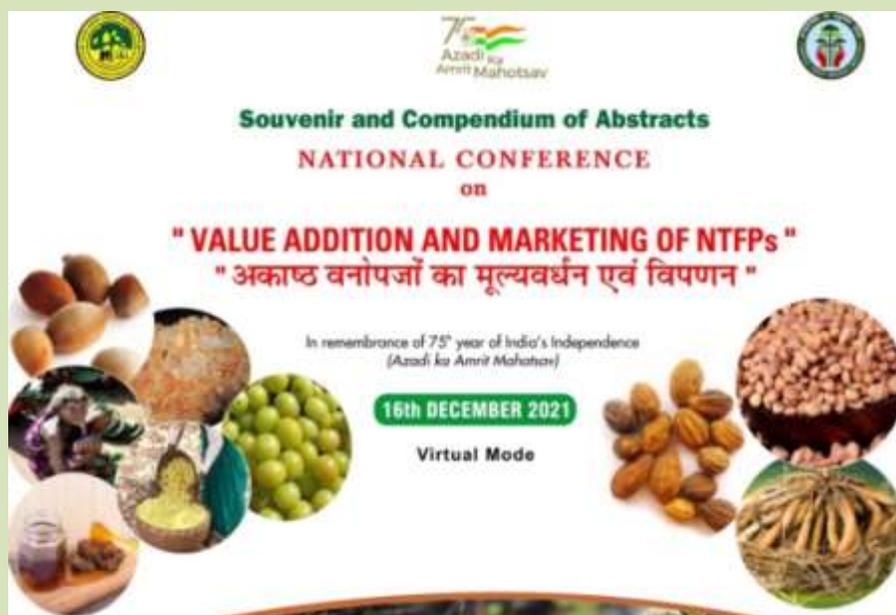


National Conference (virtual mode) on “Value addition and Marketing of NTFPs” held at Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur on 16th December, 2021



Patron

Shri A. S. Rawat, IFS

Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun

Convenor

Dr. G. Rajeshwar Rao, ARS

Director, TFRI, Jabalpur

Organizing Secretary

Dr. Hari om Saxena

Scientist-D, SFM & AF Division,
TFRI, Jabalpur

Jt. Secretaries

Dr. M. Kundu,

Scientist-F & Head, SFM & AF Division,
TFRI, Jabalpur

Dr. N. Berry,

Scientist-E & Head, Extension Division,
TFRI, Jabalpur

Mr. Neeraj Prajapati,

Scientist-B, SFM & AF Division,
TFRI, Jabalpur

December 16, 2021

Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur hold a one-day National Conference on “Value addition & marketing of Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFPs)” on 16th December, 2021 in remembrance of 75th year of India’s Impendence (*Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*). The purpose of this National conference was to provide a platform to all Researchers, Academicians, Forest Department officials, Entrepreneurs, NTFP traders, NTFP gatherers, NGOs, Industrialists etc. working on NTFPs and medicinal plants to share their views and experiences on various issues related to NTFPs in ensuring improved livelihoods of dependent communities.

Smt. Neelu Singh, Group Co-ordinator Research, TFRI, welcome the Chief Guest Shri Rakesh Chaturvedi, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Chhattisgarh state, Guest of Honour, Shri S.P. Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Indian Farm Forestry Development Corporation (IFFDC), Gurugram, Haryana, Special Guest, Shri Deepak Mishra, Secretary & ADG (Edu & RB), ICFRE, Dehradun, Prof. Tanuja Nesari, Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plants Borad, New Delhi, all dignitaries and participants in the National Conference.

Dr G Rajeshwar Rao, ARS, Director TFRI gave the opening remarks. In his address, he emphasized the need of establishing the custom hiring centers on NTFPs which will help in enhancing the Livelihood of rural communities by providing them facilities of processing and value addition.

Prof. (Dr.) Tanuja Nesari, CEO, NMPB stressed on the need of forest certification, sustainable harvesting of wild NTFP resources having importance in tribal livelihood. She further added that Institutions should release technical bulletins/ pamphlets on standardization of cultivation, propagation, harvesting techniques of commercially important NTFPs for welfare of local people.

