

**HIMALAYAN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CONIFER CAMPUS, PANTHAGHATI,
SHIMLA-171 013 (HIMACHAL PRADESH)**

**FIVE DAYS TRAINING PROGRAMME ON "BAMBOO PRODUCTION,
MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING" TO THE FARMERS UNDER BAMBOO
TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP (BTSG) SCHEME OF NATIONAL BAMBOO
MISSION
(5-9th September 2016)**

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla at the behest of ICFRE, Dehra Dun conducted five days training programme on Bamboo Production ,Management and Marketing to the Farmers of Himachal Pradesh under **Bamboo Technical Support Group Scheme of National Bamboo Mission**, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The training was organized in the Conference Hall of the institute, from 5th-9th September 2016 with the main objective to promote bamboo cultivation amongst the farmers of the state of Himachal Pradesh. **Dr. Rajesh Sharma**, Scientist-F HFRI, Shimla and Coordinator of this training programme welcomed the participant on 5th September 2016 and briefed about the five day's training programme. **Dr. K.S. Kapoor Group Coordinator (Research)**, HFRI, Shimla briefed about National Bamboo Mission and its objectives for promoting bamboo production through Bamboo Technical Support Group in the country. **Dr. V.P. Tewari**, Director, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla inaugurated the training programme. Dr. Tewari in his inaugural address highlighted the significance of Bamboo and its multifarious uses and the role of farmers in spreading its cultivation in India. Dr. Tewari encouraged the farmers to actively participate in the discussion to make the training programme fruitful.

During the first technical session **Dr. Rajesh Sharma**, Scientist-F and Coordinator of the training programme deliberated broadly upon the importance of bamboos and its uses and research projects on bamboos accomplished by the institute. **Dr. Vaneet Jishtu** in his talk explained different types of bamboos those are found in the state of Himachal Pradesh and also explained about the identification through their salient features. **Sh. S.P. Negi**, Conservator of Forests and Head Agroforestry & Extension Division, HFRI Shimla deliberated upon bamboos products and value addition from simple bamboo culm. After having briefed the participants about the importance of bamboos, and their socio-economic relevance the participants were shown **Documentary on Bamboos** prepared by ICFRE.

Dr. K.S. Kapoor Scientist-G and Group Coordinator Research of HFRI, Shimla deliberated upon ecological, social and economic aspects of hill bamboos with special reference to the state of Himachal Pradesh. Dr. Kapoor also explained at length the significant role of hill bamboos in

mitigating day to day requirements of the farmers and also highlighted the role of the species towards conservation of the fragile ecosystems of the state.

On the following day **Dr. Sandeep Sharma** Scientist-F and Head STI, Division HFRI, Shimla deliberated upon the practices being used in establishment of bamboo nursery. He meticulously explained to the participants that how a bamboos nursery with quality planting stock can be raised. Dr. Sharma through his pictorial presentations demonstrated the technique of macro-proliferation in bamboos and addressed various aspects of managing bamboo nursery. His presentation was followed by the detailed presentation of **Sh. P.S. Negi** Scientist mainly on seed, its collection, viability and sowing for raising quality planting stock. He also emphasised on various methods of its storage.

In the afternoon session, **Sh. Jagdish Singh** Scientist-F of the institute talked about different aspects of Agroforestry vis-a-vis bamboos. He also explained about the propagation techniques of raising quality planting stock through vegetative means to the participants. Carrying forward this discussion, **Dr. Swaran Lata**, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla explained in detail to the farmers about production of bamboos and its management. As protection against insect-pests constitutes an important aspect in cultivation of any crop plant, **Dr. Ranjeet Singh**, Scientist and Head FPT Division , HFRI, Shimla discussed about various insect-pests that cause damage in bamboo crop and their control measures.

On 3rd day of the training programme **Sh. Pradeep Bhardwaj**, Dy Conservator of Forests, HFRI, Shimla talked about dependence on bamboos and livelihood issues. He exhorted the farmers to think beyond production of bamboos and asked the farmers to horn up their skills in making bamboo products. **Dr. V.R.R. Singh, IFS**, Additional PCCF, (FCA) Himachal Pradesh talked about management of bamboo forests and policy issues. Dr. Singh addressed the concerns of the farmers and informed about the latest development with regard to bamboo cultivation in the state and asked the farmers to take up bamboo plantation on their farmland on a large scale. **Shri S.S. Kataik, IFS**, Deputy Director, Forest Survey of India, Shimla shared with the farmers the multifarious uses of bamboos and also shared his field experiences with the farmers. In the afternoon session, **Sh. Surinder Kumar, IFS**, APCCF (retd) Himachal Pradesh talked about management issues in bamboo crop and addressed queries of the farmers regarding the transportation and marketing. He also elaborated upon the plantations activities taken up by the department and involving local people in their management. **Dr. Pawan Kumar** Scientist, HFRI, Shimla explained about various insect-pest incidences in bamboos that cause damage to bamboo seedlings in the nursery and their control measures were also discussed by the scientist. The various queries of the participants with respect to insect-pests found in their nurseries were duly

addressed by Dr. Pawan Kumar. Late in the afternoon the participants were also shown the documentary on Hill Bamboo and products made from hill bamboos.

Sh. Vinod Kumar (RA I) and Sh. Neeraj Sharma (PA) took all the participants to the Field Research station, Shillaru and Narkanda on the 4th day of the training to demonstrate bamboo plantation done by the institute.

The 5th day was the concluding day for this training programme. **Dr. Ranjeet Kumar** Scientist, HFRI Shimla, shared his experiences of North-eastern region with the participants and demonstrated at length to the participants various bamboo products being manufactured by the people in North-east India and also in China. **Dr. R.K. Verma** Scientist, HFRI, Shimla talked about various uses of bamboo, products and value addition and demonstrated through pictorial presentations various bamboo products in use. **Dr. Ashwani Tapwal**, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla delivered a talk on diseases in bamboos and elaborated in detail on different aspects of diseases and their control measures. Dr. Tapwal also addressed the queries of the farmers pertaining to diseases in other crop plants. The technical session was followed by general discussion with the participants in which all the faculty of the institute participated and addressed the concerns of the farmers. The farmers were also requested to give their opinion about the training programme in which **Sh. Prakash Chand** and **Sh. Hoshiyar Singh** requested to include the visit to industrial training units and also impart practical training on product manufacturing and value addition. In the end the farmers were given certificate of participation by the **Dr. K.S. Kapoor**, Group Coordinator (Research), HFRI, Shimla. **Dr. Kapoor** in his concluding remarks not only thanked the farmers for sparing their time for the training programme but also for their active participation and interactions. He further exhorted upon to discuss and ensure the concern of practical training programme in bamboo products to higher authorities. The training programme ended with the vote of thanks proposed by **Dr. Sandeep Sharma**, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla

Some Glimpses of the Training Programme

