Dear Colleague,

ICFRE has undertaken many initiatives during the last two years with a view to improve its performance and make it more relevant at the national level. These initiatives cover various scientific, administrative and managerial areas. I would like to apprise you of some of the important initiatives.

The recommendations of 7th Pay Commission have been adopted by the Council as a result of which the salary structure of the employees has improved substantially. This benefit has been extended to the scientific, ministerial, executive and technical cadres and the recruitment rules of these cadres have been revised with a view to bring more efficiency and accountability in the system. With a view to have holistic research, All India Coordinated Projects have been formulated. The vision, mission and objectives of ICFRE and mandates of various institutes have been revised with a view to improve Council’s performance related to contemporary issues. Similarly, the divisions in various institutes have been restructured. "Prakriti" – A scientist-student connect programme, has been initiated in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas.

Collaboration with various national and international organizations has been initiated. The convocation of FRI Deemed University was held after a gap of ten years and the next convocation will be organized this year. A large number of important events including Commonwealth Forestry Conference, World Environment Day, International Biological Diversity Conference, International Yoga Day, International Day of Forests etc. have been
organized by the Council. Recently, a scheme "Strengthening Forestry Research for Ecological Sustainability and Productivity Enhancement" has been approved by the executive committee of National CAF Authority with an outlay of Rs. 313 crore for five years and formal government orders are expected soon. This will enable the Council to undertake its research, extension and education programmes at a much higher level. In a significant development, Government of India has now agreed to fund the pensionary liability of Government optee employees thus ensuring uninterrupted pension to them in future.

While lot of new programmes have been initiated, it goes without saying that all the employees of the Council have to take higher responsibilities and rise up to the expectations of the forestry sector in the country and address the problems related to forest conservation and management. I request each one of you to pledge your best efforts in raising the performance of the Council to the expectations of the government and the people.

(Dr. Suresh Gairola)
Director General

To,

All ICFRE Employees.