

HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SHIMLA

Visit of High Level Delegation from Ethiopia: A Report

(17th March 2017)

As a part of **India Exposure and Experience Sharing Visit**, a 15 member high level delegation headed by His Excellency **Dr. Gemedo Dalle**, Minister of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and His Excellency **Kebede Yimam**, State Minister, Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of Ethiopia visited **Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla on 17th March 2017**. Other members of this high level delegation included;

1. Dr. Wubalem Tadesse, EEFRI, Research Director General, EFRI
2. Dr. Agena Anjulo, EEFRI, Deputy Director General, EFRI
3. Professor Fassil Kebede, EFRI, Senior Researcher
4. Dr. Teshome Tesema, EEFRI, Research Director
5. Dr. Yigardu Mulatu, EEFRI, Research Director
6. Mr. Birhane Kidane, EEFRI, Research Director
7. Dr. Fefera Mengistu, Programme Coordinator, UNDP, MEFCC
8. Mr. Ababu Anage, National Climate Change Specialist, UNDP
9. Dr. Teshmore Tamrat, MEFCC, Director General, Research
10. Mr. Samuel Kokebo, SNNPR, Head for Environment & Forest
11. Dr. Belayneh Ayele, Amhara, Head for Environment, Forest and Wildlife
12. Dr. Hassen Yusuf, Oromia Head for Environment, Forests and Climate Change

At the outset, Dr. Rajesh Sharma invited Dr. K.S. Kapoor, Director, HFRI, Shimla to



formally welcome this high level delegation to the Institute. The welcome ceremony was followed by the introduction of each of the Hon'ble delegates. After this, Dr. Kapoor apprised them about the research activities accomplished/ being carried out by the Institute.

Once the presentation of Dr. Kapoor was over, Dr. Rajesh Sharma invited His Excellency, **Kebede Yimam**, State Minister, Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of Ethiopia to address the house. In his speech, His Excellency in particular raked up the issues of climate change, productivity enhancement including livestock production. All these issues are affecting the forestry in Ethiopia, he added.

Thereafter, Dr. Rajesh invited His Excellency **Dr. Dalle** to address the house and share his experiences and expectations. In his address, Dr. Dalle informed that the Government of Ethiopia has found it necessary to give required attention to the activities of forest and environmental protection, forest management including utilization activities by linking *forestry research* with the related issues for better accomplishment of the objectives of his Government.



After his address, the delegation raised number of issues pertaining to *forestry research* and interacted with the Scientists. The Hon'ble Minister discussed about the research commonalities and the areas where the Institute can help Ethiopia for which each of the Scientist of HFRI interacted with the delegation in the most professional way. His Excellency, **Dr. Dalle** was of the opinion that the Institute can prepare a project with the concerned Department of Ethiopian Government where the professional competence of the Scientists can be utilized in the most scientific way.

Once this discussion was over, Dr. Kapoor informed that HFRI, Shimla is a regional research Institute of *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education*, Dehradun and accordingly, such bilateral issues are processed at the Council level in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. Adding to it, His Excellency, Dr. Dalle informed that this delegation will also visit the ICFRE Headquarters and this issue will be tagged accordingly.



Other issues, revolving around research activities including implementation of research activities, etc. were also discussed across.

The delegation appreciated the efforts of HFRI, Shimla for promoting the cause of forestry research in particular and environment in general in this unique part of the world. He further added that his Country and Ministry is giving due attention to activities related to forestry and climate change and in the process, this delegation is visiting India for capturing the experience of the various counterparts.



While concluding, His Excellency Dr. Dalle, thanked HFRI for their hospitality, the scientific discussion held and further assured that every effort will be made by his country for taking up some collaborative works especially in the field of forestry, productivity enhancement of forests, biodiversity assessment and climate change, etc.

In the end, Shri Satya Prakash Negi, IFS, CF proposed the vote of thanks to the visiting delegation. He hoped that this visit will definitely be useful in future endeavours in between both the counties mainly pertaining to forestry research.

Clippings of the Visit




