



ICFRE-RFRI



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NEWSLETTER

VOL 2, ISSUE 3

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ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI) is one of the nine Research Institutes of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) which is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and is premier research organization in the National Forestry Research System.

The institute along with its two satellite centres- ICFRE Bamboo and Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl and ICFRE-Livelihood Extension Centre (ICFRE-LEC), Agartala has established themselves as a major centre for research on forestry & ecology related issues to extend knowledge through research, education and extension in general and to support forestry research in North Eastern states.

I take pride on this momentous occasion unveiling the 7th issue (April-June, 2025) of the ICFRE-RFRI, newsletter showcasing different research activities, events organized, participated, publications made during this period of ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat.

This quarter marked significant achievements at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, including the **inauguration of the Bamboo Museum and Interpretation Centre by the Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun**. Major R& D milestones include- in vitro germination of *Magnolia champaca*, transcriptome sequencing of bamboo, and development of herbal wound-healing gels, documentation of 74 macrofungal and 10 bamboo species and PGPR and *Trichoderma* applications. Key collaborations, including an MoU with NIPER-Guwahati, and capacity building programmes further strengthened ICFRE-RFR's research and outreach.

I hope that the ICFRE-RFRI Newsletter will serve as a beacon of information on the institutional research and extension activities and will be helpful for researchers, stakeholders and policy planners concerned with forestry research.

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni
Director, ICFRE-RFRI, JORHAT

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Anatomical Characterization of Selected Bamboo Species under CAMPA-AICRP 02 (Component 5b)

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat conducted anatomical characterization of five bamboo species- *Guadua angustifolia*, *Bambusa cacharensis*, *Schizostachyum dulloo*, *Bambusa pallida*, and *Schizostachyum pergracile*- under the CAMPA-AICRP 02 (Component 5b) project. Bamboo culm samples were processed to obtain both longitudinal and cross-sectional sections for microscopic examination.

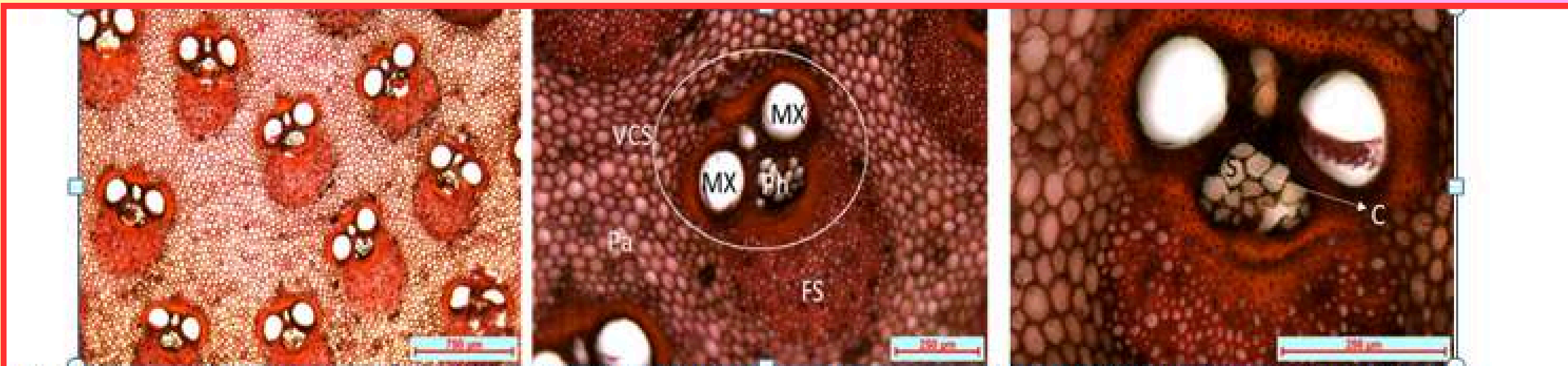


Photo a-c: Anatomical features of vascular bundles in cross-section of *Guadua angustifolia* culm

74 Macrofungal Species Documented from Lower Subansiri

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat documented a total of 74 species of macrofungi from Lower Subansiri district, Arunachal Pradesh under the project “Studies on Ecological and Ethnomycological Aspects of Macrofungi of Lower Subansiri, Arunachal Pradesh.”



Photo a & b : *Lentinus sajor-caju* and *Amanita* sp.

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Enumeration, Selection and Collection of Candidate Plus Clumps (CPCs) of Priority Bamboo Species in Northeast India

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat conducted extensive field surveys across Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland under the project CAMPA-AICRP-02 (Component-1, Sub-component 1A) to enumerate, select, and collect Candidate Plus Clumps (CPCs) of important bamboo species including *Bambusa balcooa*, *Bambusa tulda*, *Bambusa cacharensis*, *Bambusa nutans*, and *Bambusa pallida*. Out of 451 enumerated CPCs, 132 were selected as plus clumps based on superior traits. From these, 99 plus clumps were collected across the surveyed states. Additionally, rhizomes of selected CPCs of *Bambusa balcooa*, *B. tulda*, *B. pallida* were collected and planted at two sites within ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat for the establishment of a rhizome bank, aimed at future propagation and conservation efforts.



Photo: Rhizomes of selected CPCs of *Bambusa balcooa*, *Bambusa tulda*, *Bambusa nutans* and *Bambusa pallida* at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Optimized Vegetative Propagation Protocol for *Schizostachyum dulloo* and Mass Multiplication of Selected Bamboo CPCs



Photo a&b: Macropropagated propagules of *Schizostachyum dulloo*

Under the prospect CAMPA-AICRP-02 (Component 1, Sub-Component 1B), ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat successfully developed an effective vegetative propagation technique for *Schizostachyum dulloo*. The study revealed that treating culm cuttings significantly improved rooting and survival rates. This method is suitable for large-scale cultivation of *S. dulloo*. Additionally, more than 700 healthy plantlets were produced from eight selected **Candidate Plus Clumps (CPCs)** of *Bambusa balcooa*, *Bambusa cacharensis*, and *Schizostachyum dulloo* for dissemination to end users, promoting quality planting material and sustainable bamboo cultivation in the region.

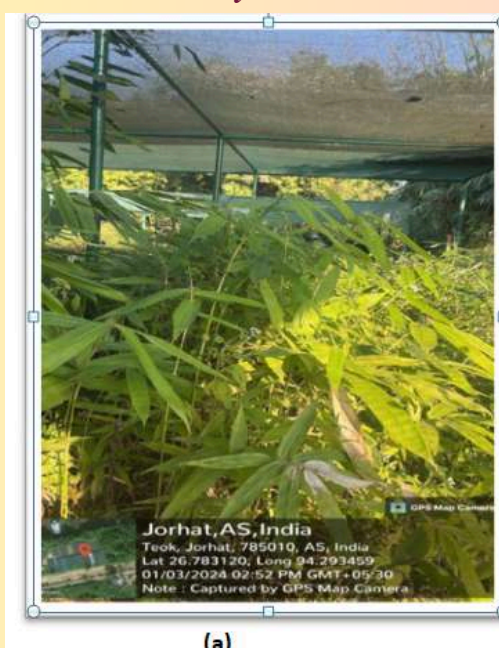


Photo a-e: (a) Improved planting stock raised from culm cuttings, (b) Root cutting, (b) © Splitted plantlets, (d) & (e) Transplantation of splitted plantlets

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

in Vitro Germination of *Magnolia champaca*



Photo 1a,b&c: Fruits and Germination of *M. champaca* seeds

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat successfully achieved in vitro germination of mature seeds of *Magnolia champaca* under the CAMPA-funded FGR Project: Component-B (FGR Seed and Germplasm Storage), Sub-component-3 (In vitro germplasm storage). Fruits were collected at various maturity stages, and in vitro techniques were employed to initiate germination for conservation and future propagation.

Callus Structure Stage of *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* achieved via Somatic Embryogenesis

Photo a&b : Callus of *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat successfully derived the callus structure stage of *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* through somatic embryogenesis under the CAMPA-funded FGR Project: Component-B (FGR Seed and Germplasm storage), Sub-component-3 (In vitro germplasm storage).



Photo 2a&b: Callus of *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

10 BAMBOO SPECIES DOCUMENTED BY ICFRE-RFRI UNDER RESOURCE MAPPING IN ASSAM

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat recorded 10 bamboo species- *Bambusa tulda*, *B. balcoa*, *B. nutans*, *B. assamica*, *B. bambos*, *B. pallida*, *B. garuchokua*, *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*, *Oxytenanthera parviflora*, and *Melocanna baccifera*- from Dhuburi, South Salmara, Barpeta, and Bongaigaon districts of Assam during June, 2025. This documentation is part of the ongoing consultancy project “Assessment of Bamboo Resource Mapping in the State of Assam” funded by North Eastern Development Finance Cooperation Ltd. (NEDFi), Guwahati.



Photo : Some glimpses during survey of bamboo

Mass Multiplication of *Trichoderma* sp. for Root Management in *Castanopsis indica*

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully carried out mass multiplication of *Trichoderma* species for the biological management of root rot disease in *Castanopsis indica*, caused by *Phellinus igniarius*, at Soreng, West Sikkim. This disease management initiative is being implemented with financial support from the State Forest Department, Sikkim.



