



## BENGALURU GETS THE HONOUR OF HOSTING THE 14TH NATIONAL SILVICULTURE CONFERENCE AT IISC



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Mr. Sh. Kamal Bali, MD, Volvo Trucks India, Dr. Suresh Chandra Gairola, Director General, ICFRE, Dehra Dun, Sh. Siddhanta Das (Director General of Forest and Special Secretary, MoEF&CC, Govt. displaying conference brochures at JN Tata Auditorium in Bengaluru.

**Bengaluru:** The 14th National Silviculture Conference on “Forest & Sustainability: Securing a Common Future” was organized

by Institute of Wood Science and Technology, at the JN Tata Auditorium, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bengaluru. For the very first time, the conference has been held in Bengaluru. Till date, the event has always been conducted in the premises of Forest Research Institute Dehradun. The Silviculture conference was well attended by 25 states, which is an achievement in itself. Senior officers from these states discussed specific Silviculture problems faced by their respective states. A detailed discussion was held to provide practical solutions. The event was formally inaugurated by the chief guest, Sh. Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forest and Special Secretary, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Sh. Kamal Bali, MD, Volvo Trucks India and Sh. Punati Sridhar, PCCF & HoFF, Karnataka were the guests of honor. “Shri Surendra Kumar, Director of the institute while welcoming the delegates informed the gathering that Institute has not used any plastic material in this conference and requested all the delegates’ to do so. The event was marked by the presence of Special Secretary and Members of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, members of ICFRE and IWST, senior delegates from State Forest Department, PSUs, Central & State Govt. Organizations, Scientific Laboratories, Academic Institutions, Research Organizations, and leaders of the corporate world, head of several association, promoters and experts. Speaking on the inauguration Sh. Siddhanta Das said, “The 14th National Silviculture conference provides an opportunity to bring together foresters, scientist, policy makers, academician, tree growers and students on a common platform to discuss, share and deliberate, on the issues related to the importance of forest in current climate change scenario. The deliberation in the conference will

help deciding the future road map in sustainable forestry in mitigating climate change.” Keynote address was given by Dr. Suresh Chandra Gairola, Director General, ICFRE, DehraDun. To quote, “I am sure the conference will stimulate novel ideas and the deliberations will encourage and inspire all to explore and expand our interests in broad array in modern areas of sustainable forest management. I also hope that the conference will lead towards improved forest productivity, enhanced carbon sink and sustainable livelihoods.” Names of some of the distinguished speakers were: Dr. Dilip Kumar Sh. M.K. Singh Dr. C.T.S. Nair Dr. R.S.C. Jayaraj Prof. Klaus v Gadow Dr.K.N Ganeshiah Dr. Savita Dr. Manoranjan Bhanja Dr. Mohit Gera Sh. Chandra Mohan Reddy IWST sister institute IFGTB, Coimbatore released a mobile app for disease management in nursery and plantation. IWST has carried out research on the protection of high-value trees like Sandalwood, Rosewood and Mahogany. It has developed e protection method to protect these trees. A brochure and a CD on the same were released by the chief guest. An exhibition was also organized which saw a live demonstration by the wood and bamboo artisans. Several research organizations with relation to forestry were invited to be part of the event. Research scholars and students were enthusiastic to be part of such an important conference. Issues and challenges related to the current scenario of forestry and climate change, management and sustainability was the main focus of some of the papers presented at the conference. Dr. K. K. Pandey, Scientist G, IWST, Bengaluru, presented the vote of thanks on behalf of Institute of Wood Science and Technology.

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