RFRI CONDUCTS AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON BAMBOO **CHARCOAL PRODUCTION**

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) conducted an Awareness Programme on Bamboo Charcoal Production under the project "Promoting livelihood by bamboo charcoal production and briquetting to the selected forest fringe villages of Karbi Anglong District, Assam", funded by National Mission of Himalayan Studies (NMHS) on 1st June, 2019 at Sardoka Engti Village, Silonijan, Karbi Anglong (Assam). The Programme was attended by different forest officials, including Mr. Pranab Teron, Forest Range Officer, East Karbi Anglong Forest Range, Silonijan, Karbi Anglong; Mr. Rolen Tissue, Chairman, Biodiversity Management Committee under East Karbi Anglong Forest Range, Silonijan along with other Office bearers. Around 45 villagers attended the Programme.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division, RFRI, Jorhat and Co-Principal Investigator of the Project delivered the welcome address and spoke about the project under which the Awareness Programme is being organized.

Dr. R. D. Barthakur, ACTO and Principal Investigator of the Project detailed about the objective of the day-long programme. She delivered a power point presentation on 'Bamboo Charcoal: An Alternative Source of Livelihood'. She illustrated different basic information on bamboo charcoal production including charcoal making procedure, processing and marketing.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Head, Extension Division, RFRI, Jorhat gave a detailed presentation on 'Bamboo: A Wonder Plant of 21st Century'. In his presentation, he sensitized the participants on bamboo diversity, utilization, nursery practices, cultivation and management practices. He informed that a team of villagers from the project area would be trained at RFRI, Jorhat under the project.

Mr. Pranab Teron, Forest Range Officer, East Karbi Anglong Forest Range, Silonijan, Karbi Anglong spoke on the occasion and appreciated the effort of RFRI to implement the project work at Silonijan area. He told that forest department would extend all possible help and cooperation for successful implementation of the project.

Mr. Rolen Tissue, Chairman, Biodiversity Management Committee, East Karbi Anglong Forest Range, Silonijan, Karbi Anglong also spoke on the occasion. He appealed to the villagers to take the advantage of the opportunity provided by RFRI, Jorhat.

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