Photo : Mass multiplication of *Trichoderma* sp.

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

PGPR Preparation and Field Application by ICFRE-RFRI for Meghalaya Forest Department

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, Assam successfully prepared 150 litres of **Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR)** for the Meghalaya Forest Department. In addition, the Institute actively supported field application of PGPR in collaboration with local field workers. This assignment was carried out under the financial support of the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA).



Photo a & b : Preparation of PGPR & Field demonstration of PGPR application

In Vitro Culture Initiated for Multiple Tree Species under CAMPA-FGR Project

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, Assam has initiated in vitro cultures of several important and region-specific tree species under the CAMPA-FGR Project (Component-B: FGR Seed and Germplasm Storage,” Sub-component-3: “In vitro germplasm storage”). The species include *Cinnamomum tamala*, *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, *Ilex khasiana*, *Litsea cubeba*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Magnolia punduana*, *Shorea assamica*, *Morus laevigata*, *Phoebe goalparensis*, and *Prunus jenkinsii*.



Photo a: *Cinnamomum tamala*, b: *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, c: *Ilex khasiana*, d: *Litsea cubeba*, e: *Shorea assamica*, f: *Magnolia champaca*, g: *Magnolia punduana*, h: *Morus laevigata*, i: *Phoebe goalparensis*, j: *Prunus jenkinsii*



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SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Transcriptome Sequencing and Primer Designing Completed for Bamboo Species

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully completed transcriptome sequencing and primer designing for phylogenetic analysis in selected important bamboo species under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Bamboo. This was followed by successful PCR amplification.

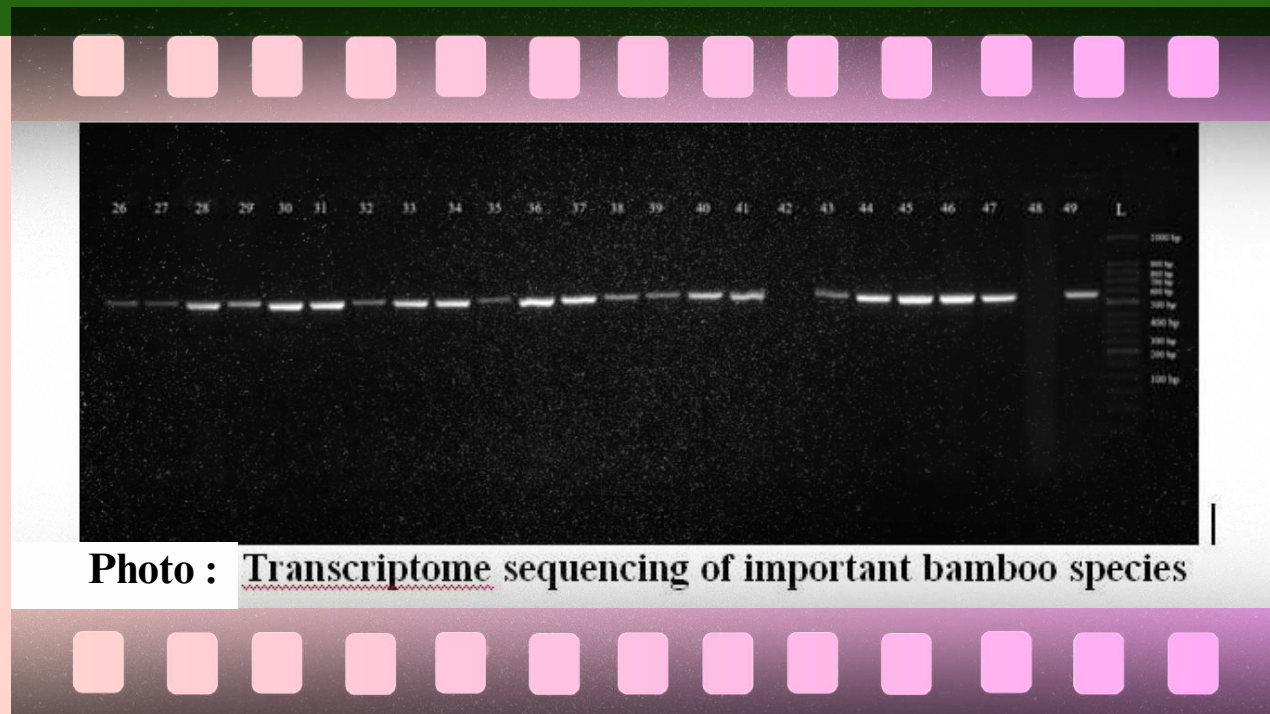


Photo : Transcriptome sequencing of important bamboo species

Callus Culture and Molecular Characterization achieved for Tree Species under FGR Programme

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully developed callus culture for *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* and completed transcriptomic sequence analysis followed by the development of SSR primers for *Pinus wallichiana* under the project “National Programme for Conservation & Development of Forest Genetic Resources.”



Photo : Callus cultures for the species *Dipterocarpus terminatus*



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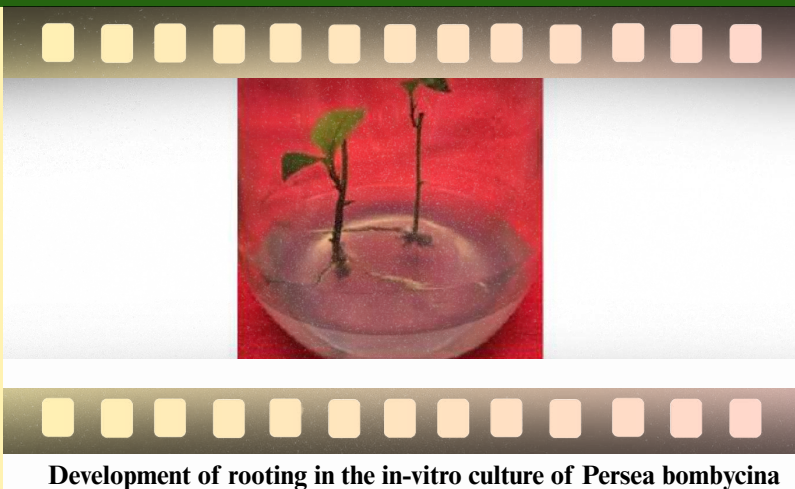
SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

CPT Selection and Growth Parameter Recording of *Phoebe bootanica* Completed in Arunachal Pradesh

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat successfully selected **Candidate Plus Trees (CPTs)** of *Phoebe bootanica* and recorded key growth parameters such as girth at breast height (GBH), clear bole height, presence of buttresses, and other morphological traits. This work was carried out in the state of Arunachal Pradesh under Phase-I of the project “Genetic Improvement of *Phoebe bootanica*.”



In Vitro Rooting Achieved in *Persea bombyciana*



Development of rooting in the in-vitro culture of *Persea bombyciana*

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully developed rooting in in-vitro cultures of *Persea bombyciana* under the project “**Micropropagation of *Persea bombyciana*- A Primary Muga Silkworm Food Plant.**”

Bamboo Species with Low Cyanide Content Identified Across Agroclimatic Zones

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat conducted a study across six agroclimatic sub-zones of Northeast India to assess the **Total Cyanide Content (TCC)** in edible bamboo shoots. The study focused on five bamboo species- *Bambusa balcoa*, *Dendrocalamus hamiltonni*, *Bambusa tulda*, *Bambusa bambos*, and *Melocanna baccifera*. Among these, *Bambusa balcoa* and *Dendrocalamus hamiltonni* exhibited the lowest TCC levels along with antioxidant activity. Additionally, their high antioxidant activity further enhances their suitability as a diet resource, highlight the ecological and nutritional importance of these bamboo species, which widely recognized for edible shoot production in Northeast India.



Photo : Market survey and interaction with locals

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

ICFRE-RFRI Develops two Herbal Wound Healing Gels with Proven Efficacy



Photo : Herbal Wound Healing Gel

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully formulated two herbal wound healing gels using bark extracts from natural plant products. The efficacy of these formulations was evaluated using an excision wound model in Wistar rats. The results demonstrated significant effectiveness, with the gels accelerating all critical phases of the wound healing process- namely inflammation, proliferation, and tissue remodeling.

Seed Leaflets Developed and FGR Seeds Deposited under CAMPA-FGR Project

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has developed seed leaflets of ten economically important tree species of Northeast India under the CAMPA-Forest Genetic Resources (FGR) project. These leaflets are aimed at disseminating practical seed technology knowledge to various stakeholders including forest officials, farmers, and nurserymen. In addition, the Institute assessed seed storage behavior of different forestry species, and seeds of 39 Forest Genetic Resources species have been successfully deposited at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi for long-term conservation and storage.

Bamboo Flowering Database Developed for North East India

ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat has successfully developed a comprehensive **Bamboo Flowering Database for the Northeastern region of India** under the CAMPA-AICRP-02 (Component 6c) project. The database compiles valuable secondary information on the flowering patterns of 40 bamboo species found across the region. In addition to historical data, the Institute also gathered and documented recent bamboo flowering events occurring between 2020 and 2025. This initiative is expected to support researchers, forest managers, and policymakers in understanding flowering cycles, planning for regeneration, and addressing ecological and socio-economic implications linked with bamboo flowering in the Northeast.

