

## Training for the 'Panchayat Representatives' at IFP Ranchi

A five days training on “Rural Livelihood Improvement through Scientific Lac Cultivation” has been conducted at Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, from 18-22 September 2012, to promote Lac cultivation and income of the rural tribal people. The training was sponsored by State Institute of Rural Development, Govt of Jharkhand, Ranchi. A total 25 number of 'Gram Panchayat Representatives' from Angada block of Ranchi district participated in the training.

The training was inaugurated by chief guest Sri R.P. Singh, Director, SIRD, Ranchi. He deeply appreciated the training content designed by IFP for the training. Sri Rameshwar Das, Director, IFP, Ranchi welcomed the chief guest and participants. Shri Das in his inaugural speech deliberated the initiatives taken by the institute for socio economic upliftment of the tribal villagers. The Director emphasized the conventionally stronghold of Jharkhand in lac production, which is declining considerably due to unavailability of healthy broodlac, lack of knowledge of modern cultivation practices and changing climatic conditions. The training coordinator Dr. Arvind Kumar (Head, Forest Protection Division) briefed about the different causes of lac crop failure in past years. Dr. Kumar also briefed the technical programme of the training.

A training manual entitled “*Lakh Keet Palan ki Unnat Vidhiya Evam Sambhavnaen*” written by Dr. Arvind Kumar and Shri Rameshwar Das has been launched on this occasion and distributed to the participants.

Different aspects of Lac cultivation including cultivation methods on different host plants, its insect pests, parasite and diseases causing damage to the Lac and their management has been covered in the training. The economic aspect of Lac cultivation i.e. initial input cost incurring in Lac cultivation on different host plant and expected income from Lac cultivation has been explained in detail. Value addition and marketing of Lac has also been covered in the training. A visit to shellac processing industry was arranged for the participants to sensitize them with the value addition aspect of Lac. The participants were also taken to successful progressive farmer's farm for field demonstration of Lac cultivation on different host species.

Dr. S. Nath, Scientist-F; Dr. Sharad Tiwari, Scientist-E; Dr. Sanjay Singh, Scientist-E; Dr. Animesh Sinha, Scientist-D; Shri Aditya Kumar, Scientist-B; Shri Pankaj Singh, RO contributed their experience as resource person in the training. Shri S N Vaidya, who has vast experience in Lac cultivation has also interacted with participants during field visit and shared his experience with the participants.



