

**Note on Webinar on Urban Forestry organized by IFGTB  
under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**

The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore organized **Webinar on “Urban Forestry”** for teachers / students / scholars of research and educational institutions and volunteers of NGOs who are associated in tree planting programmes on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The webinar was organized under *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* to commemorate 75 years of Independence of India. The main aim of this webinar was to deliberate on choice of trees for urban forestry and discuss future strategies for the success of urban tree planting and to enhance potential of urban forestry to abate pollution and to improve quality of the urban environment. About 250 participants attended the training programme. Shri. G. Rajesh, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest & Head, Extension Division, IFGTB welcomed the participants and also gave a brief introduction about the Webinar. He informed that Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehra Dun is conducting various training and awareness programmes under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to commemorate 75 years of Independence of India. In this series of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav programme of ICFRE, this webinar has been organized. Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Director, IFGTB delivered the felicitation address. The Chief guest was Sh. Raja Gopal Sunkara, I.A.S., Commissioner of Coimbatore Corporation and delivered the inaugural address. The resource persons were i) Dr. A. Balasubramanian, Professor, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, ii) Ms. Vinny R. Peter, Secretary, Centre for Urban Biodiversity Conservation and Education – CUBE, Coimbatore and iii) Sh. A. Mayavel, Scientist-D, IFGTB, Coimbatore. Before the start of technical session, Screened the IFGTB documentary film on “Walking tall with trees”. The topics covered were species selection and management of urban forestry, Avenue Planting techniques and IFGTBs initiatives in avenue planting and role of NGOs in urban greening. In Panel discussion, firstly, Dr. A. Muthukumar, Scientist, IWST, Bangalore shared his views in selection of species in urban greening programmes and issues observed in relation to urban forestry in Bangalore. Secondly, Sh. Sivaraman, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Puducherry impressed upon the importance of selection of right species in urban greening. Dr. C. Buvaneswaran, Scientist-F and Webinar Coordinator proposed the vote of thanks.

