

Visit of Dr. S. C. Gairola, IFS, Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE) to Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (FRC-BR), Aizawl, Mizoram (18-20 May, 2018)

Director General (DG) of ICFRE, Dr. S.C. Gairola, IFS with Director, RFRI Dr. R.S.C. Jayaraj, IFS and ADG, BCC Division, Shri V.R.S. Rawat arrived at Aizawl on three days visit to FRC-BR Aizawl on 18 May 2018. DG, ICFRE has a meeting with Principal Secretary & PCCF, Mizoram Mr. Lalram Thanga along with with other forest officials of Mizoram and discussed feasibility of collaborative research works in Mizoram. DG, ICFRE later in the evening call on Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mizoram Mr. Lalthanhawala and discussed various aspects bamboo sector development in the State. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also desired that bamboo sector potential in the State be fully utilized.

In the forenoon of 19 May, 2018; DG, ICFRE paid visit to FRCBR and took stock of past and present activities of FRCBR with future road map. Mr. M.Z. Singson, Head FRCBR made a power point presentation on activities of FRCBR. The DG asked FRCBR officials to give more focus on bamboo and cane for which the Centre has been established. He was then taken around by the Head and Scientists showing labs, museum, farmers' hostel and other facilities available at FRCBR. The DG after inaugurating a mist chamber and orchid shade house also planted *Mesua ferrea* seedlings at the FRCBR campus with Director, RFRI and ADG, (BCC) ICFRE. In the afternoon, he visited REDD+ pilot project site at Reiek village and interacted with the village community people of Reiek and Ailawng. The interaction was quite fruitful and the DG appreciated the efforts made by local villagers for conservation of forests in the area.

20 May, 2018; the DG, ICFRE and team visited Mizoram University (MZU) and had meeting with Vice Chancellor, faculty and students of forestry department. In his address, the DG motivated students for opting forestry as a carrier and encouraged them to try hard for further development of forestry sector in the country. Various issues on biodiversity, climate change, sustainable forest management, etc. were discussed with feasibility of collaborative research works by ICFRE and MZU.

En-route to airport, the DG and team paid visit to Bamboo Value Addition Centre of State Forest Department (SFD) at Lengpui and saw various bamboo processing machineries and had discussion with forest officials to explore collaborative capacity building activities with SFD, Mizoram.

The DG and team departed from Aizawl in the afternoon of 20 May, 2018 making their visit to Mizoram a success.

Few glimpses of DG's visit to FRCBR, Mizoram





Visit to Reiek village and Mizoram University



18 May 2018
Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mizoram and Principal Secretary

