

Extension activities during the month of September 2013

1. On the 6th of September 2013, His Excellency Mr. Daniele Mancini, the Hon'ble Ambassador of Italy in India visited the Advanced Wood Working Training Centre (AWTC) of IWST accompanied by Mr. Ugo Ciarolatani, Consulate General of Italy along with Mr. Sergio Sgambato, Secretary General, Indo-Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The AWTC in the institute had a collaborative project with the Italian Trade Commission through an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) wherein a large number of Indian artisans were trained in advanced wood working machineries supplied by Italy. The visit of Hon'ble Ambassador throws open the gate for further collaboration with the Government of Italy.



2. On the 11th, 12th and afternoon of 13th September 2013, an internal IWST workshop was held, in which all the scientists made presentations on their present work, their past achievements and future vision. A total of 26 scientists made presentations, which was appreciated by the Director, IWST and suggested that a similar workshop be held the next year also, to discuss the achievements and future scope every year. Discussions in the workshop also led to the initiation of new studies and other activities by various scientists.



3. On the 16th of September 2013, a total of 30 Bamboo artisans from different districts of Madhya Pradesh visited IWST. The visit was organized jointly by Dr. Syam Vishwanath, Scientist – F and Ar. Neelam Manjunath from Manasaram Architects who is at present involved in providing training to the Bamboo artisans. At IWST, they were briefly explained about the activities being carried out at IWST followed by a presentation by Dr. Syam Vishwanath on the commercially available Bamboo species in India., their propagation aspects and other nursery practices. This was followed by a presentation by Mrs .D. Venmalar on the processing of Bamboo through Boucherie process. Later a practical demonstration of this process was done followed by visit to Gottipura nursery.



4. From 16th to 23rd of September 2013, a total of 20 students from the College of Horticulture and Forestry, Central Agricultural University, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh visited our institute. They were given an in-depth insight into the various research activities being carried out by each of the research divisions of IWST. The students submitted a report on the same to the extension officer.

5. On 17th of September a stakeholders meeting was organized at IWST Bangalore to discuss the new projects being proposed for the next financial year. Twenty four participants from different sectors/organizations like Karnataka Forest Department, FRLHT, Bamboo Society, Wood Based Industries, Plant growers etc. participated in the meeting. Mr. G.S. Prabhu, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Karnataka Forest Department was the chief guest and Prof. H.S. Mukunda, Department of Aerospace Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore was the guest of honor in the inaugural session. The Director IWST welcomed the delegates and briefed about the purpose of the stake holders meet. Director also highlighted some of the significant achievements of this institute. Professor Mukunda stressed the need to focus research on converting waste wood and tree borne oils to high grade fuels. Mr. G.S. Prabhu emphasised the need to focus on increasing productivity to ensure improved biomass production. All new project proposals were presented by the concerned scientist and discussed. The stake holders provided valuable suggestions for future research projects and showed interest in collaborating with the Institute.



6. On the 18th of September 2013, a lecture on "Human Resource Development and Spirituality" by Dr. Mohan Das Hegde was arranged in the institute. All the interested Scientists, officers and other staff attend the same. The talk was mainly on how spirituality is important in better human resource management especially in office establishments, for better productivity.



7. On the 18th of September, 2013 the World Bamboo Day was celebrated in the institute. The celebrations were initiated by the Tree Improvement and Genetics Division. After the introductory remarks by the Director of the institute, the

Formal Release of three Bamboo booklets on three important species of Karnataka (*Guadua angustifolia*, *Dendrocalamus stocksii*, *Dendrocalamus brandisii*) was done by the Chief Guest, Dr. Mohan Das Hegde, the Director IWST, Bangalore and the TIG division. Thereafter one of our stakeholders, Mr. Parameswaran Iyer, Managing Director, Bamboo Pecker Industries delivered a talk on “utilization of bamboo resources by stakeholders and industries”. The programme ended with the planting of various bamboo species (*Dendrocalamus giganteus*, *D.stocksii*, *D.brandisii*, *D.asper*, *Bambusa balcooa*, *Thyrsostachysoliveri*, *Guadua angustifolia*, *Schizostachyumbrachycladum*) in the campus .



8. On the 25th of September 2013, a total of 30 Bamboo artisans from different districts of Madhya Pradesh revisited the institute. The revisit was based on the feedback of the artisan who showed keen interest in visiting the WPEW workshop and the WP workshop. Dr. Anil Kumar Sethy gave them a detailed demonstration of the works being carried out at the workshops, use of different machineries, and about the advantages of alternate wood over commercial timbers. They also visited the museum thereafter.



9. On the 26th of September 2013, a total of 60 students from the Acharya Polytechnic Institute, Soledivanahalli, Hesaraghatta, Bangalore visited the institute. They were exposed to the activities being carried out in the Advanced Wood Working Training Centre. Thereafter they were shown around the museum and explained about the importance of wood by Dr. Ritesh D’Ram, Scientist - C.



10. On the 27th of September 2013, a total of 37 post graduate students of Environment Management from FRI University, Dehra dun visited our institute. After briefing them about the activities being carried out by the institute, they were exposed to the research activities of all the divisions of the institute along with advanced wood working at the AWTC workshop. Smt. S.Shashikala briefed them about the museum during their museum visit.

