

RFRI ORGANISED WORKSHOP ON SPRINGSHED MANAGEMENT AT NAMSAI, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) organized a Workshop on ‘*Developing Cadre of Para-hydrogeologist for Springshed Management*’ on 7th and 8th September, 2021 at Arunachal University of Studies, Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh with its collaboration where 57 participants took part in the workshop. The Resource Persons of the Workshop were Er. Vaibhav E. Gosavi, from GBPNIE; Dr Amrit Puzari, NIT, Nagaland; Prof (Dr.) Nurul Amin, J. B. College, Jorhat; Shri Saurav Bhattacharjee, NERIWALM, Tezpur, Assam and Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, RFRI, Jorhat. The Workshop was a part of a on-going project ‘Spring Rejuvenation for Water Security in Himalaya’ funded by National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS).

The Workshop was inaugurated by Shri Chowna Mein, Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh who also released a publication on ‘A Manual on Springshed Management for Para-hydrogeologists’. In his inaugural speech, Shri Mein emphasized on the importance of Springs for water resource management and urged the para-hydrogeologists of the district to perform their national responsibility. The Inaugural Session was attended by Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat; Shri Sokheplum Mining, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Namsai; Dr. Ashwani Lochan, Chairman, Arunachal University of Studies; Nang Urmila Manchey Khun, Zilla Parishad Chairman and Gaon Burha of Namsai district.

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat welcomed the dignitaries and trainees and delivered a presentation on National Policy of NITI Ayog to mitigate water crisis in Indian Himalayan Region and importance of spring rejuvenation for water security to achieve Sustainable Development Goal of UN.

Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, Principal Investigator of the on-going Project briefed the importance the Workshop and activities of the Para-hydrogeologists. He also briefed about the scheduled activities started at Lathao village for rejuvenating a cluster of 5 springs to develop Jal Abhyaranya demonstration model in the ‘Aspirational district’ of Namsai.

Dr. Ashwani Lochan, Chairman, Arunachal University of Studies emphasized on the preservation of water resource and the growing issue of drying up of spring water which is a natural source of fresh drinking water. Prof. (Dr.) Rani Jha, Arunachal University of Studies offered vote of thanks.

There were two technical sessions and one field trip to the project site. Various Resource Persons sensitized the participants with different issues such as geological factors related to spring and strategies for its recharge, water quality management, Springshed development, Hydrogeology of Mountain Springs etc.

During the field visit to project site, demonstration was given for record of GPS coordinates of spring site, measurement of spring water discharge rate, taking reading of pH, EC, TDS and temperature using hand held pH and EC meters.

GLIMPSES OF THE WORKSHOP



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