



→ We are proud of you

→ P. Srinivas Memorial lecture

SPECIAL LECTURES



The Kirtichakra Late P. Srinivas Memorial Lecture

IGNFA organises the P. Srinivas Memorial Lecture each year to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of the late Sh. P. Srinivas (IFS 1979, Karnataka), who laid down his life at the altar of Forest protection on 10th November 1991.

The Sanjay Kumar Singh Memorial Lecture

The late Sh. Sanjay Kumar Singh joined IFS in 1991. While he was DFO Sasaram (Bihar), he was brutally killed by armed anti-socials on 15th February 2002. An annual memorial lecture was started in IGNFA to remember this brave officer who laid down his life while discharging his duties.

The first Sanjay Kumar Singh Memorial Lecture was delivered on 27th March 2002 by Sh. P. V. Jayakrishna, Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India.

The Barin Ganguly Lecture

On 27th August 1998, Dr. Barin Ganguly (an IFS officer of the 1957-1960 batch) submitted a proposal to institute an award titled the "Barin Ganguly Annual Award for Academic Excellence and Proven Demonstration on Global Concerns in Forestry." This award was to be given to the top graduating IFS Probationer who also demonstrated global concerns in forestry during his stay in the IGNFA. An important provision of the award stipulates that the IGNFA will invite one prominent forester every year to give a seminar to the IFS Probationers on "Global Issues in Forestry." The proposal was accepted, and the Barin Ganguly lecture started in the year 2000. The first one was delivered by Sh. Ramesh Chandra (1947 batch officer) on 29th May 2000. The topic was "International Forestry with special Reference to South & South-East Asia". The Barin Ganguly Lecture was given each year for 5 years, but after 2005, this lecture could no longer be conducted.



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL FOREST ACADEMY

TWO WEEKS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR DELEGATES FROM SAARC COUNTRIES

ON

"ENHANCING LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES OF FOREST
DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH NTFP MANAGEMENT AND ITS VALUE ADDITION"

07th-19th JULY, 2008



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL FOREST



SENSITISATION OF OTHER STAKEHOLDERS



FORESTRY AND FOREST MANAGEMENT ARE NOT ISLANDS UNTO THEMSELVES, BUT RATHER SHARE MANY POINTS OF INTERSECTION AND INTEGRATION WITH OTHER SECTORS SUCH AS LEGAL, COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL, BOTH ON A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE IGNFA HAS ALSO TAKEN UP THE TASK OF SENSITISATION OF OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN REGARD TO FORESTRY MANAGEMENT. DETAILS ARE GIVEN BELOW.

Training Programme for Representatives of SAARC Countries

During the years of 2007-2008, the Ministry of External Affairs asked IGNFA to conduct four courses for representatives from SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) countries. Of the four proposed courses, only the following two could be conducted.

Sl No.	Theme
1.	Enhancing Livelihood Opportunities of Forest Dependent Communities through Non-Timber Forest Produce Management and its Value Addition 07.07.2008 to 19.07.2008
2.	Development of Clones to Increase Productivity 15.09.2008 to 27.09.2008

In the first course, 13 participants from seven countries participated. Except for Sri Lanka, every country sent two participants. In the second course, only five participants were able to come.

→ Training programme for participants from SAARC countries in progress





INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL FOREST ACADEMY



→ United we stand

→ Left: Joint training course for IAS, IPS and IFS

Joint Service Trainings

In 2009, at the behest of the PMO, joint training programmes for three All India services were started. The goal was to enhance the degree of camaraderie among the three services as well as to improve cohesiveness in their functioning, which leads to improved governance. IGNFA Dehradun, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Musoorie and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police

Academy (SVPNPA) Hyderabad were given the responsibility to conduct the trainings. To give direction to the trainings, a composite team of officers from the three All India services working at the district level are nominated by each state. A relevant theme is identified for each course and then discussed during the 4 days of the training. So far, the IGNFA has conducted 10 such courses.

