## **Empowering Private tissue culture laboratories in QPM production**

The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, had entered into MoU with three commercial tissue culture laboratories - Labland Biotech, Mysore; HU Gugle Biotech, Bengaluru and Santhi Clonal Nursery, Cuddalore for commercial production of identified superior performers of teak through tissue culture. The MoUs were signed during an international webinar on Advancements in Teak Cultivation: Genetic Resources & Technologies held on 16 July 2021.

As part of the commercialisation process, the staffs of tissue culture lab of IFGTB, comprising Mrs Mahalakshmi, Technical Officer, Ms Kalaiselvi, Research Scholar, Ms Sathiya, Technical Assistant, Ms Chitra, Support Staff imparted hands-on training to seven lab personnel of the three labs from 10 to 12 August 2021. The various modules included media preparation, selection of explants and culture procedures including primary and secondary hardening of plants, weaning and acclimation of plantlets for establishment in the soil. *Ex vitro* rooting procedures were explained by Mrs K Shanthi, Chief Technical Officer and practical training was imparted by Mr Rajesh, Technical Assistant, Ms Anbuchelvi, Support staff.

IFGTB provided the laboratories with stock cultures of clones of teak for handling in their respective laboratories. IFGTB would monitor the production every month, and regular quality checks will be performed. The MoA entails the QPM production by the private labs and buy back by IFGTB.











