'CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME'

18th-20th February, 2014

A Three Day Training cum awareness programme on 'Capacity Building Programme' for the Frontline Staff of the HP State Forest Department was held at the Sairopa Community Training Complex of GHNP, Kullu from the 18th-20th February, 2014. Around 60 staff members from the Forest Divisions of Parvati, Kullu and Seraj under Kullu Forest Circle, besides the field staff of Great Himalayan National Park, Shamshi (Kullu) and staff of the HP Forest Publicity Division, Shimla actively participated in this programme.



The training programme was organised by the Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Panthaghati, Shimla under the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) Funded project being implemented by the research wing of the State Forest department in technical collaboration with HFRI, Shimla, the regional institute of Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Dehra Dun.

On the first day Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla, Coordinator for the programme briefed the participants about the three day training programme. Dr. Jishtu started the training with a detailed presentation on the Herbarium Methods and the basics in Field Identification of plants in the present dayøs

context. Thereafter, during the post lunch session, the trainees were given practical hands on training on the collection of plants and herbaria preparation in the field.

The second day Dr. S.S Samant, Scientist Incharge of GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Studies, Mohal provided a meaningful presentation on the role of biodiversity, with special reference to the NW Himalayas. Later, Sh. B.S. Rana, Director, Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) gave a presentation on the effective role of -Need of Group Patrollingø for effective protection of the forest wealth. He stressed upon the young forest guards to stand up to the new challenges being faced in conserving the forests of the region. A presentation by Dr. Amit Rana, from the GIS Cell of the Forest department at Mist Chamber, Shimla focussed on the modern concepts in forestry. The presentation provided basic information on the role of GIS in relation to forests. Resource persons from the Forest Publicity Division, Shimla interacted on the greater role of publicity in creating positive awareness among the rural society.

The third day began with a presentation by Dr. Joginder from HFRI, Shimla who provided important information on the *i*Role of International Organisations in the field of forestryø Thereafter, there was an interesting presentation from EduCARE India on Community based reforestation programmes delivered by Thomas Andrieu, their volunteer from France. Other members from the group who actively participated in the discussions included B.S. Bhullar, Viktoria Schiller from Germany, Rachael Donovan from Australia and Igor Cottin from France. Later in the afternoon session, the participants were given practical inputs in the field on GPS by Amit Rana and Rajneesh Kumar from the GIS Cell of the Forest Department, Shimla.

Other resource persons included Dr. Jagdish and Vijender Panwar, Scientists from HFRI, who talked on the role of *Antercropping* of medicinal plants with horticultural cropsø for income augmentation and *According Georeferencing* of Samplesø respectively.

At the end, Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, thanked all the participants for participating in the above programme and apprized that the main motive of organizing these types of events is to make the field staff, especially in far flung areas, aware about the present day issues concerning forestry, environment, ecology and other related issues.



SNAPSHOTS OF THE TRAINING

