

Training on Tree Improvement to Officials of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project (OFSDP)

Training on Tree Improvement was held at Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore for the Forest officers of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project (OFSDP) from 1st August to 4th August 2011 funded by OFSDP. Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB inaugurated the program. About 12 officers participated in the training. The training program includes various topics related to genetic improvement of indigenous and exotic tree species. The scope of tree improvement for rural livelihood was discussed. The various methods involved in selection of plus trees in the plantations as well as natural forest were described. Genetic improvement experience in exotic species like Casuarina, Eucalyptus, Acacia spp. were shared. The efforts taken for improvement of teak, red sanders and *Anthocephalus cadamba* were explained. The technologies for mass propagation like clonal propagation, tissue culture and grafting were also demonstrated in addition to seed handling techniques. The plantations technologies and possible pest and disease problems at nursery and plantations were taught. Field visits were conducted to Seed orchards, Genetic gain trails, Clonal trials, Vegetative Multiplication Garden and Progeny trials. The valedictory of the training program was chaired by Dr. S. Balaji, Director, Tamil Nadu Forest Academy, Coimbatore.

