



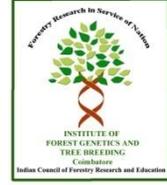
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FOREWORD

Forest sector is uniquely placed in Climate Change scenario as on one hand deforestation and forest degradation contributes significantly to the warming of global climate systems, and on other hand forests have the potential to arrest the fast pace of changing climate by removing accumulated carbon dioxide from atmosphere and sequester it into vegetation and soil. However, being climate dependent systems, forests are also vulnerable to the changing climate. Forests in India are already under heavy socio-economic pressures leading to forest degradation. However, the resilience of a forest ecosystem to changing environmental conditions is determined by its biological and ecological resources, in particular, i) the diversity of species including micro-organisms, ii) the genetic variability within species and iii) the regional pool of species and ecosystems. Scientific deliberations and discussions on this subject of "Ecosystem Resilience" are the need of the hour for ensuring sustainable flow of forest ecosystem services. Further, there is an imperative need to review and revisit Research and Forest management initiatives taken by various State Forest Departments and Research Organizations on the subject of Forest Ecosystems Resilience. In this backdrop, a National Conference is being organized on "**Towards Resilient Ecosystems: The Role of Forestry Research**" on **8-9, May 2018** by the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.

On this event of organizing a National Conference, a Compendium has been prepared which contains Session papers for all the sessions of the Conference, papers contributed by the lead and invited speakers, and also important reference papers for the benefit of all the forestry professionals and researchers. This compilation is also to provide a reference material to strengthen the deliberations of this National Conference.

I wish to thank Director General, ICFRE, Dehra Dun and all authors and co-authors for their valuable contribution in bringing out this publication. My thanks and appreciations are also to Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist-G, Group Co-ordinator (Research) & Convener and Dr.C.Buvaneswaran, Scientist-F & Organizing Secretary of this Conference for their sincere efforts in preparing of this Compendium.

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Director