## Sandal Training for Farmers in Collaboration with Forest Department

A training programme for farmers in and around Hunsur taluk of Mysore district, Karnataka was organized on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2013. The training programme was done jointly by Forest Department, Karnataka and Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore with the assistance of Central Tobacco Research Institute, Hunsur.

A total of 40 farmers from in and around Mysore district attended the training. Field staff of Hunsur division also attended the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Shri. M.Srinivasa Rao, I.F.S, Shri. Vijay Kumar, DFO Hunsur, Dr.M.Mahadevaswamy, Senior Scientist, CTRI, Hunsur and S.S. Gowda, Progressive Farmer (involved in sandal cultivation). Information on propagation, nursery practices, agro-forestry models for sandal cultivation, pests and disease management of sandal, chemistry and utilisation of sandal, marketing and protection of Sandal etc was given to the farmers. The farmers showed keen interest on nursery and propagation, pest and disease management, marketing and protection of sandal cultivated.

A very positive feed back was received from the participants. Important among them includes, telecasting information on sandal cultivation on television, provide more such information on sandal cultivation to farmers across the state, conducting demonstration in the field, providing more information on protection aspects, initiative of forest department in marketing and protection, information on subsidies if any provided by Government departments etc. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. P. V. Somashkar.







