



INSTITUTE OF FOREST PRODUCTIVITY
(INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION)
RANCHI



**One day Online Training on ' Seed Ball Technology developed by ICFRE'
For
Forest Officials of West Bengal and Bihar State Forest Department
Date: 02-07-2021**

An online training programme on Seed Ball Technology developed by ICFRE' was organized by Institute of Forest Productivity on 02/07/2021. In the introductory session Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra, training coordinator, briefed about the significance of Seed Ball Technology and its utility for greening the inaccessible areas which will ultimately be beneficial for increasing the total forest cover. He informed the house about the little efforts initiated by the SFD Bihar but due to some biotic factors this could not be successful. He shared with all the participants that SFDs of the jurisdiction states of IFP will be implementing agencies under supervision of the institute. Further he stated that before its implementation in the field condition, the technique developed by IFGTB Coimbatore will be demonstrated for creating awareness among the forest officials of the states. During inauguration Dr. N. Kulkarni, Director, IFP explained about the expectations of the MoEF & CC Government of India regarding the need for training for greening the country through some innovative ideas and concepts. He said that the Government of India has given the responsibility of establishment of Seed Ball Technology to the Indian Council of Forestry and Education Dehradun through its regional institutes like Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi in eastern India. Under this scheme, the Institute has become the central agency to assess the success of this technology in West Bengal and Bihar and this training is a part of this programme. He said that this technology is not new but the data of its success or failure is not available as in case of Bihar. This technology may be useful for remote areas and the areas severely affected due to mining. Before deciding the government application, it has to be ensured by collecting the data of this technique with the cooperation of various forest departments that how long this technology is worth. He discussed in detail about the use and success of Seed Ball Technology in various forest divisions of Madhya Pradesh. He said that with the help of this technology, we can contribute to forest growth by planting saplings in mountainous hills, dry areas, moist areas and mining-prone areas.

During the technical session Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra demonstrated the success of the technique of Seed Ball through the videos obtained from Madhya Pradesh Forest Department. He demonstrated the method for preparation of seed ball using mixture of different

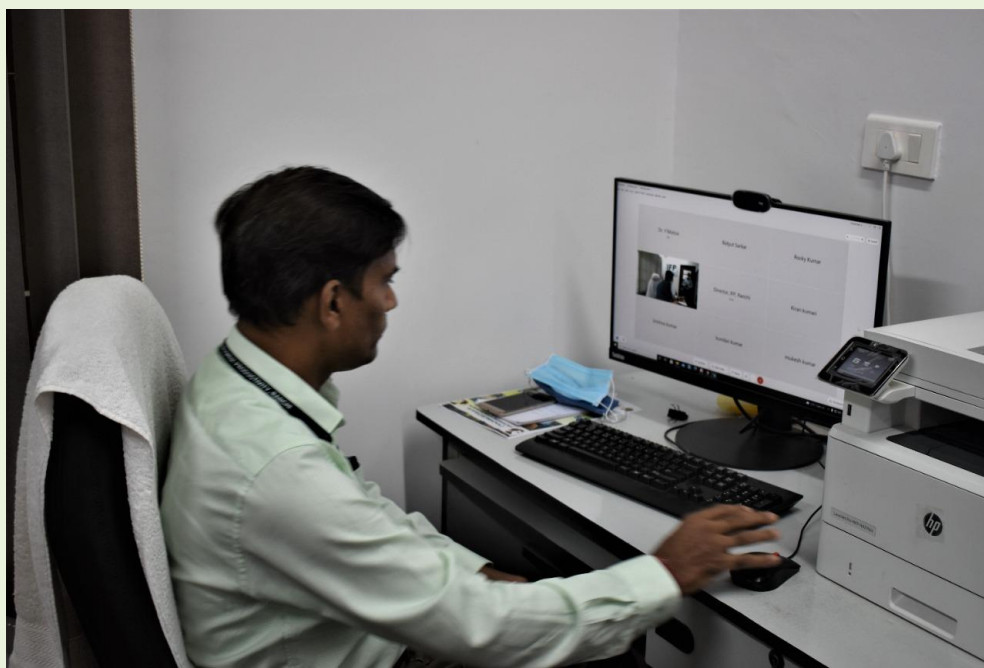
ingredients (soil, sand, FYM, neem powder, trichoderma etc. He explained about the method of seed collection and pretreatment for making seed ball and its planting in the different areas and collection of the data for its evaluation. He told that 70-80 seed balls can be prepared from 1.2 kg of the mixture and for planting 5 hectare 14 kg of mixture is required. He urged to give priority to collecting the seeds of local species preferably RET species.

After the deliberations, the queries raised by the participants were replied by the coordinator. Shri Debganshu Mullick CCF (Research) enquired about the difference between seed ball implantation and normal plantation since the operations like hoeing, dibbling will also be practiced in seed ball too. Dr. Mishra replied that dibbling and hoeing will not be done intensively as in case of normal plantation which generally includes pit digging and planting saplings. Most of the trainees had the common queries about design of experiment and arrangement of seeds of different species to be used in seeds ball technique. Dr. Mishra replied that the species combination in one grid will be same including control. The species combination may be different for next grid keeping 4 numbers of seed in a single seeds ball. The design of experiment was also discussed in detail.

Shri Debganshu Mullick CCF (Research) requested that the technical experts from IFP would present the at time of execution/implementation for demonstration. Dr. N. Kulkarni ensured team from IFP will definitely present as requested by Shri Mullick, the institute can also arrange more training programme on the topic if need arises. The meeting was ended with the vote of thanks to Shri D. Mullick CCF (Research), Shri B. Sarkar CF (Research) and all the participants and the team of extension division for successful completion of the programme.



Online deliberation by Dr. N.Kulkarni, Director IFP Ranchi



Online training on seed ball by Dr. Y. Mishra