

**Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Conifer Campus,
Panthaghati, Shimla-171 013, Himachal Pradesh**

**TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “PROPAGATION AND MODERN NURSERY
TECHNIQUES OF *PINUS GERARDIANA* AND *RIBES* SPP. (CURRENTS) HELD ON
19TH DECEMBER, 2020 THROUGH VIRTUAL MEANS**

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh State Forest Department under JICA Project organized One Day Virtual Training Programme on “**Propagation and Modern Nursery Techniques of *Pinus gerardiana* and *Ribes* spp. (Currents)**” through video conferencing on 19th December 2020 for the officials of Kinnaur & Lahaul Forest Divisions and Spiti Wildlife Division. The Training Programme was attended by Divisional Forest Officers, Forest Rangers, Deputy Rangers, Foresters and Forest Guards.

At the outset, **Shri Rajesh Sharma, DCF**, HP Forest Department welcomed **Dr. S. S. Samant**, Director, HFRI, Shimla and **Sh. Nagesh Guleria**, IFS, Chief Project Director, JICA Project and Consultant, **Dr. Harsh Mitter**, IFS, PCCF (Retd.) Director, Jadi Buti Cell, Resource Persons and all the participants/trainees of this virtual Training Programme. After that, he invited **Dr. S. S. Samant**, Director, HFRI, Shimla to deliver Inaugural Address.

In the beginning **Dr. S. S. Samant**, Director, HFRI, Shimla welcomed all the Forest Officers of JICA Project of the HPSFD, Resource Persons and all the participants who attended the virtual Training Programme. He gave a brief overview of the research and extension activities undertaken by HFRI, Shimla in its Jurisdiction State of Himachal Pradesh and Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He also highlighted the diversity of Conifer species, their status, values, etc. He further said that Officers and field functionaries of tribal divisions of Himachal Pradesh will be definitely benefited by this training programme. He thanked Himachal Pradesh Forest Department for selecting HFRI, Shimla as collaborating institute for conducting this on line virtual Training Programme for the officials of Kinnaur and Lahaul Forest Divisions and Spiti Wildlife Division.

After inaugural address, **Dr. Sandeep Sharma**, Scientist-G and Head, Silviculture and Forest Management, HFRI, Shimla gave a detailed presentation on “**Modern Nursery Techniques and Bio-Composting**”. He discussed all the issues pertaining to establishment of modern Nursery, raising of quality seedlings in the nursery, composting and vermi-composting techniques. After that, **Shri Pitamber Singh Negi**, Scientist-C, HFRI, Shimla, gave a detailed presentation on “**Nursery and Planting Techniques of Chilgoza Pine (*Pinus gerardiana*) and *Ribes* spp. (Currents).**” He elaborated all the details pertaining to seed

collection, seed processing, seed storage, nursery techniques for raising quality nursery stock of Chilgoza Pine, and Ribes spp., and plantation techniques of these species. **Dr. Ashwani Tapwal**, Scientist-E made detailed presentation on “**Mycorrhizae- Potential Bioinoculants for Stimulating Plant Growth.**” He also elaborated the importance of Mycorrhizae for the production of quality stock of conifers.

In the evening session, Dr. Virender Singh, Principal Scientist, HPKVV Palampur talked in detail about ‘Propagation of Sea-buckthorn and Modern Nursery Techniques’. He elaborated the importance of this potential species of cold desert region for the economic upliftment of the tribal communities.

Dr. Harsh Mitter, IFS PCCF (Retd.) Director, Jadi Buti Cell; JICA-PIHPFEM&L gave detailed presentation on Raising thornless Sea-buckthorn and Taxus from stem cuttings with hormones.

After the presentations, the queries raised by the participants were duly addressed by the respective Resource persons. In the end, **Sh. Nagesh Guleria**, IFS, Chief Project Director, JICA- PIHPFEM&L Project thanked all the Resource Persons and Director, HFRI, Shimla for successfully organizing this One Day Virtual Training Programme.

