

Institute level periodical seminar on “Biodiversity and Conservation- Status, Concerns and Strategies”

First periodical seminar of the institute during this year was organised in the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree breeding, Coimbatore on 20th June, 2017. The Scientists, officers, and research staff including JRF's, SRF's, and RA/FA's of IFGTB attended the seminar. The prime objective of the seminar was to share the knowledge about the biodiversity and its conservation strategies.

The programme opened with a formal welcome to the gathering by Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist-G. Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Scientist 'F' & Head, Division of Biodiversity, delivered the talk on **Biodiversity and Conservation- Status, Concerns and Strategies**". He elaborated the present status of biodiversity in India including the different level of biodiversity, ecosystem diversity, reason for loss of biodiversity, species recovery research etc. While detailing the ecosystem diversity he added that 40% of the world economy and 80 % of the need of the poor are derived from biodiversity. He also highlighted the floral wealth of the country, their sustainable utilization and the importance of conservation and documentation. He briefed the cause for biodiversity loss, threats and need for species recovery research. He also indicated the research gaps, which includes studies on endemic, threat assessment as per IUCN, species recovery, bioprospecting etc. The seminar invigorated and triggered the awareness regarding present status of biodiversity and its depletion due to natural calamities which in turn affect the livelihood of the people.

This was followed by vibrant group discussion and the staff/students presented their views and suggestions related to the impact of mining on biodiversity and its possible mitigative measures. During discussion session, ideas such as CAMP workshop, AICOPTAX etc. were discussed. Detailed information about biodiversity and its importance and possible management and conservation measures were discussed during the seminar.



