

RAIN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, JORHAT

Regional Research Conference for the North Eastern India (4th November, 2019)

The Second Regional Research Conference (RRC) for the North-eastern region was organized by Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat, Assam on 4th November, 2019 at NEDFi House, Guwahati. The main objective of this Conference is to provide one platform to all research organizations of the region working on forestry for sustainable management of their research issues through collaborative approach.

In the inaugural session, Dr. R.S.C. Jayaraj, Director of RFRI, Jorhat apprised that Regional Research Conference is an opportunity for the stakeholders to address their region based issues and challenges in forestry sectors to a national platform for an effective solution.

During the session two RFRI Reports *viz.*, a) 'Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) in Jhum Fields for Productivity Enhancement' and b) '*Garcinias* of Upper Brahmaputra Valley' were released by the Chief Guest.

During his address, the Chief Guest, Dr. S. C. Gairola, IFS, Director General of ICFRE, Dehradun has mentioned that this conference was a part of the exercise to revise the National Forestry Research Plan (NFRP), a road map for the nation's forestry sector. He also highlighted the collaborative works undertaken by ICFRE with other national level research organizations.

As guest of honour, Dr. Anand Kumar, Addl. PCCF, Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh urged to find out proper devices to cut down research gaps. He also suggested RFRI and other Research organizations of the region including National Bamboo Mission to augment their activities.

The Conference was well represented by the State Forest Department functionaries, representatives from National Bamboo Mission, Assam, GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Itanagar, North Eastern Space Applications Centre, Umiam, Meghalaya, The Energy Resource Institute, Guwahati, Tata Institute of Social Science, Guwahati, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Borapani, Aaranyak, Guwahati, KSKHAWU Mowphleng Welfare Society, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. All sessions were chaired by Dr. S.C. Gairola, DG, ICFRE Dehradun.

A total of three technical sessions were held and of which, one session was earmarked for identifying the research needs of North East India on the following topics:

- i. *‘Sustainable use of bamboo and cane resources’*
- ii. *‘Sustainable use of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFPs) including medicinal plants’*
- iii. *‘Enhancement of agarwood cultivation and processing’.*

All representatives took active part in the day long deliberation. The conference ended with vote of thanks by Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat.

Glimpses of RRC,RFRI, Jorhat held on 4th Nov, 2019 at NEDFi House, Guwahati



Welcome address by Dr. R.S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI



Address by Chief Guest, Dr. S.C Gairola , Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun



During Technical Session



Release of two Research Reports prepared by RFRI, Jorhat



Delegates of the Conference