



Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) Quality Planting Material Producer

Organized by

ENVIS Resource Partner on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding

(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)

Coimbatore

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Gass Forest Museum Visit

The trainees visited the Gass Forest Museum, which was established by Horace Archibald Gass, a British Forest Officer a century back. Dr T. Vamadevan, Information Officer, ENVIS explained the history of the museum. The entomology section which has over 1,000 insects, including both beneficial and pests attracted the trainees. The trainees also experienced the exhibits viz Timber, Non-Timber Forest Products, Wood Crafts, Wildlife, Mycology, Geology, Ethnology, Arms, Forest Engineering and Environment. This visit has enriched the candidate's knowledge and learning experience.



Lecture on Importance of Quality Planting Material

A Lecture on Importance of Quality Planting Material was delivered by Dr S. Murugesan, Scientist G and Director, IFGTB. In his lecture, he highlighted the importance of quality planting material in increasing the tree cover and enhancing the productivity from unit area. He motivated the trainees to become entrepreneurs at the earliest and wished them success in their future endeavours.



Fischer Herbarium (FRC) Visit

The Trainees were taken to Fischer Herbarium, which is recognized as a National Repository by Government of India. Dr Dr C. Kunhikannan, Scientist G welcomed the trainees and explained that the herbarium was established in 1911 and houses very valuable collections of officials like C.E.C. Fischer, T.F.Bourdillon and M. Rama Rao from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Presently, the herbarium has a collection of 15881 specimens of 3259 species with 1329 genera belonging to 172 families including thousands of recent collections with isotypes. Several stakeholders, students and research workers from different universities and R&D organizations in the country are utilizing these facilities, he added.



Ms. Tamarasi, Chief Technical Officer explained the basics of Taxonomy. She also explained how Fischer Herbarium was created and the overall activities going in the Herbarium and gave a brief lecture about the use of Herbarium for Researchers. The trainees were taken to lab and detailed about the number of species, families of the species with their botanical name. The steps in creating the herbarium sheets were explained by showing the sample herbaria sheets.

