



Green Skill Development Programmes (GSDP)

Organized by

ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)

Coimbatore

Inaugural Function of GSDP on Quality Planting Material Producer

Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) on “Quality Planting Material Producer” being organized by the ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement from 22.11.2021 to 31.12.2021 has commenced at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.

Dr C. Kunhikannan, Director IFGTB Director inaugurated the training programme. He highlighted that GSDPs have been outlined to give a unique learning experience through focused interactions in the class room (30%) as well as hands-on exercises (70%). Green skills are regarded as skills for sustainability which are related to the technical skills, knowledge, values and attitudes needed in the work to develop and support sustainable social, economic and environmental outcomes, he added. Director emphasised that the availability of planting material of good quality is one of the most important elements of successful plantations. Planting material available to small-scale farmers in different areas is often of insufficient quality, which undermines potential yield and performance of crop production. Hence there is a huge demand for quality planting stock. The Director urged the participants to make use of the training and become entrepreneurs.

Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Scientist F, ENVIS Coordinator, Nodal Officer GSDP and Training in-charge for the course explained that Green Skill Development Programmes of MoEFCC is an initiative for skill development in the environment and forestry sector to enable India's youth to get gainful employment and /or self-employment. Realizing the demand for green skilled youth the GSDP has been conceptualised and developed in MoEFCC in consultation with the National Skill Development Agency, the nodal agency for synergising skill development initiatives in the country under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The programme endeavours to develop green skilled workers having technical knowledge and commitment to sustainable development which will help in the attainment of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs) as well as Waste Management Rules (2016). There is a huge demand for quality planting stocks throughout the country, trainees should utilize the opportunity, Dr Warriar added.

During her address Dr R. Yasodha, Scientist G and Group Coordinator Research spoke on the need for increasing the tree cover at least in one third of our geographical area whereas the demand for timber, fuel-wood, and pulpwood is rapidly escalating. At present, only up to 30-40% of the demand for quality planting material is being met by the existing registered nurseries; the rest are met from the unorganized sectors. There is an urgent need for establishing more certified nurseries to meet the demand for the quality planting stock, she added. She also urged the trainees to make use of the course and establish quality nurseries by becoming entrepreneurs in order to meet the demand of superior planting stock throughout the country.

Scientists and technical staff of the Institute and experts from other institutions are acting as resource persons. Dr S Vigneswaran, Senior Programme Officer ENVIS proposed the vote of thanks. The training programme is for 30 working days and free of cost with boarding, lodging and training kit days respectively. 40 candidates from various part of the country are participating in the GSDP. Certificate from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) shall be awarded to those who successfully complete the programme.