Assessment of Seed Viability in *Bambusa bambos* under Controlled and Ambient Storage Conditions

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat successfully stored the seeds of *Bambusa bambos* for 12 months at 7% moisture content under medium-term storage conditions (4°C and 35% relative humidity). However, seeds lost viability after four months of storage under ambient conditions. The experiment was conducted under the project CAMPA AICRP-02 (Component 6a) to evaluate the optimal storage conditions for seed longevity and conservation of important bamboo genetic resources.



SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Development and Dissemination of Seed Technology for Economically Important Species in Northeast India

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully developed the seed technology for 14 economically important species native to Northeast India under the project CAMPA-AICRP 10. The Institute is actively engaged in disseminating these research findings to a wide array of stakeholders, including frontline forest staff, farmers, and other beneficiaries, through targeted training programmes and the publication of seed leaflets.

Population Genetics Analysis of Bamboo Species

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat conducted a population genetics study of five bamboo species- *Bambusa tulda*, *Bambusa nutans*, *Melocannabaccifera*, *Bambusa pallida*, and *Bamsua balcoa*- under the CAMPA-AICRP-02 (Component 5c) project. Leaf samples from these species were collected from different locations for molecular analysis. The genetic data obtained were processed and analyzed using appropriate molecular markers and bioinformatics software to understand the genetic diversity and population structure of the selected species.

Population Genetic Analysis of *Magnolia champaca*

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat conducted population genetic analysis of *Magnolia champaca* under the **National Program on Conservation and Management of Forest Genetic Resources** (Component-C1). Wet lab experiments were performed wherein SSR markers were developed using transcriptomic data. Polymorphic markers were applied across the entire population. Observations were recorded and the genetic data were analyzed using specialized analytical software to assess genetic diversity and structure, aiding in conservation and management strategies for this valuable forest species.

Development of Bamboo-based Windbreak using Site Specific Species in Tripura

ICFRE-LEC, Agartala developed three site-specific bamboo-based windbreak model plantations and their management practices by using three bamboo species namely, *Thyrsotachys oliveri*, *Bambusa balcoa* & *Bambusa polymorpha* in South Tripura (01 model plantation) and West Tripura (02 model plantations) under the project CAMPA-AICRP 02 (Component 3c).

Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services Assessed by ICFRE-LEC, Agartala

Under the CAMPA-AICRP 13 project (Valuation of Forest for GDP, Green GDP and Payment for Ecosystem Services), ICFRE-Livelihood Extension Centre (ICFRE-LEC), Agartala assessed and quantified the economic value of key ecosystem services- provisioning (Timber, NTFPs, Ecotourism), regulating (water purification), and supporting (carbon sequestration, pollination). The valuation was based on sample surveys across forest types Group- 01, 02, 03, 05,08,09,11,12, and 14 from seven northeastern states of India.



SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH FINDINGS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Iron- Zinc Nanocomposite Synthesized and Characterized

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat successfully synthesized and characterized an Iron- Zinc nanocomposite under the project **“Seed Invigoration through Nano-Formulation in Important Forestry Species.”**

Soil Health Cards Prepared for Eleven Forest Divisions of Nagaland

Under the AICRP-22 project, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully prepared Soil Health Cards for eleven forest divisions of Nagaland.

ICFRE-RFRI Submits report on Timber Demand and availability to SFD, Assam

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has prepared and submitted a detailed report titled **“Assessment of Demand of wood based industries and availability of timber in Assam.**

ICFRE-RFRI submits consultancy report on Timber Industry Demand and Supply in Assam

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, Assam has completed a consultancy study titled **“Assessment of Demand of Wood-Based Industries and Availability of Timber in Assam”**, funded by the Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of Assam. The report highlights that Assam’s timber industry consists of 143 sawmills, 25 plywood/panel industries, and 2 veneer units. The annual demand for round wood ranges from 1773.00 to 2995.00 thousand cubic meters, whereas the total estimated annual timber supply from all sources is only 380.394.23 cubic meters. The project completion report has been submitted to the concerned department.

Genomic DNA isolation of Poplars Completed by ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat for Molecular Characterization

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat has successfully isolated high-quality genomic DNA from Poplar species for molecular characterization under the project **“Domestication, Genetic Characterization, Improvement and Diversified Utilization of Poplars.”**

TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

8-9 APRIL, 2025

Training Forest Frontliners: Capacity-Building Program on Forest Inventory for Carbon Stock Estimation

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a two-day training for 15 foresters and forest guards, focusing on forest inventory for carbon stock estimation as per the Working Plan Code 2023. Shri Ganesh Nagarajan, IFS, Working Plan Officer, Manipur, delivered the inaugural speech, stressing the need for accurate forest estimation. Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Scientist- F, explained enumeration methods and biodiversity assessment. Shri Vikram Suresh Nadhe, DFO, Central Forest Division, also graced the training. Field demonstrations included GPS-based plot location by Mr. Abhijit Medhi, In-Charge, GIS Lab; soil data collection by Mr. Pradeepen Rai, In-Charge, Soil Lab, and vegetation sampling by Dr. Girish Gogoi, Assistant Chief Technical Officer.



22-24 APRIL, 2025

Skill Development Training on Agarwood Cultivation and Artificial Inoculation Conducted

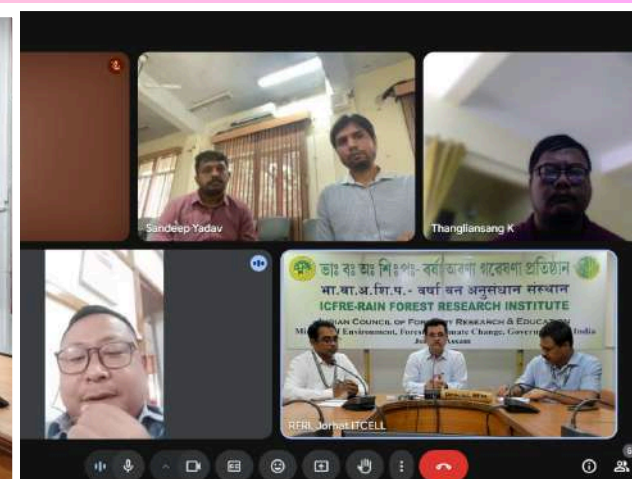
ICFRE- RFRI, Jorhat successfully conducted a **Skill Development Training on Agarwood Cultivation and Artificial Inoculation**, sponsored by North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCORMP), Meghalaya. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, inaugurated the programme and addressed the participants. Resource persons included- Dr. R.K. Borah, Scientist-G; Dr. Satyam Bordoloi, Scientist-E; Dr. Vishwanath Sharma, Scientist-C; Dr. Prasun Karmakar, Scientist-C; and Dr. Nibedita Baruah, Chief Technical Officer. A total of 21 participants attended, including 20 sponsored by NERCORMP and 1 self-sponsored.



23 APRIL, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI and ICICI Foundation Hold Virtual Meeting on Strategic Collaboration

A virtual meeting was held on 23 April, 2025 between ICFRE-RFRI and ICICI Foundation for Inclusive Growth, Guwahati to explore strategic collaboration. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Shri R.K. Kalita, Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Mr. Sandip Yadav, and Mr. Arun Sukumaran represented ICFRE-RFRI. From ICICI Foundation, Mr. Thangliansang K. attended. Discussions focused on possible collaboration in the fields of healthcare, environmental conservation, ecological sustainability, livelihood enhancement, and community-based interventions.





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TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

24-25 APRIL, 2025

Hands-on Training on Lichens and Mushrooms Conducted under VVK, Mizoram by ICFRE-BRC, Aizawl

ICFRE-Bamboo Research Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl conducted a training programme titled **“Biochemistry Meets Mycology: A Hands-on Training on Lichens and Mushrooms”** under Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK), Mizoram. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat virtually inaugurated the training on 24th April, 2025. A total of 26 undergraduate students from the Biochemistry Department of Govt. Zirtiri Residential Science College, participated the programme.



