



## **Divisional Webinar on “Standards for Certification of Forestry seeds” on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

Forest Tree Seed Laboratory, Silviculture and Forest Management Division, FRI organized a webinar on “**Standards for Certification of Forestry seeds**” on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, under the series of divisional seminars for celebrating ‘Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. The webinar was organized with the aim of having deliberations on developing the standards for certification of Forestry seeds. The webinar was attended by heads of all division of FRI, scientists, technical staff, and students of FRI Deemed University, Scientists of other ICFRE institutes, ICAR-IARI and Kerala Forest Research Institute. The webinar started with a welcome address by Sh. R.P. Singh, Head, Silviculture and Forest Management Division. He highlighted the importance of Forest Seed Certification which forms part of Indian Forestry Standards that are to be developed in future. The Director, FRI and DG, ICFRE, Sh. Arun Singh Rawat, in his inaugural address, emphasized on the need for requirement of developing seed standards for forestry seeds. He highlighted the need for state specific standards and seed quality procedures compiled at one place by involving SFDs and seed testing laboratories. Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Scientist-G, Silviculture and Forest Management Division and coordinator of the webinar talked about Forest seed certification process followed by SFD’s and outlined the history of seed certification and seed legislations in India. Dr. Arun Kumar M. B., Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi highlighted problems and prospects of Forest Seed Certification in which he discussed about the seed standards of agricultural and horticultural crops and compared it with forestry seeds. He also deliberated upon development of minimum seed certification standards for forestry seeds. Dr. P.K. Chandrasekhara Pillai, Senior Consultant, Kerala Forest Research Institute, talked about ‘Seed handling of Forestry species-Minimum standards for seed certification’. He emphasized on the quality seed production procedures for better survival and growth of plantations which depends on the source, specific collection methods, harvesting time, and techniques of harvesting, processing, storage practices, etc.

This virtual seminar helped various stakeholders in understanding the process and intricacies of Forest Seed Certification through latest information and current status of forest seed certification in India and also draw future course of research action.