Shri Deepak Mishra, IFS, Secretary & ADG (Edu & RB) heightened that NTFPs should be included in the main stream among all forest-based products due to dependency of tribal communities on these produce for their sustenance and income generation. He also highlighted various schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana, role of SFDs & JFM in NTFPs management, the establishment of NTFPs microenterprises, the need of sustainable harvesting, value addition, and marketing of NTFPs.

Shri S.P. Singh, CEO, IFFDC informed the august gathering that NTFPs contributes about 75% of total income obtained from the export of these minor forest produces in forestry sector, it also generates a revenue of 2.7 million US\$ annually. He also talked about on role of NTFPs in rural upliftment, their multidisciplinary role, NTFP market policy and role of IFFDC in converting 29000-hectare area of barren land into lush green forest in India.

Shri Rakesh Chaturvedi, PCCF & HoFF, CG state accentuated the paradigm shift in last 3 years in NTFPs procurement, value addition and marketing in Chhattisgarh state. He highlighted the role of CG state MFP Federation in trade and development of NTFPs. He informed the august gathering that CG state has announced minimum support price for 26 NTFPs and about 126 NTFPs based products have been developed. CGSFD has established Sanjeevanies throughout the state. About 800 SHGs are involved in the NTFP trade in CG state. A number of processing units for Lac, Broom, Herbal medicines, Chironji, Honey, Cashew, Kodo & Kutki, food has been established in the CG state. He appreciated the Organizers for conducting the National Conference on such a topical issue and wished for its grand success. Dr. Hari Om Saxena, organizing secretary of the conference delivered the vote of thanks to the dignitaries.

There were invited talks by distinguished delegates, 34 oral presentations and 43 poster presentations under the five themes, Conservation of NTFPs - RET species, Collection, harvesting, processing and value addition of NTFPs, Resource assessment and augmentation of NTFPs, Quality standardization and certification of NTFPs and NTFPs marketing: Issues and strategies of the Conference. Discussions and deliberations were going on throughout the day which benefitted the stakeholders involved in the NTFP trade. The different technical sessions were chaired and co-chaired by eminent professionals.

Shri. M. Srinivasa Rao, APCCF and CEO, National Bamboo Mission, Maharashtra state was the Chief guest during the valedictory session of the conference. Dr Hari Om Saxena, organizing secretary of the conference briefed the conference report before the Chief Guest. Dr G. Rajeshwar Rao Director TFRI gave the concluding remarks about the conference. In his Valedictory address, Shri M. Srinivasa Rao congratulated TFRI for organizing the conference. He emphasized on the need to augment the need-based medicinal and aromatic crops especially Sandalwood. He also advised to submit some more Innovative research projects to Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) related seeking financial support for the welfare of forest dependent communities.

The National Conference was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Hari Om Saxena, organizing secretary of the conference.

