

Training on
“Bioprospecting and Biopiracy”
for Personnel of other services under “Forestry Training and Capacity
building”
9-11th October, 2019 at IFGTB, Coimbatore

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore has organised three days training on **“Bioprospecting and Biopiracy”** under Forestry Training and Capacity building for Personnel of other services sponsored by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India during 9-11th October, 2019. About 34 group II & III officers from various Government departments viz., Director of Prosecution, Judicial Magistrate Court, Central Reserve Police Force, Quality control, Public Works, Central Public Works, Adidravidar & Tribal Welfare, Commissioner office, Income Tax, Commercial Tax, BSNL, Corporation, Railways, GST & Customs, Bank, IG office, Taluk office, Animal Husbandry, Social Welfare, Passport and Agriculture departments were participated in the training. The training aimed to explore the renewable forest resources for bioprospecting and to assist economies to derive maximum benefit from forest resources. The prime objective of the training was to create awareness on biodiversity wealth of our country to the personnel of other services and make them understand the importance of forest bio resources, ITK on bioprospecting, its sustainable use, legal issues like Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) associated with the transport of the material, the scope, challenges and prospects of forest resources with reference to bioprospecting and biopiracy through well knowledged resources.

The programme opened with an Ice-breaking session/opening ceremony on 9th October, 2019 which included welcome addresses by Dr. John Prasanth Jacob, Scientist G, a brief introduction and need of the training by Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Training Co-ordinator. During inaugural address **Dr. S. Murugesan**, Scientist G, Director & Group Co-ordinator Research, IFGTB, Coimbatore insisted that most of our natural resources are not yet prospected completely hence needed war on resources prospecting and at the same time the bioresources conservation is essential for the development of our country. Also insisted that more outputs are required from less resource and the bioresources are being demolished due to urbanisation.

The technical session included the presentations made by resource persons from various organisation and the research experts of IFGTB and various topics were covered under the training programme.

About IFGTB- Institute presentation	Dr. Dr.A. Rajasekaran , Scientist E, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Bioprospecting scope, challenges and opportunities	Dr. S. Murugesan , Scientist G, Director & GCR, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Biodiversity Act 2002	Dr. K. R. Sasidharan , Scientist É,; IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Bioprospecting of Lichens	Dr. G.N.Hariharan , Director, Biotechnology, MSSRF, Chennai
Herbals for Head to Toe: Bioprospecting values	Dr. K. Paneerselvam , Scientist D, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Visit to Laboratories, museum, nursery	Smt. R. Sumathi, CTO & Smt. R. Lakshmidevi, TO
Visit to Paralikadu, tribal hamlets, ecotourism park, and Interaction with tribal community on traditional knowledge and use of medicinal plants; Interaction with Forest Department officials on resource availability and management.	Dr. N.Senthilkumar , Scientist E, Smt. R. Sumathi & team
Bioprospecting and Biotechnology	Dr. Rekha Warriier , Scientist É, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Biopiracy, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), ABS and Patent	Dr. Modhumita Dasgupta , Scientist F, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Bioprospecting and Siddha	Dr. V. Azhagarasi, MD , Professor, RVS Sidha Medical College, Sular, Coimbatore.
Illegal trading of wildlife/forest produce in India and legal Instrument in place.	Shri. P. Kathirvel, IFS , Ass. Silva, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Bioprospecting of Natural colourants	Dr.K.H. Prabhu , Senior Scientific Officer, Textile Chemistry Division, SITRA, Coimbatore.
Microbial Prospecting	Dr. V. Mohan , Scientist G, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Bioprospecting of forest resources	Dr. N. Senthilkumar , Scientist E, IFGTB, Coimbatore
Experience sharing	Participants interaction and share their experience/activities

Participants were taken to field trip to Baralikadu, a forest fringe village in Western Ghats, and an ecotourism park on 10th October, 2019. Participants were exposed to forest areas, tribal hamlets and they had interaction with tribal community and country doctors possessing traditional knowledge on locally available medicinal plants to cure various ailments. They also had discussion with forest department officials on the availability of forest bioresources and their management strategies.

Recommendations were drawn during panel discussion and most of the participants opined that such kind of trainings may be extended to school and college students. Participant officers shared their experience on bioresources and discussed about the training and the training end up with wrap up and way forward. The Director, Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist G, distributed the certificates to participants. The three days training ended with formal vote of thanks by the training co ordinator Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist E.





