

21 Days GSDP training course on `Value Addition and Marketing of NTFP /medicinal plants' inaugurated at FRI, Dehradun

A 21-days certificate course on `Value Addition and Marketing of Non-Timber Forest Produce/ Medicinal plants' was organized by Non Timber Forest Produce Discipline, Silviculture and Forest Management Division at Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. An enthusiastic group of 20 participants from all over India participated in this training programme.

The course is being conducted under Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP), sponsored by Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, New Delhi with an objective to grow skills in NTFP /medicinal plant cultivation, harvesting, processing, value addition and marketing. The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Aarti Chaudhary (I.F.S.), Head, Silviculture and Forest Management Division, F.R.I., who welcomed the guests and participants of the training. Appreciating the heterogenous group of participants, she highlighted various opportunities of NTFP sector. She also assured full technical guidance from the Institute to the participants.

Dr. Santhan Barthwal, Scientist F, ENVIS Coordinator addressed the participants about the goal of the Green Skill Development Program (GSDP). He encouraged the participants to pursue their interests in NTFPs during this holistic GSDP certificate programme.

Course Coordinator, Dr. Mala Rathore, Scientist-E, NTFP Discipline, spoke about detailed training programme and briefed about various classroom lectures and field visits during the course. Dr. Vineet Kumar, Head, Chemistry & Bioprospecting Division, highlighted the importance of aromatic plants. Registrar, FRI, Heads of different Divisions and Officers and scientists of Silviculture & Forest Management Division were also present in the inaugural session. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. B.P. Tamta, Scientist- E, and NTFP Discipline. Ms. Shivani Soni anchored the whole programme.

