

**Training on „Capacity Building Programme for Frontline Field Staff of HP State
Forest Department’
under
NMPB- Medicinal Plant Conservation Project
held at
Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla
(24.02.2016 to 26.02.2016)**

Background:

Capacity building is the process of developing and strengthening the management skills and management and, hence, Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla organized a three days training on “**Capacity Building Programme for the Frontline Field Staff of Himachal Pradesh Forest Department**” from 24th to 26th February 2016 in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, Research Wing, Sundernagar. About 35 frontline field functionaries posted at Kinnaur, Bharmour, Renuka, Rohru, Rampur, Shimla, Wildlife Sarahan and Wildlife Shimla Forest Divisions actively participated in this training programme. During this training programme, Scientists of Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Himachal Pradesh University, Himalayan Research Group (NGO) and Forest Officers of Himachal Pradesh Forest Department delivered lectures & talks touching the various aspects of forestry and basic forestry research. A field visit was also organized during this training programme with the clear objective to give practical exposure about plant identification in general and medicinal and aromatic plants in particular. Use of GPS technology in forest management and selection of plus trees for collection of good quality seeds for productivity enhancement was also demonstrated during the field visit.

Day One (24.02.2016)

Dr. V. P. Tewari, Director HFRI, Shimla, inaugurated the training and demonstration programme in the morning of 24nd February, 2016. In his address, he expressed opinion that the field functionaries are involved in various schemes of public interest in the field and plays an important role in successful implementation of various schemes but it is a fact that very less attention is being given for updating the skills of field functionaries with the modern techniques and, hence, such trainings are of great significance. Himalayan Forest Research Institute and Himachal Pradesh Forest Department appreciated this fact and decided to organize this important training programme.

Starting the technical sessions of the day, **Dr. V.P. Tewari**, Director, HFRI delivered lecture on „Measuring Trees and Forest’ explaining the basic facts of forest measurements in details. **Dr. K.S. Kapoor**, Group Coordinator Research, HFRI, Shimla gave a brief presentation of the works being

carried out by HFRI in the field of forestry and forestry research. **Dr. Ranjeet Singh, Scientist**, HFRI gave a presentation on „Forest Productivity – Decline due to Emergence of Entomological Problems in Northwest Himalayas’. **Dr. T.N. Lakhanpal**, Professor Emeritus (Retired) from the Himachal Pradesh University interacted with the participant on the issues of Forest Pathology and the Role of Mycorrhiza in Forestry, with special emphasis on forest nurseries. **Dr. Lal Singh**, Director, Himalayan Research Group gave his lecture on Sustainable Management and Development of Selected High Valued Himalayan Non-Timber Forest Products. **Dr. Kulwant Rai Sharma**, Professor, Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Nauni, Solan delivered a valuable lecture on Resin Tapping. During the above talks/ lectures, queries of the trainees were also addressed by the experts in an effective way.

Second Day (25.02.2016)

On the second day of the training programme, field trip was organized and participants were taken to HFRI Field Research Station at Shillaru, Narkanda Forest area and Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum, Potter Hill, Shimla. **Dr. Vaneet Jishtu**, Scientist, HFRI, who was coordinating this training programme, accompanied the participants. The main objective of field trip was to give practical exposure to the participants about plant identification, in general, and medicinal & aromatic plants, in particular. Use of GPS technology was also demonstrated in the field with practical on hands experience.

Third Day (26.02.2016)

In the forenoon of third day of the training programme, a visit to HFRI Model Nursery, Barangaon was organized, where the trainees were made familiar with various new technologies being adopted in the forestry sector, especially in medicinal plants, by **Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Sh. Jadish Singh** and **Sh Pitamber Singh Negi**, the scientists of HFRI.

In the afternoon session, **Sh. Vinay Tandon**, PCCF (Retd.), HP delivered an interesting interactive lecture on essentialities of basic forestry research and how to go about it. Also, **Sh. Sanjeeva Pandey**, APCCF, HP talked on “When in the Forest – Jungle Craft”.

Speaking in the valedictory session of training, **Dr. V.P. Tewari**, Director, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla opined that effective training programme can make the employees of any organization to work in an effective manner. He requested the participants that whatever they have learnt during this training should be implemented in the field by taking the experience as challenge for the benefit of forestry. In the end, Dr. K.S. Kapoor, GCR proposed a formal vote of thanks to all resource persons and participants who spared their valuable time for this important event.

GLIMPSES OF TRAINING







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