28 APRIL, 2025

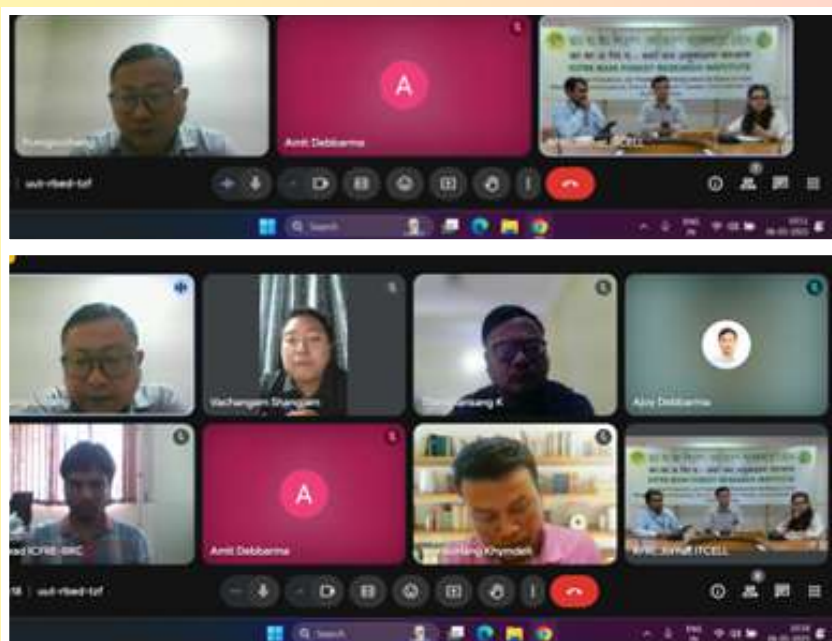
DG, ICFRE, Reviews Activities of ICFRE-RFRI and Releases Bilingual e- Magazine **“Varsharanyam”**

Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat and held an interactive meeting with all Scientists, Officers and Staff. Dr. R.K. Borah, Group Coordinator (Research), presented the institute's research achievements and future plans. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, also addressed the gathering. Smt. Kanchan Devi, emphasized region-specific forestry research aligned with national priorities and SDGs. She encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration in biodiversity, climate change, livelihood, and resource management. The bilingual e-magazine, **“Varsharanyam”** (Hindi and Assam), Vol 7, Issue 7 was released on the occasion.



6 MAY, 2025

Virtual Meeting Between ICFRE-RFRI and ICICI Foundation on Project Proposals



A virtual meeting was held between Scientists and Officers of ICFRE-RFRI and ICICI Foundation, Guwahati to explore possible collaboration and project funding.

TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

6 MAY, 2025

CCI Resource Person Programme conducted

A Resource Person Programme under the State Resource Person Scheme of the Competition Commission of India was held at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Shri Tanuj Goswami, ACS (Retd.) and Shri Umesh Kumar, IPS (Retd.) participated as Resource Persons. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, delivered the inaugural speech highlighting the relevance of the Competition Act, 2002, in a hybrid mode. Shri Kumar joined virtually from Guwahati. The programme featured insightful presentations on the Competition Act, 2002. Overall, 35 officials attended the programme.



8, MAY, 2025

Training on Vermicomposting Techniques

ICFRE-Livelihood Extension Centre (ICFRE-LEC), Agartala conducted a training on **“Vermicomposting Techniques for Livelihood Generation”** at Kashimukh, Jolaibari, South Tripura, on 8th May, 2025. Shri Niren Das, Chief Technical Officer and Programme Coordinator, delivered the welcome address and technical lecture. Shri Subal Tripura, President, Farmers Club, Jolaibari Block, graced the event as Chief Guest. Demonstration was held using a cemented vermicompost tank, followed by transect walk for identification and collection of raw materials. The training saw participation of 60 individuals including SHG members, students, teachers, and farmers.



14-17 MAY, 2025

Training on Poultry Litter Composting conducted at Melli Dara, Sikkim

A training programme on Poultry Litter Composting Techniques was held at Melli Dara Agriculture Farm, Sumbuk Block, organized by the Agriculture Department, ATMA Namchi District, Sikkim in collaboration with ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Mr. Rajarishi Bhattacharyya, Senior Technical Officer, ICFRE-RFRI, conducted technical sessions and hands-on training. The programme aimed to address environmental issues from improper manure disposal. A total of 35 poultry farmers and Agriculture Department officials participated in the training.



TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

19 MAY, 2025

First Quarterly Meeting of NIRANTAR

The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, organized the First Quarterly Meeting of **NIRANTAR** (MoEFCC, GoI) at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, on 19 May 2025. Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, DG, ICFRE, chaired the meeting attended by DDG (Research) Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Directors of nine ICFRE institutes, and representatives from BSI, NCSCM, NMNH, WII, GBPNHE, and MoEFCC. Ms. Sangeeta Mahala, I.F.S., represented in the MoEFCC, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Dr. Sharma presented ICFRE's achievements; Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, shared institutional R&D updates. Lead institutes of **NIRANTAR** Verticals I-IV presented collaborative action plans.



26-28 MAY, 2025

Training Workshop on Ecosystem Health Cards conducted for IFS Officers

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a three-day Training Workshop on **“Preparation of Ecosystem Health Cards”** for IFS Officers from six States, sponsored by MoEFCC, Government of India. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, inaugurated the programme. Training sessions were conducted by Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Scientist- F and Head, FECC Division, ICFRE-RFRI; Dr. Kakolee Banerjee and Dr. Priya, Scientists, NCSCM, Chennai. A field visit to Borpukhuri, Sivasagar was undertaken for water quality assessment. Eleven IFS Officers participated. News aired on All India Radio, Guwahati on 27 May, 2025.





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TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

30 MAY, 2025

Training for Borbhetta EDC Members of Kaziranga National Park conducted

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, conducted one-day training for 23 Farmers/members of Borbhetta Eco Development Committee (EDC) of Kaziranga National Park under the aegis of Assam Agroforestry Development Board. Dr. R.K. Borah welcomed the group and spoke on Agarwood-based livelihoods. Mrs. Sabi Gogoi, Chief Technical Officer, discussed Agroforestry and Sustainable Land Management. Shri Kumud Borah, Senior Technical Officer, and Dr. Girish Gogoi, Assistant Chief Technical Officer, delivered presentations on Bamboo-based livelihoods and Forest Conservation Practices. Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F and Head, Extension Division, briefed the participants on the LiFE Mission.



2 - 4 JUNE, 2025

Exposure Visit cum Skill Development Training conducted

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat successfully conducted a three-day Exposure Visit cum Skill Development Training on “Nursery, Plantation Technology, and Agroforestry” for 20 farmers and entrepreneurs from Sivasagar District, Assam. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI and sponsored by Assam Agroforestry Development Board. It was planned and coordinated by Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division. Resource persons included Dr. R.K. Borah; Dr. D.J. Das; Dr. Karma G. Bhutia; Dr. Mitali Mehta; Shri Kumud Borah; Ms. Amrita Tirkey; Shri R. Bhattacharyya; Shri Abhijit Medhi; Dr. Gurpreet Kaur; and Shri Debojit Neog.





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TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

9 June, 2025- ICFRE-RFRI Experts Impart Training on Bamboo Propagation at Bishwanath Chariali

Shri Kumud Borah, Senior Technical Officer and Shri Debojit Neog, Senior Technical Officer, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat served as resourced persons in a one-day training workshop on “Bamboo Propagation and Nursery Management”, held at Bishwanath Chariali, Assam. The programme was organized by Sonitpur Social Forestry Division and sponsored by Assam Bio Refinery Private Limited under the aegis of Assam Agroforestry Development Board. Dr. Saumitro Das, DFO, welcomed participants. Dr. Pranab Kr. Nath, Assistant Manager, ABEPL, briefed on bamboo- based bio-ethanol production. Shri Dhimanshu Saikia, Ranger Officer, Sadar Range, was also present. Overall, 20 frontline staff and fringe villagers of Na-duar Reserve Forest attended.



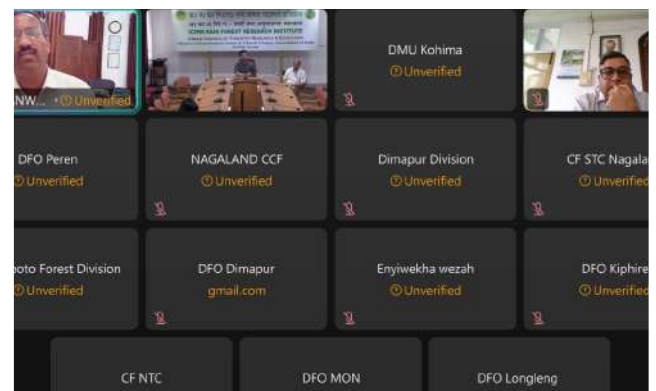
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10 JUNE, 2025

Online Consultation on Forest Soil Health Card for Nagaland

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat conducted a online pre-release consultation on the **Forest Soil Health Card (FSHC)** for eleven territorial forest divisions of Nagaland. The meeting was chaired by Shri Dharmendra Prakash, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Nagaland. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI; Dr. R.K. Borah, GCR; Dr. Vijendra Panwar, Scientist-F and National Project Coordinator, FRI, Dehradun; and Shri D.K. Meena shared assessment findings. In all, 15 Forest Officials including Divisional Forest Officers of Nagaland, attended the meeting.



TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, ORGANIZED

11-13 JUNE, 2025

Skill Development Training on Nursery and Agroforestry conducted

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a three-day Skill Development Training on **Nursery, Plantation Technology, and Agroforestry** for 20 farmers and entrepreneurs from Merapani area, Golaghat District. The programme was sponsored by Assam Agroforestry Development Board and coordinated by Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division. Dr. R.K. Borah, Scientist-G and GCR (Research), inaugurated the training. Resource persons included Dr. R.K. Borah; Dr. D.J. Das; Dr. Gurpreet Kaur; Shri Kumud Borah; Shri Debojit Neog and Shri Abhijit Medhi. Certificates were distributed in the Valedictory Session.



TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, PARTICIPATED

23 APRIL, 2025

23 April, 2025- Director, ICFRE-RFRI Participated in Indian CITES Scientific Authorities Meeting

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated in the Meeting of the Indian **CITES** Scientific Authorities (SAs). The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, in New Delhi and was attended by Dr. Dr. Kulkarni through virtual mode.

23 APRIL, 2025

23 April, 2025- Director, ICFRE-RFRI Participated in Brainstorming Meeting on Science and Innovation Institute in Assam

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated in the online Brainstorming Meeting on “**Creating a World- Class Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation in Assam- The case for JIST.**” The event was organized by the JIST Alumni Association in collaboration with **Jorhat Institute of Science & Technology, Jorhat.**



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TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, PARTICIPATED

28 APRIL, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI Scientists Attend Training Workshop on Mission Karmayogi at New Delhi

Shri Rajib Kr. Kalita, Scientist-F, and Shri Kumud Borah, Senior Technical Officer, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat attended a Training Workshop on Mission Karmayogi held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.



29 APRIL, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI Participates in Inaugural Meeting of Revolving Fund Proposal Committee

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated in the inaugural Meeting of the Committee on Revolving Fund Proposal through virtual mode. The meeting was organized at ICFRE, Dehradun.

6 MAY, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI Participates in Meeting on Agarwood CITES Proposal

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated through virtual mode in the Meeting on Agarwood **CITES** Proposal. The meeting was chaired by Additional Director General of Forests (PT) & CITES Management Authority- India and was organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), New Delhi.

13 MAY, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI participated in Research Advisory Committee Meeting of Ph.D. Scholars

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated in the Research Advisory Committee meeting of Ph.D. scholars of ICFRE-RFRI.

15 MAY, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Attends Discussion on North East Science and Technology Cluster Formation

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, attended the online discussion on the formation of the North East Science and Technology Cluster (NESTEC) organized by CSIR-NIEST, Jorhat.



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TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS, PARTICIPATED

15 MAY, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI participated in KPI Monitoring Review Meeting Organized by MoEFCC

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated through virtual mode in the review meeting on monitoring of **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** held under the chairmanship of AIGF (RT). The meeting was organized by MoEFCC, New Delhi and attended by representatives from FSI, Dehradun; IWST, Bengaluru; DFE, Dehradun; IGNFA, Dehradun; NMNH, New Delhi and ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat.

16 MAY, 2025

Director, ICFRE-RFRI joined Agrwood Steering Group Meeting organized by Ministry of DoNER

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated through virtual mode in the Meeting of the Agarwood Steering Group (ASG). The meeting organized by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), focused on reviewing the action taken on the approved roadmap for the promotion of the Agarwood sector in the North Eastern Region.

23 MAY, 2025

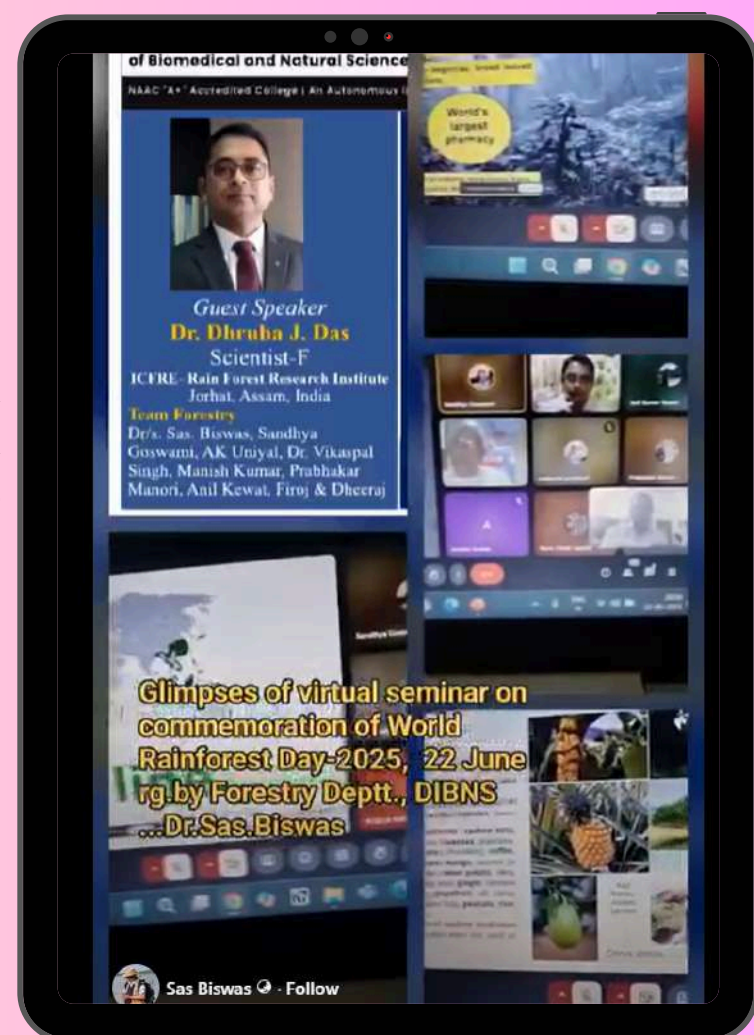
Director, ICFRE-RFRI participated in Brainstorming Session on Himalayan Forests and Climate Change

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, participated through virtual mode in a brainstorming session on **“Forest Resources and Biodiversity of Himalaya under Changing Climate”** organized by ICFRE, Dehradun. The session brought together experts to deliberate on the challenges and strategies for conserving Himalayan ecosystems in the face of climate change.

22 JUNE, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI Scientist Dr. Das spoke on Rainforest Ecosystem Services on World Rainforest Day

Dr. Dhruba Jyoti Das, Scientist-F, ICFRE-RFRI, participated virtually in the World Rainforest Day 2025 celebration organized by Dolphin PG Institute of Biomedical and Natural Sciences, Dehradun. He delivered a presentation titled **“From Oxygen to Opportunity: Ecosystem Services Offered by Rainforests”** highlighting the vital ecological and economic roles of rainforests.



MoU

16 APRIL, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI signs MoU with NIPER- Guwahati for Collaborative Research

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati** at NIPER's premises. The MoU was signed by Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI and Dr. U.S.N. Murty, Director, NIPER in the presence of senior faculty members, and researchers. Both institutions agreed to collaborate on joint research projects and periodically review the progress of their cooperation.



VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

3, APRIL, 2025

Nagaland Bamboo Development Agency visited ICFRE-RFRI

Mr. Nuzota Swuro, Chairman, Nagaland Bamboo Development Agency and Ex- MLA, along with Engineer Mr. Vezota and Ms. Korobi Mech, visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Dr. Satyam Bordoloi, Scientist-F and Head, Genetics and Tree Improvement Division, gave a presentation on bamboo in the presence of Dr. R.K.Borah, Group Coordinator (Research) and Dr. D.J. Das., Scientist-F, Forest Ecology and Climate Change Division, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. The team visited the bamboo nursery, Bambusetum, and Germplasm site.



28, APRIL, 2025

DG, ICFRE Inaugurates Key Facilities at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat from 27-30 April, 2025. On 28th April, Smt. Devi, inaugurated the **Bamboo Museum and Interpretation Centre**. Nursery under Forest Genetic Resources (FGR), Composting Unit, and the Upgraded Tissue Culture Laboratory in the presence of Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, along with scientists, officers and other staff of the Institute.

VISIT OF DIGNITARIES



19 MAY, 2025

NIRANTAR and MoEFCC Delegates Visit R&D Facilities at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Directors, Scientists and Officers from various institutions under **NIRANTAR** and **MoEFCC**, Government of India visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. They explored key research and development facilities including the Bamboo Interpretation Centre and Museum, Bamboo Nursery, Bamboosetum, Agarwood Plantation, Bamboo Charcoal Unit, Bamboo Treatment Unit, and Bah Bithika, gaining insights into the Institute's work in forestry innovation and sustainable resource development.



3 JUNE, 2025

PCCF & HoFF, Nagaland visited ICFRE-RFRI for interaction on Forestry Collaboration

Shri Dharmendra Prakash, IFS, PCCF & HoFF, Nagaland visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Shri Prakash, interacted with scientists and officers, appreciating the Institute's R&D efforts and emphasized innovative bamboo utilization, erosion control, and collaborative initiatives. Shri Prakash, further proposed appointing a nodal Scientist for Nagaland to ensure timely coordination and JICA-supported projects in Nagaland. Dr. R.K. Borah, Group Coordinator (Research), presented the Institute's research achievements.



VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

10 JUNE, 2025

MD. NECBDC visited ICFRE-RFRI for Bamboo- Centric Discussions and Facility Tour

Shri M.C. Omi Ningshen, IRS, Managing Director, NECBDC, Burnihat, along with Dr. T.C. Bhuyan, Consultant, visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. The team engaged in discussions on various bamboo-related initiatives. The dignitaries visited the Tissue Culture Lab, Bamboo Nursery, and Bamboo Museum cum Interpretation Centre, guided by Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division and Dr. Satyam Bordoloi, Head, Genetics & Tree Improvement Division.



