

Visit of Shri. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India to IFGTB, Coimbatore on 16th June 2015

Shri. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India visited the Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu on 16th June 2015. Sh. R.S. Prashanth, IFS Director, IFGTB, Officers and Scientists of the institute received the secretary at Gass Forest Museum of the institute. Mr. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, MOEFCC planted a tree sapling (*Ficus benghalensis*) near the Gass Forest Museum and then he was briefed by Sh. R.S. Prashanth, IFS Director, IFGTB about the History of Gass Forest Museum, the exhibits placed under various themes, and the museum's role in creating awareness among the school and college students. The secretary appreciated the efforts put in by IFGTB in renovating and maintaining the Gass museum.



Tree planting (*Ficus benghalensis*) by Shri. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change near Gass Forest Museum in IFGTB Campus, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu.



Secretary, MOEFCC visiting the age old specimen collection in Gass Forest Museum, IFGTB

After the visit to the Gass Museum he visited the Vegetative Multiplication Garden of the institute and he was briefed about the various ongoing research activities in the VMG.



Inspecting the Vegetative Multiplication Garden at IFGTB



Visit to Polytunnel area



Observing tissue cultured teak plantlets



A view of Secretary, MOEFCC interacting with officers and scientists of the institute

The important ongoing research activities and achievements of institute was presented by Dr B. Gurudev Singh, Scientist-G and Head Genetics and Tree Breeding Division of the institute. Shri. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, MOEFCC released a new biopesticide “Crawl Clean” developed by the Bioprospecting Division of the institute for the control of papaya mealy bug. He also released a booklet on “Casuarina as Cash crop: A guide for profitable cultivation”. Shri. Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary also discussed with various officers and scientists of the institute.



Releasing a biopesticide “Crawl Clean”



Releasing a booklet on Casuarina as Cash crop: A guide for profitable cultivation



Discussion with officers and scientists of IFGTB



Another view of discussion with officers and scientists of the institute