D.P. Bhatt, Director, Sun Agrigenetic P. Ltd., Vadodra
40. Dr. Umesh A. Kabade, Director, ARTA Agro Biotech, Aanad
41. Dr. P.R. Bhatnagar, Head, ICAR, IISWC Research Center, Vasad
42. Dr. Beena Patel, Head, R&D, Abellon Clean Energy, Ahmedabad
43. Shri J.J. Patel, Retd. Dy. Director (Extn), 170, Heritage City, Vishnagar
44. Shri R.K. Patel, Retd. Ex. Officer (Agri), Kheralu Range, Sundhiya
45. Shri V.P. Patel, Agriculture Officer, Kheralu Range, Sundhiya
46. Shri U.N. Patel, A.O., Kheralu Range Umta
47. Dr. Priyanka Prajapati, SRF, GFRF,
48. Shri K.I. Patel, Farmer, Kheralu Range, Umta
49. Shri R.M. Patel, Farmer, Kheralu Range, Umta
50. Shri Babubhai Patel, Farmer, Kheralu Range, Umta
51. Shri R.J. Patel, Farmer, Kheralu Range, Kheralu
52. Shri G.P. Sahugiya, Junugadh,

53. Shri Babu Fhatiya, Farmer, Rajkot
54. Shri Rajesh premji Solanki, Farmer, Basan
55. Shri Danaji Thakor, Farmer, Basan
56. Shri Prajapati Bholabhai Maganbhai, Farmer, Vagosana Ta. Kalol
57. Shri Patel Mota Madhusan Hasan Bhai, Farmer, Dist. Morbi
58. Shri Munsukha Bhai, Hajatpur
59. Shri Jiten Patal, Farmer, Mehsana
60. Shri Shailesh Farmer,
61. Shri Sherausman Bhai, Farmer,
62. Shri Vaid Prabhu Bhai Patel, Dissa, Rasana
63. Shri Solanki Kailesh, Farmer, Dissa, Rasana
64. Shri Solanki Dhru Singh, Farmer, Dissa, Rasana
65. Shri A.P. Vajhellar, Farmer,
66. Shri Vagela Parmbhai, farmer
67. Shri Patel Hiten, Farmer
68. Shri O.P. Shuka. J.K. Paper Mills,
69. Shri Ramji Falair Koli, Farmer, Bhuj

Officials from Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

1. Shri N.K. Vasu, IFS, Director, AFRI, Jodhpur
2. Dr. T.S. Rathore, Group Co-ordinator (R), AFRI, Jodhpur
3. Shri B.B. Bhadhu, IFS, CF, AFRI, Jodhpur
4. Dr. I.D. Arya, Sci-G, AFRI, Jodhpur
5. Dr. U.K. Tomar, Sci-E, AFRI, Jodhpur
6. Dr. Bilas Singh, Scientist-B, AFRI, Jodhpur
7. Dr. N.K. Bohra, Scientist-B, AFRI, Jodhpur
8. Dr. S.K. Rajput, Scientist-B, AFRI, Jodhpur
9. Shri P.S. Sankhla, RA-II, AFRI, Jodhpur
10. Shri Mahipal Bishnoi RA-II, AFRI, Jodhpur