11 JUNE, 2025

OIL Delegation Explored Collaborative Avenues during visit to ICFRE-RFRI



Smt. Mallika Baura Sarma, Executive Director (HSE&EG), and Shri Rupam Jyoti Sutradhar, DGM (HSE), Oil India Limited, visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, welcomed the dignitaries. Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Head, Forest Ecology and Climate Change Division, presented the Institute's R&D initiatives. The visit included interactive discussions with Scientists on environmental governance, biodiversity conservation, and industrial ecology. The OIL team appreciated the Institute's work and showed keen interest in future collaborations.

24 JUNE, 2025

APART- ARIA Officials Visit ICFRE-RFRI for Bamboo and Agar- based Collaboration Insights

A delegation from Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART), ARIAS Society visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat to explore collaboration on bamboo and agar. The team included Shri Mustaqur Rahman, Shri Baljeet Singh, Shri Sreemant Phukan, Shri Gautam Goswami, Shri Devaroon Sabhapandit, and Shri Probin Kr. Bharali. Dr. Dhruba J. Das, Head, FECC Division presented the Institute's work. Dr. Satyam Bordoloi, Head, GTI Division elaborated on technical aspects. Discussions covered value chains, planting material, inoculation, and marketing. This team toured Bambusetum, Bamboo Nursery and the Bamboo Museum.



SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

22 MAY, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI Celebrated International Day for Biological Diversity at Kakojan Girls' High School

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity 2025 on the theme **“Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development”** at Kakojan Girls' High School, Jorhat. The programme began with a ceremonial plantation led by Shri Bhupen Rajkonwar, Head Master of the School, in presence of Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI; Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division; Shri Bibhuti Deka, Chief Technical Officer; Officers, Teachers and Students.

Drawing and Quiz competitions were conducted among students from different schools. The Quiz competition was conducted by Shri Shim Chetia and Shri Francis Nath, Library Information Assistant. Drawing completion was conducted by Ms. Shahnin Akhtar Islam and Ms. Chandramika Borah. A popular talk was delivered by Shri Rajib Kumar Kalita, Scientist-F, sensitizing students on biodiversity conservation and LiFE Mission. Assistant Teachers Ms. Trishna Borah and Ms. Rizwana Sultan Hazarika also addressed the gathering. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI and other dignitaries addressed the open session, highlighting pro-planet actions.



22 MAY, 2025

ICFRE-BRC, Aizawl Celebrated International Day for Biological Diversity under VVK, Mizoram

ICFRE-Bamboo & Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity 2025, under Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK), Mizoram. The event highlighted this year's theme **“Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development”** through awareness programme, lectures and interactive sessions with students and local participants, emphasizing the importance of biodiversity conservation and community involvement in environmental protection.



SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

26 MAY, 2025

Fortnight Celebration of World Environment Day-2025 commenced

ICFRE-REFRI, Jorhat commenced the fortnight-long celebration of World Environment Day 2025 by observing a **“Pledge against Single Use Plastic”** administered by Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-REFRI. Dr. R.K. Borah, Group Coordinator (Research) conducted the programme. Dr. Prosanta Hazarika, Chief Technical Officer, delivered a popular talk on “Ending Plastic Pollution”, aligning with the global theme. Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F, sensitized Senior Forest Executives on the LiFE Mission, encouraging sustainable and pro-planet actions.



27 MAY, 2025

Cleanliness Drive conducted under World Environment Day- 2025

As part of World Environment Day- 2025 fortnight celebrations, ICFRE-REFRI, Jorhat organized a cleanliness drive focusing on the removal of plastic waste. All employees of the Institute, led by Director, Dr. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, actively participated in the programme, reaffirming commitment to environment sustainability.



28 MAY, 2025

28 May, 2025- Popular Talk Session on Combating Plastic Pollution

In line with WED-2025 fortnight celebrations, a session on popular talk competition was organized at ICFRE-REFRI, Jorhat. Speakers including Shri Kambam Boxen Meetei, Technical Assistant; Ms. Korin, Junior Project Fellow; Shri Ashim Chetia, Library Information Assistant; Shri Niranjana Kro, Junior Project Fellow; Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F and Shri Rajarishi Bhattacharyya, Senior Technical Officer, shared impactful views on tackling single-use plastic. Dr. Amitabha Roy, Scientist-B, successfully conducted the session.

SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS



28 MAY, 2025

Popular Talk Session on Combating Plastic Pollution

In line with WED-2025 fortnight celebrations, a session on popular talk competition was organized at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Speakers including Shri Kambam Boxen Meetei, Technical Assistant; Ms. Korin, Junior Project Fellow; Shri Ashim Chetia, Library Information Assistant; Shri Niranjan Kro, Junior Project Fellow; Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F and Shri Rajarishi Bhattacharyya, Senior Technical Officer, shared impactful views on tackling single-use plastic. Dr. Amitabha Roy, Scientist-B, successfully conducted the session.



29 MAY, 2025

Drawing Session on Environmental Awareness

In observation of World Environment Day 2025, fortnight celebrations, ICFRE-RFRI organized a Drawing Session to promote environmental awareness among its employees. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Mitali Mehta, Scientist-B, of the Institute.



2 JUNE, 2025

Awareness Programme on Solid Waste Management



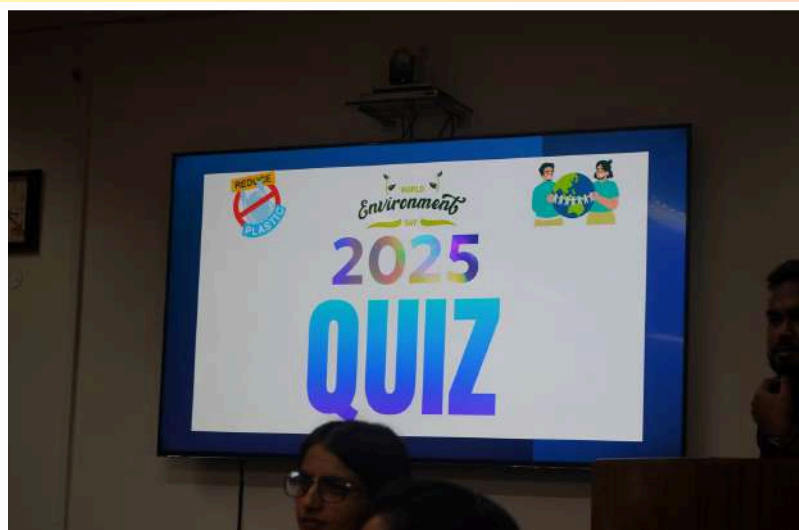
As part of the fortnight-long World Environment Day 2025 celebrations, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a programme titled “Solid Waste Management: An Initiative at RFRI Campus”. The session was conducted by Ms. Tara Kumari and Mr. Amitava Roy, Scientists of the Institute, who delivered a presentation highlighting ongoing solid waste management efforts at the Deovan Campus. In all, 50 officials actively participated and engaged in discussions on key issues related to sustainable waste management practices.

SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

4 JUNE, 2025

Open Quiz Competition Organized during WED-2025 Celebrations at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

In connection with the fortnight-long celebration of World Environment Day 2025, an Open Quiz Competition was conducted at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the employees. Shri Ashim Chetia, Library Information Assistant, served as the Quiz Master, with assistance from Shri Francis Nath, Library Information Assistant. Dr. R.K. Borah, Scientist-G emerged as the winner, while Shri Nada Tadi, Scientist-C and Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F, secured the 1st and 2nd runners up positions, respectively. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Rekha Mahato and Dr. Mitali Mehta, both Scientists-B.



05 JUNE, 2025

World Environment Day Celebrated at Pokamura Higher Secondary School in Collaboration with ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat celebrated World Environment Day-2025 in occasion with Youth and Eco- Club of Pokamura Higher Secondary School, Pokamura, Jorhat. The event featured sapling distribution and plantation, Drawing Competition, Popular Talk and Awareness Meeting. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI graced the event as Chief Guest and sensitized 280 students on Mission LiFE. Mrs. Monica Kishore, IFS, DFO, Jorhat, addressed the issue of plastic pollution. Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F, delivered an inspirational talk. The programme was chaired by the Chairman, School of Management and Development Committee. Shri Jayanta Hazarika, Principal, delivered the welcome address, while Mrs. Jahnabi Hazarika, Assistant Teacher, conducted the session.



SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

05 JUNE, 2025

World Environment Day Celebrated by ICFRE-BRC, Aizawl

ICFRE-Bamboo & Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl celebrated World Environment Day-2025 on 5th June under the theme “Ending Plastic Pollution”. In all, 45 participants, including students and staff of the Mizoram State Forest Department, took part in the event. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, addressed the gathering virtually. A cleanliness drive was also conducted as part of the celebration.



20 JUNE, 2025

20 June, 2025- Pre-Yoga Session Conducted at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a Pre-Yoga warm-up session in front of the main office building. All employees, including Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director of the Institute, actively participated. The session was conducted by Shri Luhit Chandra Tamuli, Forest Guard.



21 June, 2025- International Yoga Day Celebrated at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat (Assam) celebrated International Yoga-Day-2025 with a Yoga session led by Yoga Guru Shri Protul Hazarika, who demonstrated key yoga postures and conducted the programme. Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, welcomed the Yoga Guru and addressed the gathering. The event concluded with a “Harit Yoga” (tree plantation drive) at the Deovan Campus of the Institute.





