

## **Awareness Program on Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Conducted at IFGTB, Coimbatore on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019**

An awareness program on Prevention Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace was organised by the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 at 2.30pm in the Auditorium of IFGTB. All the employees, research scholars and project students participated in the meeting.

Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist G and Chairperson of Internal Complaints Committee welcomed the participants and informed the importance of conducting the awareness programs and shared that Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013 guarantees women fundamental rights to equality in workplaces.



Dr. S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB, discussed about the importance of safeguarding women's interests in workplace. He shared that the diverse role of women in societal development is well documented and efforts should be made to encourage participation of women workforce at different environments. He insisted that every staff should promote the gender equality behaviour and make efforts to achieve gender neutral institution.

Dr. T. Srinivasan, Professor of Psychology (Retd), Government Arts College, Coimbatore discussed about various "Acts" and legal provisions available for the protection of women. He mentioned the importance of establishment of Internal Complaints Committee in any workplace by the employer. He informed that the committee should minimum consists of senior women officer as Presiding officer, two internal members with interest in social work, and one NGO member, who actively participates in women welfare. Civil remedies available under the "Act" were also explained. After the open house discussion, the meeting came to an end at 3.45 pm with Vote of Thanks by Dr. Modhumita Dasgupta, member of ICC, IFGTB.

