

Shri Ranjan Chatterjee, IAS, Senior Consultant, Union Planning Commission, Govt. of India, visited the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012. The Director, Dr. N. Krishna Kumar welcomed the chief guest and highlighted the role of ICFRE and IFGTB in forestry research, extension and education. A brief presentation on the research programs and extension activities carried out by the Institute was presented. The chief guest appreciated the release of clones of Eucalypts and Casuarina and the supply of improved seeds for public use. He in his remarks stated that the financial support for research work is likely to shrink in the years to come. As funds from the government sector can only provide minimum survival support, the inflow of more external funds is inevitable for research growth. Market friendliness is essential for the institute's sustenance and the research output must not be a dead end. The results must be application oriented with suitable end users. It was also emphasized that accountability is very high for each organization and therefore the forests and the research programs must be projected as people centric. He concluded with best wishes and words of encouragement to the Institute and ICFRE. Vote of thanks was given by Shri T.P. Raghunath, Group Co-ordinator Research.