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RAJBHASHA ACTIVITIES

26 JUNE, 2025

Participation of ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat in the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Department of Official Language at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director; Dr. Vishwantah Sharma, Scientist and Nodal Officer; and Mr. Shankar Shaw, Junior Translation Officer from ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat, participated in the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Department of Official Language



AWARENESS & DEMO PROGRAMMES

28 APRIL, 2025

ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat established a **Bamboo Museum and Interpretation Centre** under the CAMPA-AICRP 02 (Component 8) project. The facility was inaugurated by Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun, in the presence of Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, and the Institute's scientists. The center aims to promote awareness, conservation, and sustainable utilization of bamboo resources and forestry & environment, in general.



8 MAY, 2025

Educational Visit by DKD College, Dergaon to ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

A team of 45 students and 3 faculty members from DKD College, Dergaon, Golaghat (Assam) visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat. Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division, introduced the team to the institute's activities. The students visited various research and development facilities under the guidance of Dr. Tajum Doni, Scientist-C, Shri Abhijit Medhi, TA; Shri N.C. Das, TO; Shri Ranjan Hazarika, Technician; Shri Debojit Neog, STO; Shri Rajarishi Bhattacharyya, STO; Ms. Kajal Gupta, TA; Shri Akshay Mishra, TA; Shri Arabinda Deka, TA; and Shri Bhuvan Kachari, STO.





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AWARENESS & DEMO PROGRAMMES

17 MAY, 2025

Visit of Sankardev Vidya Niketan Students

A group of 49 students (Class IX & X) and 7 teachers from Sankardev Vidya Niketan, Hatichung, Nagaon visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat under the Environmental Awareness Programme. Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F & Head, Extension Division, introduced the students to Institute's activities. The students explored Insectarium, Bamboo Museum & Interpretation Unit, Bamboo Nursery, Bambusetum, Bamboo Charcoal Unit, Bamboo Preservation Unit, and Botanical Garden. The visit was facilitated by Shri Bibhuti Deka, CTO; Shri Nilabh C. Das, TO; Shri Akshay Mishra, TA; and Shri Dulal C. Bora, Technician.



20 MAY, 2025

Educational Visit by Biswanath College of Agriculture

A group of 26 undergraduate students and 2 teachers from Biswanath College of Agriculture, Biswanath Chariali, visited ICFRE-RFRI under the Environmental Awareness Programme. The visitors were exposed to various research and developmental activities of the Institute. Shri Bibhuti Deka, CTO; Shri Bhuban Kachari, STO; Shri Dulal Ch. Borah, Technician; and Mrs. Gayatri Mahanta, JPF guided the group during the visit.



30 MAY, 2025

Visit of Borbheta Eco Development Committee Members from Kaziranga National Park

A group of 23 members from the Borbheta Eco Development Committee of Kaziranga National Park visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat on 30th May, 2025. The visit aimed to enhance awareness on forestry research and eco-development initiatives undertaken by the Institute.



AWARENESS & DEMO PROGRAMMES

6 JUNE, 2025

Visit of Entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu and Assam

A group of 4 entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu, accompanied by Shri Abinash Hazarika, local entrepreneur from Jorhat, visited the Bamboo Museum, Nursery, and Bambisetum at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat on 6th June, 2025. The visit was guided by Shri Kumud Borah, Senior Technical Officer of the Institute.



11-12 JUNE, 2025

Community Engagement Programme for JB University Students

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized a two-day Community Engagement Programme on 11-12 June, 2025 for 29 Botany students of Jagannath Barooah (JB) University, Jorhat. The programme focused on bamboo cultivation, propagation, nursery management, value addition, bamboo preservation, bamboo charcoal making, lac cultivation, vermicomposting, agar plantation, and other R&D activities of the Institute. The programme was conducted under the overall supervision of Shri R.K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division.



18 JUNE, 2025

Awareness Programme on Conservation of *Rhododendron niveum* held in Sikkim

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat (Assam) organized an awareness programme at Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary, East Sikkim under the project titled “Assessment of population status, genetic diversity, and conservation of *Rhododendron niveum* Hook f., an endangered species of Sikkim Himalaya”, in coordination with the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim. The programme was conducted by Dr. Karma Gyalpo Bhutia, Scientist-C & Principal Investigator, along with Mr. K. Gullamani Singh (JPF) and Mr. Apurba Borah (PA), ICFRE-RFRI. In all 40 participants including ACFs, Range Officers, frontline staff, SHG members, EDCs, and local community members attended the programme.



AWARENESS & DEMO PROGRAMMES

25 JUNE, 2025

25 June, 2025- Farmers and KVK Scientists from Sivasagar Visit ICFRE-RFRI for Bamboo and Agarwood Exposure

A group comprising 25 farmers and two Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sivasagar visited ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute (ICFRE-RFRI), Jorhat (Assam). Shri R.K. Kalita, Scientist-F & Head, Extension Division, addressed the group and highlighted the Institute's initiatives in Agarwood and Bamboo Development. The team visited the Bamboo Museum and Interpretation Centre, Bamboo Nursery, Bambusetum, and Bamboo Charcoal Unit. A live demonstration on artificial inoculation of Agarwood was conducted by Dr. Gurpreet Kaur, Technical Assistant. The visit was facilitated by Shri Kumud Borah, STO; Mrs. Gayatri Mahanta, JPF and Dulal Borah.



PRAKRITI PROGRAMME

26 JUNE, 2025

Environmental Awareness Programme under PRAKRITI held at JNV, Thingsulthliah

ICFRE- Bamboo and Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl organized an Environmental Awareness Programme under **PRAKRITI** at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Thingsulthliah. Shri Manu Sharma, Principal of the school, addressed the gathering. Shri Sandeep Yadav, Scientist-D & Head, ICFRE-BRC, delivered a presentation highlighting the Centre's activities. Students watched an informative documentary on environmental awareness followed by an interactive session. In all, 200 students participated in the programme.





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MISSION LIFE ACTIVITIES

5 JUNE, 2025

Director ICFRE-RFRI sensitized Students on Mission LiFE at Pokamura

Dr. Nitin Kulkarni, Director, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat sensitized 280 students of Pokamura Higher Secondary School, Pokamura, Jorhat (Assam) on Mission LiFE activities during a World Environment Day awareness event.

5 JUNE, 2025

Mission LiFE Sensitization by ICFRE-BRC on World Bamboo Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day-2025, ICFRE-Bamboo and Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl sensitized 45 students on Mission LiFE activities. The programme was conducted under the leadership of Shri Sandeep Yadav, Scientist-D & Head, ICFRE-BRC.

11 JUNE, 2025

Mission LiFE Awareness for JB University Students at ICFRE-RFRI

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat sensitized 29 students of the Department of Botany, Jagannath Barooah (JB) University, Jorhat, Assam on Mission LiFE activities under its Environmental Awareness Programme.

26-27 JUNE, 2025

Mission LiFE Awareness by ICFRE-BRC in Mizoram Schools

ICFRE-Bamboo and Rattan Centre (ICFRE-BRC), Aizawl sensitized 50 students of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Lunglei and 200 students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Thingsulthliah on Mission LiFE activities. Shri Sandeep Yadav, Scientist-D & Head, ICFRE-BRC, led the sessions under the PRAKRITI initiative.

HUMAN RESOURCE NEWS

FRESH APPOINTMENTS

Name	Designation	Place of Posting	Date of Posting
Ms. Kumkum Sen	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025
Shri Dipiyoti Das	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025
Shri Debajuj Sharma	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025
Shri Anurag Baruah	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025
Shri Adarsh	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025
Shri Sumit Ranjan	LDC	ICFRE-RFRI	29 May 2025

Retirement: Dr. Runumee Devi Borthakur, CTO retired on 30th April 2025.



ICFRE-RFRI NEWSLETTER

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PUBLICATIONS

Release of Informative Leaflets on Bamboo Shoots at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Under the CAMPA-AICRP 02 (Compoent-5a) project, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat established a scientific relationship between antioxidant activity and total cyanide content in edible bamboo shoots based on climate conditions, shoot segments, and processing methods across Northeast India. As part of the projects's extension activities, five informative leaflets on selected



edible bamboo species were developed and formally released by Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, on 28th April, 2025. These leaflets aim to benefit food industries, SHGs, and other stakeholders by disseminating vital scientific insights.

RESEARCH PAPERS

Kothari, S., Jose, A. T., Patel, A., Alapati, N., Majumdar, S., Thakuria, D., and Bhoi, T. K. (2025). Silicon Cycling in Forest Ecosystems: A Review Focusing on the Role of Soil Biogeochemistry. *Silicon*, 1-22.

Roy, A., Rani, K., and Prajapat, R. K. (2025). Applications of High throughput plantphenotyping approaches in reforming modern plant breeding: A review, *The Pharma Innovation Journal*, 14(3): 47–55.

