

First Consultation Meeting of Haryana State on “Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation for Rejuvenation of Yamuna River through Forestry Interventions” held at Panchkula on 6th August 2019

Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun and Haryana Forest Department jointly organized the First Consultation Meeting of Haryana state on “Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation for Rejuvenation of Yamuna River through Forestry Interventions” on 6th August 2019 at Panchkula, Haryana. The meeting was organized under the aegis of the project sanctioned by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, to Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun on rejuvenation of major rivers in the country through forestry interventions. The meeting was attended by about 70 participants from different stakeholder departments. Sh. Atul Sirsikar, Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer for DPR on Yamuna of Haryana state welcomed the delegates. Dr. Anil Hooda, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Haryana Forest Department inaugurated the meeting. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Hooda appreciated the initiative taken for rejuvenation of the Yamuna river and promised to extend full support of the forest department in acting as nodal agency in preparation as well as implementation of the DPR. He also said that as Haryana has very small forest area along Yamuna, agriculture and agroforestry practices will be very important from point of view of the DPR. Shri A.S. Rawat, Director FRI gave overview of the project and elaborated on its significance and goals. He said that FRI looks forward to the State Forest Department and other stakeholder departments for getting inputs on the problems and issues regarding Yamuna river in the state of Haryana for addressing them in the proposed DPR. Dr Dinesh Kumar, Project Coordinator, FRI Dehradun gave a presentation on the methodology and technical aspects of DPR preparation.

Senior officers of Haryana Forest Department, including Sh. Jagdish Chandra, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Member Secretary, State Biodiversity Board, Sh. Vineet Garg, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Sh KC Meena,

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, and Divisional Forest Officers along with field staff attended the meeting in large numbers and shared their experiences.

Delegates from Central Ground Water Board, departments of Soil and Water Conservation, Mining, Horticulture, Agriculture, Fisheries, Irrigation, NGOs, besides farmers participated in the meeting and deliberated on the DPR formulation and implementation mechanism. Representatives of the stakeholder departments presented works being done by them and suggested works and activities to be incorporated in the DPR in form of appropriate models. They further stressed the need for judicious use of ground water considering the declining level of this precious resource. Farmers showed interest in planting of fruit and forest trees in agroforestry models. Dr. Ombir Singh, Consultant, FRI took clarification from stakeholders on several issues concerning the DPR.

This was followed by an absorbing discussion on various aspects of DPR preparation. Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Nodal Officer, DPR Yamuna at FRI Dehradun formally thanked the Haryana SFD and all the participating departments for their active participation in the meeting and inputs for the proposed DPR.



