

INTERACTIVE MEETING 2011 (Stakeholders' meet 2011)

MINUTES OF THE INTERACTIVE MEETING HELD IN THE CONFERENCE HALL OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (PCCF) OFFICE, PANAGAL MALIGAI, SAIDAPET, CHENNAI ON 26.05.2011 AT 10:00AM

Sri T. P. Raghunath, IFS, Group Coordinator (Research), IFGTB, Coimbatore welcomed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force , APCCFs, CCFs, CFs of Tamilnadu Forest Department and Forest Officers, Scientists of IFGTB, Coimbatore for the Stake holders **meet** held in PCCF's Office, Panagal Maligai, Chennai on 26th May, 2011.

Dr. N. Krishnakumar, IFS, Director, IFGTB briefed about the Stake Holders meet and its role in fostering a good partnership with Forest Department and other Stake Holders, which in turn helps in understanding the Research priorities of the stake holder and capability of the Research Institute for finding solutions.

The Director thanked the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, the RAG Chairman for conducting the RAG 2010, in a very scientific manner and also informed the number of projects approved by RAG and the projects cleared by RPC. The Director also informed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, the RAG Chairman about the RAG 2011-12, proposed to be held during October, 2011 and requested for confirmation of dates, and also looked for continued guidance, during the current year also.

After the Director's introductory remarks, Shri S.K.Shanmugasundaram, HoD Biodiversity, briefly explained about the 'Animal Taxonomy Chart', to be released and to be distributed to Schools/colleges. The chart was released by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force.

This was followed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force inaugural address and the salient points are as follows:

- Co-operation between Forest Department and Research Institutes is very essential and must continue
- Research activities taken by the institute should focus on the needs of the Forest Department and more importantly of other stake holders especially the farmers and the common people.

- Shri R.S.C. Jayaraj, HoD, FLUCC made a presentation on the activities of IFGTB, highlighting the research findings relevant to Tamilnadu, details of completed projects and the new projects approved by RPC for the year 2011-12 and the projects relevant to Tamilnadu.
- A presentation was also made on the Research Extension activities taken up by the Tamilnadu Forest Department

Various issues were taken up for discussion the more important being the following:

- Issues concerning Red Sanders, regeneration, protection, Wavy grains, NDF studies being undertaken by IFGTB, scope for popularizing planting Red Sanders by farmers and research presently undertaken by IFGTB on the species.
- IFGTB to take up studies to identify suitable species for salinity affected land, and to share information with TNFD on such species identified. The Research activities taken up by IFGTB on salinity tolerance was briefed and it was also informed details of Research work taken by IFGTB was available in IFGTB/ICFRE Websites
- Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests , Research highlighted issue on Sandal wood regeneration and heartwood formation and the need to undertake study on *Chukrisia tabularis*.
- Study on *Bridela retusa* is being taken up by TNFD and it was requested that IFGTB to provide inputs/support
- Information on suitable Casuarina clones for raising shelter belt in farmers land if available, with IFGTB to be shared with TNFD. It was informed that research work on this line is presently being undertaken by IFGTB and the findings will be shared with TNFD.
- Additional PCCF Research also mentioned about exchange of JRFs and use of Lab facilities and training to JRFs of TNFD. Director informed that there was no problem regarding this and training has been conducted by IFGTB for JRFs of Forest Department and informed that it will continue

- More collaborative projects with TNFD should be taken up. Director informed that about the projects submitted under Bio-remediation for approval to Forest Department, and more such projects will be sent for approval.
- Training on laying out of Orchards to be given to TNFD official to impress upon proper layouts/ planting male/female ratios, for increasing productivity of Orchards.
- Discussion on gall problem, gall resistance clones and present status of gall infestation in general and in particular in TAFORN areas were discussed.
- Discussion on Mangrove and its regeneration and *Canarium strictum* was briefed by the IFGTB by Dr. B. Nagarjan
- Training organized by IFGTB on Clonal Forestry during 2010-12, and trainings to be organized during 2011-12, was highlighted by Dr. K.Palanisamy, HoD, Seed Technology Division.
- Productivity of SPAs of TNFD was discussed, and it was informed that in areas like Topslip the age of trees was 70-80 years and hence seed production will be low in future. Dr. K. Palanisamy also suggested that TNFD should identify new SPA of teak at the age of 30-35 years for getting quality seed for planting programme.
- It was requested that details of experimental sites and nurseries maintained by TNFD and the Annual Report send to IFGTB, so that scientist can visit the plots and plan for new projects.
- The role of TNFD in FGRMN was also highlighted by the director

The following requests were made by TNFD to IFGTB:

- a) TNFD – requires quality seeds – IFGTB to help in identifying seed stands
- b) Protocols for Clonal Plants especially Timber species.
- c) Sharing of information on Agroforestry models
- d) Sharing of information on wood-based industries.
- e) Training on Silvicultural practices, especially for staff of Extension wing primarily on TCPL species
- f) Training to JRFs of TNFD

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, assured that TNFD will give necessary support to IFGTB in all its research activities, as required. The Director concluded the workshop by assuring the Principal

Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, that all the issues highlighted during the interactive meet will be taken note of and IFGTB will extend all co-operation to TNFD, by sharing its research findings and taking up research on issues of Research importance to TNFD.

The Director thanked the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests , Research, Chief Conservator of Forests, Extension and all Officers and Scientists for participating in the Stake Holders Meet.

(N.Krishnakumar)
Director