



Visit of officials from RFRI to Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim

Dr. R.K. Borah, Director, RFRI, Jorhat and Dr. Karma Gyalpo Bhutia, Scientist of RFRI visited the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim during 27th and 28th July, 2022 for the introduction of agar in Sikkim as requested by the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim. During the visit, a meeting was held at the conference hall of the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim where APCCF, Director (KNP & NTFP), Joint Director (NTFP), Joint Director (Research), DFO (NTFP) and other officials from State Forest Department were present. The officials from State Forest Department welcomed Director, RFRI and Dr. Karma with khadhas. Thereafter, the Director, RFRI delivered a presentation on a brief overview of RFRI and its activities, and then a detailed presentation on agarwood research during the meeting. Further, Director, RFRI also discussed regarding the establishment of VVK in Sikkim and signing of a MoU between the RFRI and the State Forest Department for the collaborative research with the APCCF and other officials.

Director, RFRI and Dr. Karma also met with the Hon'ble Minister of Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim, Shri Karma Lodey Bhutia during the visit and had a discussion with him regarding the introduction of agar, establishment of VVK in Sikkim and signing of a MoU between the RFRI and the State Forest Department for the collaborative research. This was followed by the plantation of agar seedlings in three different locations namely; Bagey Khola Nursery in East Sikkim District, Nayabazar in Soreng District and Bari Khola in South Sikkim District. The officials from RFRI and State Forest Department also visited BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok during the visit and met with the Head of Office and scientists of the centre. Dr. Rajib Gogoi, Scientist-E, Head of Office, BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok welcomed the officials with khadhas and mementoes, and briefed them about the regional centre and its activities. The Director, RFRI and Head of Office, BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok also discussed upon collaboration for research activities between RFRI and BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre.

Glimpses of the Visit



Interaction with officials of State Forest Department



Presentation by Director, RFRI



Meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim, Shri Karma Lodey Bhutia



Planting of agar trees



Visit to BSI, Sikkim Himalayan Regional Centre, Gangtok