

REPORT ON Dr. S. KEDHARNATH MEMORIAL LECTURE (KML-2016) INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS AND TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE

The fourth edition of Dr.S.Kedharnath Memorial Lecture (KML-2016) was conducted in IFGTB, Coimbatore, on 23rd December, 2016. A total number of about 150 participants attended the programme. The participants included the faculty members/ students from institutions like Forest College and Research Institute (FC&RI), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Sri Krishna College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, Dr.NGP College of Arts and Science, SNR Sons College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, Govt. Arts College, Karur, Vanavaryar. Institute of Agriculture, Pollachi, Govt. Arts College, Ooty, Vivekananda College of Arts and Science for Women, Tiruchengode, Erode etc., apart from the Officers, Scientists, Staffs and Research Scholars of IFGTB. The programme was also attended by members from the NGOs, Vanam India Foundation, Palladam and Protector Environment, Coimbatore.

The programme was started with an invocation by Dr. Kannan C.S.Warrier. Dr.S.Murugesan, Group Co-ordinator (Research) welcomed the gathering. Shri R. S. Prashanth, IFS, Director of IFGTB delivered the presidential address. Dr. B. Nagarajan, the Organizing Secretary of KML-2016 gave introduction about Dr.S.Kedharnath Memorial Lecture. The Chief Guest, Dr. D. Narasimhan, Associate Professor & Head, Centre for Floristic Research, Dept. of Botany, Madras Christian College, Tambaram, Chennai inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp. The Chief Guest also released the brochure on Dr.Kedharnath Memorial Lecture- 2016 and a CD containing the compilation of Dr.S.Kedharnath's publications. The Chief Guest delivered the fourth edition of Dr. S. Kedharnath Memorial Lecture on the topic "***Tropical Dry Evergreen Forest – A Neglected Resource***". He gave an overview of the distribution, species composition, ecological and economic significance of this unique forest type, which is distributed in the east coast of India from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh to Nagapattinam of Tamil Nadu. He pointed out that though many of the Dry evergreen forest species have high utility value, they are still under-utilized. He added that some of the species could be suitable candidates for urban planting, especially in coastal cities

like Chennai, which frequently face cyclonic storms and large scale devastation. The programme was concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. K. R. Sasidharan, Scientist of IFGTB.



Dr.S.Murugesan, Group Co-ordinator (Research) delivering welcome address



Shri R.S.Prashanth, Director delivering presidential address



Dr.D.Narasimhan, Chief Guest lighting the lamp



Release of CD on Dr.S.Kedharnath's publications



Dr.D.Narasimhan, Chief Guest delivering the memorial lecture