

Director General, ICFRE visits RFRI, Jorhat

Dr. S. C. Gairola, IFS, Director General, ICFRE visited RFRI, Jorhat on 31st May and 1st June, 2017. On the first day of his visit, he planted a sapling of *Paulownia kawakamii* (Sapphire dragon tree), a critically endangered species in the Botanical garden of the Institute. He inspected the garden and visited the Orchidarium and the Herbarium. He inaugurated the newly established Computer Lab. He visited the Ecology & Biodiversity Division and interacted with the Scientists on various research projects. He visited Bamboo Nursery, Bamboo germplasm collection and Bambusetum of the Institute, and the Tissue Culture and Molecular Biology Lab of Biotechnology & Genetics Division. He also launched the Digital Library at the Institute's Library.

The Director General was formally welcomed by Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, IFS, Director with a traditional *Phulam Gamosa*. He was also welcomed by the Forest Scientists' Association and Employees Association, RFRI. The Director, RFRI gave a detailed presentation on ongoing activities of the Institute and highlighted the achievements. The Director General addressed the gathering and asked all to work hard for institution building. He advised the Scientists that they should work on any particular subject keeping the larger picture of the sector in mind and also in tune with the overall vision of the Council.

On second day of his visit, he visited Samaguri Village of Sivasagar district where he inspected an Agar oil distillation unit. He saw the Agar plantation, oil extraction process including fermentation, distillation, etc. The Director General also visited Central Muga & Eri Research & Training Institute, Lahdoigarh, Jorhat, with which RFRI is collaborating on a project on use of treated bamboo structures in Ericulture. He was given warm welcome by the Scientists and other research staff. He visited various units of Muga and Eri rearing and interacted with the Scientists and emphasised on collaborative work with RFRI/ICFRE. Later the Director General visited Bamboo Composite Centre of RFRI. He was apprised about various skill development training and demonstration activities related to bamboo, conducted by the Institute.



