Glimpses of the National conference





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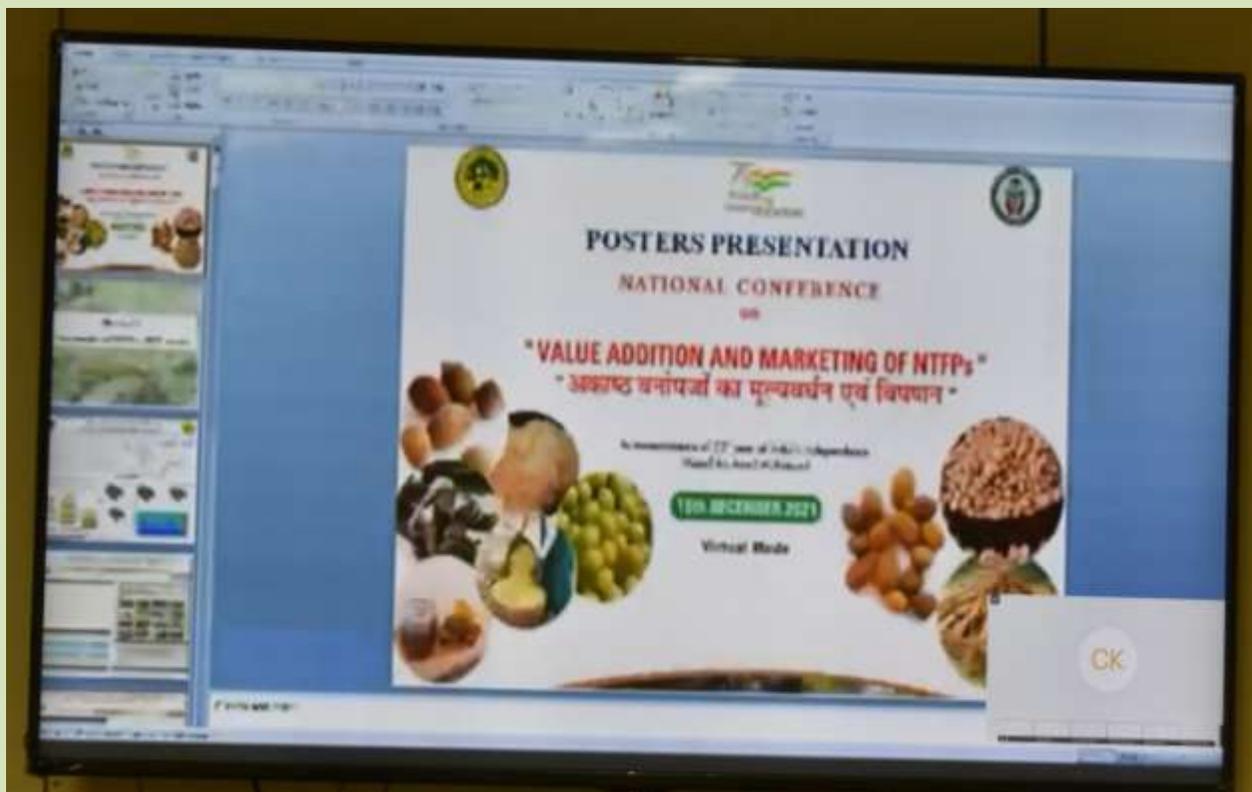


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TFRI organises National Conference on 'Value addition & marketing of NTFPs



Dignitaries during concluding ceremony of national conference at TFRI on Friday.

■ Staff Reporter

TROPICAL Forest Research Institute (TFRI) conducted a one-day National Conference on 'Value addition & marketing of Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFPs)' on December 16. The purpose of the conference was to provide platform to all researchers, academicians, Forest Department officials, entrepreneurs, NGOs, industrialists and other stakeholders of NTFPs and medicinal plants to share their views and experiences on various issues related to NTFPs in ensuring improved livelihoods of dependent communities. Dr. G Rajeshwar Rao, ARS, Director TFRI, emphasized on the need of establishing the custom hiring centres on NTFPs which will help in enhancing livelihood of rural communities by providing them facilities of processing and value addition.

Rakesh Chaturvedi, PCCF & HoFE, CG state accentuated the role of CG state MFP Federation in trade and development on NTFPs. He informed the gathering that CG has announced minimum support price for 26 NTFPs and about 126 NTFPs based products have been developed.

Eminent guests Prof. (Dr.)

Tanuja Nesari, CEO, NMPB, Deepak Mishra, IFS, Secretary and ADG (Edu & RB) and S.P. Singh, CEO, IFFDC also discussed various issues related to NTFPs.

There were invited talks by distinguished delegates, 34 oral presentations and 43 poster presentations under the five themes -1) Conservation of NTFPs - RET species, 2) Collection, harvesting, processing and value addition of NTFPs, 3) Resource assessment and augmentation of NTFPs, 4) Quality standardisation and certification of NTFPs and 5) NTFPs marketing: Issues and strategies of the Conference.

M. Srinivasa Rao, APCCF and CEO, National Bamboo Mission was the chief guest during the valedictory session. He emphasized on the need to augment the need based medicinal and aromatic crops especially Sandalwood. He also welcomed innovative research projects to Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) seeking financial support for the welfare of forest dependent communities.

Dr Hari Om Saxena, organising secretary of the conference briefed the conference report before the guests and proposed vote of thanks.