

# **Minutes of the meeting held under the chairmanship of DG ICFRE with Directors on “Review of Research”**

**Venue: Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**

**Dated : 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, a meeting on review of research work undertaken by ICFRE Institutes was held under the chairmanship of Shri Arun Bansal, Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education.

The following were present :

1. Sh. A.K. Bansal	Director General ICFRE
2. Dr. G.S. Rawat	DDG (Research), ICFRE
3. Sh. M.S. Garbyal	DDG (Administration), ICFRE
4. Sh. Omkar Singh	DDG (Education), ICFRE
5. Dr. Rabindra Kumar	DDG (Extension), ICFRE
6. Sh. Sandeep Tripathi	Director (Research), ICFRE
7. Dr. S.S. Negi	Director, FRI Dehradun
8. Dr T.S Rathore	Director, AFRI, Jodhpur
9. Sh. Mohinder Pal	Director, HFRI, Shimla
10. Sh. S.C Joshi	Director IWST, Bangalore
11. Dr. N. Krishna Kumar	Director, IFGTB, Coimbatore.
12. Dr.N.K. Vasu	Director, RFRI, Jorhat.
13. Dr. M.S. Negi	Director, TFRI, Jabalpur
14. Sh. Rameshwar Das	Director, IFP, Ranchi.
15. Sh. Ashish Rawat	ADG (RP) ICFRE
16. Sh. M.P. Singh	ADG (M&E), ICFRE
17. Dr. Renu Singh	Head, BCC, ICFRE

At the beginning of the meeting, DG ICFRE welcomed all and re-emphasized that ICFRE research activities should be consistent with the following:

1. Advancement of Forestry Science
2. Relevance to the Society
3. Needs of stakeholders of forestry research including SFDs, Forest based industries, JFM etc.

DG ICFRE further highlighted the following main issues of national importance for forestry research:

1. Forest Resource Valuation
2. Import Substitution
3. Increasing exports
4. Vulnerability – climate change
5. Joint Forest Management – Sustainability for effective governance.

He also observed that more effective efforts are necessary for extension of research outcomes to target groups through involvement of SFDs, tree growers, and other primary stakeholders. He also underlined the need for networking among the ICFRE Institutes and also with sister research organizations including ICAR, Universities, IISc, IPIRTI.

The Directors of all ICFRE institute made detailed presentations on the research works taken up by the respective Institutes. After day long deliberations, the following points were agreed upon:

- All Institutes with the help of Directorate of Extension will compile the successful Agro Forestry Models developed in the ICFRE system, in one month and inform DG, ICFRE for its publication in suitable form.
- All India Coordinated Projects will be evolved on topics on national importance in which all ICFRE institutes will be associated. The doable project will be taken up without waiting for additional funding.
- Arid Forest Research Institute will take up projects catering to the needs of wooden Toy Industry in Rajasthan, considering its exports, in collaboration with IWST and FRI.
- FP and Director Research will look into legal, policy issues of promoting Industrial processing of Poplar widely planted under Bihar Project funded by Planning Commission.
- RFRI will quickly increase number of bamboo species of N-East, and then from other regions in the Bambusatium established by it.
- Mandate of ICFRE Centers will be relooked into by the DDG (Admn) along with Secretary ICFRE and a clear guidelines are to be issued, in the light of the concerns expressed by the directors - whether these centers are independent or these are administratively and financially work under the respective Institute.
- **Preservation Plots** – All institutes where evaluation studies have been done will send their reports to the BCC Division, ICFRE for their analysis, and evolving relevant information from the evaluations, and also plan for evaluations in other states/regions. Directors Bangalore, TFRI, and FRI informed told that their institutes have carried out such evaluations studies regarding preservation plots.
- Evolving strategy for making Technology / Research Findings available on website for wider dissemination.
- Quarterly progress review system needs a relook for making it meaningful.
- Each Institute should prepare a “Master plan of Infrastructure and Equipment” in order to develop its Core Competencies to evolve into a center of excellence in next five years.
- IWST may develop projects Life Cycle Analysis of wood products – (wood replacement with iron, plastics??).
- Directorate of Education and Institutes will develop annual Calendar of Workshops in the council and preparations including the approval etc should be taken well in advance for holding of workshops.
- Institutes with support of Director (research) should also endeavor to develop Concept notes and projects for International funding, and also leveraging funds from National Organizations.
- TFRI need to work on Sustainable harvesting of selected priority NTFPs.
- DG ICFRE emphasized that as the foremost requirement a more comprehensive career planning should be developed as part of HRD plan in ICFRE, for all researchers in ICFRE for enhancing competency and quality achievements in the council. For this areas for improvement should be identified.
- All projects related with climate change should be developed as per the guideline to be circulated by BCC division and in consultations with the BCC division with a view to develop a uniform approach on the issue of Climate change.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.