

Preface

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) has been engaged in forestry research, education and extension since its inception in 1986. With the passage of time research needs and priorities have significantly changed. The Council has been constantly adapting itself to address diverse issues of local and national importance.

Besides, it has endeavoured to strengthen the capacity of national and state institutes to plan and undertake forestry research programmes and extend the research findings and technologies developed to end users. It is also engaged in improving the system of forestry education in academic institutions.

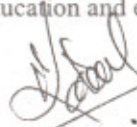
Over the years, the Council has improved its infrastructure to diversify and enhance the quality of research. Modernization of Library and Information system has given ready and speedy access to the relevant literature facilitating improvement in research quality. To assist the policy analysis and planning process, the statistical service created at ICFRE has been publishing reports in association with State Forest Departments and the policy makers in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

To improve the quality of forestry education, development of curricula and material for inclusion in schools and colleges with emphasis on the importance of sustainable use of forest resources has been undertaken. In addition, financial assistance to the tune of Rs.200 lakhs has been granted to various universities in the country to strengthen their forestry education infrastructure. The Deemed University under ICFRE has provisionally awarded 40 Ph.D. degrees during 1999-2000.

Forestry extension has been given due importance in the scheme of things. 23 projects relating to tested technologies were sanctioned under extension support fund and 5 satellite technology demonstration extension Centers have been established. The research extension linkages have been developed with all State Forest Departments and 25 private organizations.

Extension material like brochures, bulletins, annual reports, books, monographs, leaflets, and video films are being produced and disseminated as a part of public awareness programme. ICFRE has launched its own Web site globally accessible at <http://www.icfre.up.nic.in>. The home page contains a host of information. A number of cross-links have been provided to other significant institutions/references.

It is my privilege and pleasure to lead this council. I am confident that the team of dedicated scientists and officers of ICFRE will attain the greater heights in forestry research, education and extension.



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