

Training Report

Two days training workshop on “Butterfly Monitoring & Butterfly Inclusive Eco-tourism as a Source of Livelihood” for IFS Officers was organized at Forest Research Institute from 3 to 4.xii.2019. The financial support of the training was provided by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

A total of 15 participants (list attached) from 12 states (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh-AGMU; Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand) attended this training programme.

The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. S.C. Gairola, Director General of ICFRE, Dehradun. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the importance of butterfly monitoring and how butterflies can be used in eco-tourism programmes to generate livelihood opportunities and was introduced to all the participants. Shri A. S. Rawat Director, Forest Research Institute, Shri S.D. Sharma, DDG, Research (ICFRE), Smt. Kanchan Devi, DDG, Education & Extension (ICFRE) and Sh. Anurag Bhardwaj, Director International Cooperation (ICFRE) were also present on this occasion. Dr. Arun Pratap Singh, Course coordinator & resource person of this training programme, outlined the various aspects to be covered during training period.

This training module has been designed for foresters to cover the concept in detail and included 8 lectures spanning two days on basic topics -Importance of butterflies, their life cycle & habits, identification of butterflies, sources of literature and collections in India, sampling methods & equipments. The second day discussed the world wide concepts of butterfly nature trails, butterfly gardens, butterfly parks and butterfly conservatories, besides butterfly ranching & breeding, nectar and larval food plants, butterfly baits and artificial nectar sources. The trainees were also taken on a field exercise butterfly transect walk across the natural trail in New Forest Campus. A visit to National Forest Insect Collection at FRI that houses one of the largest collection butterflies from the Indian Sub-continent including Myanmar, was also undertaken.

The trainees were provided course material of all the lectures in both hard and soft copies in a pen drive. Soft copies of some important literature/books related to the subject were also made available. The training was imparted in an interactive manner with brainstorming sessions that certainly helped foresters in understanding the concept of butterfly inclusive eco-tourism and in creation and establishment of butterfly trails, gardens and parks, food plants across forested areas in India.

The training ended with a small valedictory session which was chaired by Director, FRI who presented certificates, group photograph and a memento to each of the participants who gave an account/ feedback about the training programme.



Group Photograph of the trainees with the Forest Officers & Scientists at FRI, Dehradun



Inauguration of the training programme by the chief guest, Dr. S.C. Gairola, D.G. ICFRE



Lecture sessions by course coordinator



Field exercise on butterfly sampling on a nature trail with trainees



Valedictory Session and distribution of certificates by Shri A.S.Rawat, Director, FRI to trainees.