Gyani, P. C., Mahato, R., Yadav, P., Sharma, S., Patidar, O. P., Kushwaha, N., & Maity, A. (2025). Application of Genetic Engineering Technology in Trees: Innovations, Challenges and Future Prospects. *Journal of Biochemistry International*, 12(1), 92-104.

Mahato, R., Gyani, P. C., Maity, A., Kumar, R., Mehta, M., Yadav, P., & Pakhira, R. (2025). Unlocking the Potential of Nanopore Sequencing: Principles, Advances, and Challenges. *Journal of Biochemistry International*, 12(1), 125-138.

Begum, A. and Borah, R.K. (2025). *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*: An entomopathogenic Medicinal fungus of the Himalayas, *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci.*, 14(05): 209-215. doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2025.1405.021>

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BOOK CHAPTERS

Kumari, T., Seal, S., Shahina, N. N., and Shukla, G. (2025). Degradation of Forests in India: Causes and Restoration Efforts. In *Forest Degradation and Management: An Indian Perspective* (pp. 23-39). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland. DOI https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-84055-5_2

Guru, N., Kumar, P., Devi, S. and Kumari, R. (2025). Assessing Soil Erosion-Susceptible Region of Forested Watershed Using Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA). In: *Integrated Land and Water Resource Management for Sustainable Agriculture Volume 1. Smart Agriculture*, vol 4. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-97-9796-7_9

Patel A, Modak K, Guru N, Mishra G, and Kothari S, (2025). “Tools and Techniques Used in Forest Monitoring”. In: *Forests for Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth*. Elsevier, USA. Elsevier, Pages 131-142, ISBN 9780443314063 <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-443-31406-3.00010-2>



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PUBLICATIONS

ABSTRACTS

Guru, N., Das, M. and Das, D. J., (2025). Time Series Analysis of Rainfall and Temperature of Dihing Ungauged Watershed, Assam: a Case Study 3rd International Conference on Biodiversity: Exploration, Exploitation and Conservation for Sustainable Development 6-7th March, 2025.

POPULAR ARTICLE (S)

Guru, N. (2025). “Community-Based Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies in North East India: An Integrated Approach” in the Magazine published on Climate Change and Our Responsibilities.

SHORT COMMUNICATION (S)

Karmakar, P., Bhutia, K.G. and Mishra, A. (2025). A Scientific Report on the Nursery Insect Pests of Eastern Himalayan Poplar (*Populus gamblei* Dode) from North-East India, National Academy Science Letters, DOI: 10.1007/s40009-025-01639-w

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ICFRE-RRFI
IN NEWS

ICFRE-RRFI Jorhat hosts national workshop on ecosystem health card preparation

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

JORHAT: The ICFRE-RRFI Baital Research Institute (BRI), Jorhat, Assam, successfully organised a three-day National Workshop on Preparation of Ecosystem Health Cards from May 30 to 31, 2025, sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

The workshop, aimed at enhancing the capacity of forest officers in assessing and monitoring ecosystem health, witnessed the participation of six Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers representing seven different states across the country.

The programme was formally inaugurated by Dr. Nitin Rautava, Director of ICFRE-RRFI. Training lectures were conducted by experienced resource per-

son including Dr. D. N. Das and Dr. Mahesh Kumar (ICFRE-RRFI) as well as Dr. Rishabh Bhattacharya and Dr. Pooja Choudhary from the National Centre for Forest Ecosystem Management (NCFSEM), Chennai.

The workshop covered a broad range of topics, beginning with an introduction to ecosystem health and the importance of ecosystem health monitoring. Participants were trained on identifying and assessing ecosystem health indicators, the preparation of ecosystem health cards of various types and methods. They also learned the detailed step-by-step methodology involved in preparing ecosystem health cards, along with guidelines for data collection and analysis.

The participants of the national workshop

experts, a field visit was organised to Baitalbari in Bongaigaon, where participants observed local ecosystem health. The officers also vis-

ited the National Centre for Forest Ecosystem Management and the Baital Research Institute. During these visits, they observed various land-use patterns, including agricultural, forested, built-up, and aquatic ecosystems, while also observing the region's natural resources with a biodiversity focus. When apart to discuss the workshop, several participants were awarded certificates of appreciation by the leadership of Dr. R. Kallita, the Director.

The workshop proved to be a significant step forward in equipping forest officers with essential skills and knowledge required to implement ecosystem health monitoring systems, reinforcing India's commitment to sustainable environmental management and improved national ecosystem governance.

the Kalande Nagar National Biodiversity and Biosphere Reserve in Kokrajhar and the Bagmati River in Bongaigaon National Park, gaining valuable



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May 20, 2025

ICFRE-RFRI IN NEWS

India's top environmental institutions unite at ICFRE-RFRI to launch NIRANTAR

Jammu to celebrate 100th anniversary of Jammu & Kashmir University

The Jammu & Kashmir University (JKU) is celebrating its 100th anniversary on May 19, 2025. The university is a premier institution of higher learning in the region, with a long history of academic excellence. The JKU is a member of the ICFRE-RFRI network, which is a leading research organization in the field of environmental science and technology.

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ICFRE-RFRI to launch NIRANTAR

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নিয়মীয়া বাৰ্তা, বাৰুই, ০১ মে' ২০২৫

গোৱালপাৰীৰ বৰ্ষাৰণ্য গৱেষণা প্ৰতিষ্ঠানত পৰিৱেশতন্ত্ৰ স্বাস্থ্য কাৰ্ড প্ৰস্তুতকৰণৰ কৰ্মশালা অনুষ্ঠিত হৈছে। ভাৰতীয় বনসেৱা বিদ্যালয়ৰ পৰিৱেশতন্ত্ৰ স্বাস্থ্য কাৰ্ড প্ৰস্তুতকৰণৰ কৰ্মশালাত অংশগ্ৰহণ কৰিছে।

কাজিৰঙা ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় উদ্যানৰ পৰিৱেশতন্ত্ৰ স্বাস্থ্য কাৰ্ড প্ৰস্তুতকৰণৰ কৰ্মশালাত অংশগ্ৰহণ কৰিছে।

৮ গুৰুত

মেচিনৰ সদ্ব্যৱহাৰৰ আদৰ্শ



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শিল্পীয়া অৰ্জী, ৰাশ্মনা, ৩১ মে' ৪ যোৰহাটৰ বৰ্ষাৰণ্য গৱেষণা প্ৰতিষ্ঠানত তিনিদিনীয়া কাৰ্যসূচীত অৱশিষ্ট ভাৰতীয় ৰাস্তাৰো বিহাৰৰ 'পৰিবেশ তন্ত্ৰ স্বাস্থ্য কাৰ্ড প্ৰস্তুতকৰণ' শীৰ্ষক ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় পৰ্যায়ৰ কৰ্মশালা অনুষ্ঠান কৰা হৈছে। ভাৰতীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰিবেশ, বনা আৰু জলবায়ু পৰিৱৰ্তন মন্ত্ৰালয়ৰ অৰ্থসহযোগত অনুষ্ঠিত প্ৰশিক্ষণত ভাৰতৰ সাত ৰাজ্যৰ

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ICFRE-RFRI IN NEWS

2-day training cum exposure visit held for farmers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, June 16: The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)-Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), located at Satala on the outskirts of Sotala on the outskirts of here, recently organised a three-day exposure visit cum skill development training of farmers on nursery, plantation techniques, and agroforestry.

An ICFRE-RFRI official informed that the training programme, sponsored by Assam Agroforestry Development Board, was attended by 20 participants. The programme, coordinated by RK Kalita as course director, was inaugurated by Dr RK Borah, group coordinator (A wide range of topics were covered during the training programme. The training started with a presentation by Dr RK Borah on agroforest (Aquaria)

materovis). He emphasised the participants about its importance, nursery cultivation management, agroforestry, and artificial inoculation.

Dr Gurpreet Kaur technical assistant, conducted a call session on artificial hands-on session on bamboo inoculation techniques on agroforest trees.

Kumal Borah, a senior technical officer, delivered a presentation on nursery practices and propagation methods for cultivation of bamboo.

Borah also spoke about the importance of bamboo for the people of the institute and the region, along with various propagation methods and nursery and plantation practices.

Thereafter, Borah and Deboljit Neog, also a senior technical officer, conducted a hands-on session on bamboo propagation techniques in the field. The trainees were shown different species of bamboos present in the lam-burets of the institute and nursery, tissue culture lab, bamboo composite centre, bamboo treatment unit, and bamboo museum.

Dr Mitali Mehta imparted training on seeds and their importance in quality planting material. She covered different aspects such as seed collection, processing, treat-ment, germination, dormancy viability, and storage.

Amita Ticker, JPE, conducted a hands-on session related to seeds, while Dr Jagriti Dora, a scientist, delivered a presentation on the context of forestry species. R Bhattacharyya, a senior technician about horticultural applications in forestry, in addition to composting and vermicomposting technology.

Dr DJ Das, a scientist, conducted a session on application of modern survey tools and techniques in forestry. While Abhishek Mehta, a technical assistant, gave a demonstration of modern surveying tools and techniques. Dr Prasan Kumar, a scientist, imparted training on edible insects as a source of protein.

In the valedictory session, ICFRE-RFRI director Dr Nitin Kulsharma thanked over 20 participants.





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