

Training Report on “Capacity Building Programme for the Frontline Field Staff of HP State Forest Department” held at Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla, from 22.11.2016 to 24.11.2016

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Panthaghati (HFRI), Shimla organized a three days training on “Capacity Building Programme for the Frontline Field Staff of Himachal Pradesh Forest Department” from 22nd to 24th November, 2016 in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPFSD), Research Wing at Sundernagar. A total of 31 frontline field functionaries from the Forest Divisions of Kinnaur, Bharmour, Chamba, Chopal, Theog, Rampur, Wildlife Sarahan, Shimla and Wildlife Shimla participated in this training programme. During this training programme, the resource persons from Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Centre for Environment, Science & Technology, Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, Forest Survey of India and eminent Advocate from the HP High Court delivered lectures touching the various aspects of forestry and basic forestry research and laws related to their works. A field visit was also organized during this training programme with the objective to give practical exposure to the participants about plant identification in general and medicinal and aromatic plants in particular. Use of GPS technology in forest management and selection of plus trees for collection of good quality seeds for productivity enhancement was also demonstrated during the field visit.

Day One (22.11.2016)

Dr. V. P. Tewari, Director HFRI, Shimla, inaugurated the training and demonstration programme. In his address he highlighted that the field functionaries are actually involved in various schemes of public interest in the field and plays an important role in successful implementation of various schemes but comparatively less attention is being given for updating the technical knowledge of the field functionaries with the modern techniques and hence such trainings are of great significance. He told the the Himalayan Forest Research Institute and Himachal Pradesh Forest Department appreciated the fact and decided to organize this important training programme.

Initiating the technical session, **Dr. V.P. Tewari**, Director, HFRI also delivered a lecture on ‘Measuring Trees and Forest’, explaining the basic facts of forest measurements & mensuration in details. **Dr. K.S. Kapoor**, Group Coordinator Research, HFRI, Shimla gave a brief presentation about the works being carried out by HFRI in the field of forestry and forestry research. **Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Scientist-F**, HFRI, who delivered his lecture on ‘Planting Stock Improvement for Productivity Enhancement’, touched upon the importance of the quality planting material for field plantations. **Advocate Rajneesh Maniktala** from the Himachal Pradesh High Court interacted with the participant on the issues of Laws related to their field works in the Forest. It was a highly interactive session since the participants were unaware of many rules of law directly related to forests & forestry. **Sh. S.P. Negi**, IFS & Head, Agro

forestry & Extension Division, HFRI talked about the essential field knowledge a frontline staff should have. Later in the evening **Sh. Joginder Singh**, Research Officer, HFRI guided a visit to the Institutes herbarium, Library and the various laboratories.

Second Day (23.11.2016)

On the second day, a field trip was organized to the Shimla catchment forest reserve near Dhalli. Sh. Santosh Thakur from the Wildlife Wing, Shimla gave a presentation on the history and biodiversity of the reserve. Later, the trainees were taken for a trek upto Seog Forest Rest House to observe trees and Birds. The participants were also briefed about the 'Herbarium methods' in the field. From Seog, there was a trek through the forest upto Kufri. At Kufri, **Sh. Praveen Sharma**, ACF gave a talk on 'Zoo Keeping'. The trek was supervised by the Course Coordinator, **Dr. Vaneet Jishtu**.

Third Day (24.11.2016)

In the forenoon of the third day a visit to HFRI Model Nursery, Baragaon was organized, where the trainees were made familiar with various new nursery techniques being adopted in the forestry sector, especially related to temperate medicinal plants by **Dr. Sandeep Sharma** and **Sh. Jadish Singh, Scientist-F**. The participants were given a hands on training in Silvicultural practices, with special focus on the nursery methods by **Sh. Vinod Dogra**, RA-I and **Mrs. Sonika Negi**, TA, HFRI In the afternoon session, **Sh. Sanjeeva Pandey**, PCCF, HP delivered an interesting interactive lecture on essentialities of forest knowledge titled 'When in the Forest – Jungle Craft.' After that **Sh. B.D. Suyal**, Regional Director, Forest Survey of India, Shimla talked about the works of FSI in National level forest surveys, assessments and monitoring.

Speaking in the valedictory session of training, **Dr. V.P. Tewari**, Director, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, told that a well designed and subject oriented training programme can make the employees of any organization to work in an efficient manner. He requested the participants that what they have learnt during this training course should be implemented by them in the field by taking the experience as challenge for the benefit of forestry. At the end, **Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Course Coordinator** proposed formal vote of thanks to the resource persons and all the participants who spared their valuable time for this important event and hoped that the participants will definitely be benefitted through their vast experience in the field of forestry.

GLIMPSES OF TRAINING









