

Report on
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
TOWARDS RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS: THE ROLE OF FORESTRY RESEARCH
8-9, MAY 2018

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore organized a National Conference on "**Towards Resilient Ecosystems: The Role of Forestry Research**" during 8-9, May 2018. The objective of the Conference was to have scientific deliberations and discussions on the subject of "Ecosystem Resilience" which is the need of the hour for ensuring sustainable flow of forest ecosystem services. The conference also aimed to review and revisit Research and Development initiatives taken by various State Forest Departments and Research Organizations on the subject of Forest Ecosystems Resilience. About 100 senior officers from 11 different State Forest Departments, Deans and Professors from Forest Colleges, Directors and scientists from all the ICFRE institutes, and scientists from other institutions, NGOs and Tree Growers attended the conference.

In the Inaugural function, Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director, IFGTB welcomed the dignitaries and delegates and gave an over view of the Conference. Shri S.D. Sharma, IFS, Dy. Director General (Research), ICFRE also addressed the gatherings. Key Note address was delivered by Dr. S. C. Gairola, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehra Dun. The Conference was inaugurated by Shri. Siddhanta Das, IFS, Director General of Forest & Special Secretary to GoI, MoEF & CC as Chief Guest of the Conference and a Conference Compendium was released by him. The Chief Guest also distributed appreciation Certificate to the inventors of two patents received by IFGTB. Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist-G, Group Co-ordinator (Research) and Convener of the Conference proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the inaugural session.

The conference was deliberated on five sessions namely i) Vulnerability Assessment, ii) Tree Improvement and Biotechnological Strategies for Climate Resilience, iii) Harnessing Forest Genetic Resources For Climate Resilience and Forest Health, iv) Adaptive Forest Management: Issues and Challenges and v) Climate-Smart Forestry: Research and Management. There were 5 lead talks and 10 invited talks delivered and discussed in the conference. The Lead talks were presented by Dr. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi, Senior Researcher, IISc, Bangalore, Dr. James Jacob, Director, Rubber Research Institute, Kottayam, Kerala, Dr. Z. Abraham, Scientist (Retd), NBPGR, Dr. C. T. S. Nair, Former Chief Economist, FAO Forestry Department and Dr. M. H. Swaminath, IFS, PCCF (Retd.), SFD, Karnataka. The invited talks were from Dr. A. Ramachandran, IFS, Professor – Emeritus, Anna University, Chennai, Dr. A. Nicodemus, Scientist-F & Head, Genetics & Tree Breeding Division, IFGTB, Dr. R. V. Varma, Former Chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board, Kerala, Dr. T. Sekar, IFS, Former PCCF, Tamilnadu State Forest Department, Chennai, Shri. T. Rabikumar, IFS, Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority, Gol, Ratnakar Jauhari, IFS, CCF, Andhra Pradesh, State Forest Department, Dr. G. Chandra Shekar Reddy, IFS, APCCF, Hyderabad, Dr. K. N. Murthy, IFS, PCCF & MD, Karnataka State Forest Industries Corporation Ltd. and Dr Jagmohan Sharma, IFS, APCCF, Karnataka State Forest Department. Finally, Wrap-up session was held for drafting of Recommendations under the chairmanship of Dr. S. C. Gairola, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehra Dun and Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director, IFGTB Co-chaired the session. Recommendations from all the technical sessions were discussed and drafted. The draft recommendations will be sent to ICFRE for approval and onward submission to MoEF & CC, Gol. This will help in policy making on the important subject of making the forestry ecosystems resilient to the changing climate. On concluding of the Conference, Dr. C. Buvaneshwaran, Scientist-F & Organizing secretary of the Conference proposed the vote of thanks.



Receiving of the dignitaries



Inauguration of the Exhibition on ICFRE Technologies



Shri Siddhanta Das, IFS, DGF& Spl Secy, MoEF & CC reviewing the ICFRE Technologies



Welcome address by Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director ,IFGTB



Delegates during Inaugural session



Release of Compendium by Shri Siddhanta Das, IFS, DGF& Spl Secy, MoEF & CC



Inaugural Address by Shri Siddhanta Das, IFS, DGF& Spl Secy, MoEF & CC



Key Note Address by Dr.S.C.Gairola, IFS, DG, ICFRE