Training for Corporate Executives

In October 2009, the Academy conducted a 3-day training programme for "Power Sector Companies." The objective of this programme was to sensitise power sector executives to the rationale for environmental clearance and for the clearance required when forest lands are being diverted for non-forestry use. The training also aimed to equip them with the tools to obtain these clearances speedily and to be informed about the carbon-market opportunities. The registration fee was Rs. 50,000/- per participant. There were eight participants from NHPC, Jai Prakash Associates Ltd, Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd., Jaypee Associates Ltd, NTPC and PTCUL. Topics covered included Forest Conservation Act provisions and procedures for taking clearance for use of forest land for development projects, Environmental Impact Assessment and Clean Development Mechanisms. Along with the training sessions, a field visit to Raja Ji National Park was also organised.





Module for Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) Probationers

The National Academy of Direct Taxes, Nagpur, requested that the IGNTA arrange a 4 day "Orientation Module on Natural Resource Management" for the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) Probationers. During this module, attendees are sensitised about relevant environmental and forestry issues. The IGNTA held the first module in 2008, and to date, five such modules have been conducted.



Training for Higher Judiciary Members

In the year 2010, the IGNTA began a 3-day sensitisation programme on "Forest and Environmental Issues" for members of the higher judiciary (District Judge level). Input given during the programme includes Ecological Security for National Prosperity, Climate Change and its Implications on the Forestry Sector, The Role of the Judiciary in Forest Conservation and Development, Forest Jurisprudence-Indian Forest Act, Wild Life Protection Act and Environment Protection Acts. A visit to a nearby Protected Area is also included in the programme. Two such programmes have been conducted so far.



Others also need to understand Forestry Issues

- Above: Members of higher Judiciary during field visit to a protected area
- Right: Training for IRTS probationers

Training for Probationers of the Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS)

A 3-day training module for probationers of the IRTS was also started in 2012. During this module, forestry and wildlife issues and areas of common interest are discussed.





WAY FORWARD

CHAPTER

14





Training for the Changing Paradigm of Forest Management

More than 150 years ago, the British government began spelling out policies which would provide the foundation for scientific forest management in the country. For decades, the main focus of forest management was to grow and extract good quality timber for pressing needs like railways and ship building. Even into the beginning of the 20th century, commercial concerns were the driving force in the definition of forest management objectives: how to extract the highest quality and quantity of commercial timber. As the two World Wars played themselves out, the demand for timber only increased, putting the forests under greater pressure and resulting in further exploitation of its bounty.

Immediately after independence, the forest area under the control of the government increased significantly because of the merger of princely states and the abolition of zamindari in the country. So the new government's first 5-year plan, in order to provide adequate management in the merged territories and in the private forests taken over from zamindars, focused on improving its administrative structure. The main areas being focused on now were development of forest communications by laying forest roads and afforestation for soil conservation and for fuel wood supply. From the second plan onwards into the early seventies, the efforts of the Forest Department were aimed at the raising of plantations for commercial purpose and fuel wood supplies, the development of a road network and the introduction of improved logging techniques. Economic plantations of teak, bamboo, species for matchwood, wattle, etc. were also being raised.

During the early 70s, the National Commission on Agriculture performed a detailed study of the Forest Department's management practices. As a result, the Commission proposed a two-pronged strategy: (1) use the natural forests for the supply of industrial raw material; and (2) introduce "social forestry" (where forests are created outside of the existing, natural forest lands) for meeting the resource needs of the local communities.

The Department responded enthusiastically, and began pursuing social forestry with vigour. All through the 70s and 80s, foresters made use of both national and international funding to implement social forestry programmes. At the same time, in natural forests, serious effort was given to the conversion of low commercial value mixed forest areas into commercially important species like teak and bamboo.

In 1988, exciting and important changes were introduced. The policy makers of the country pronounced a whole new set of policies that totally changed the direction of forest management in India. Up until then, the stated objective of forest management had been to maximise revenue by producing good quality timber from natural forests. The local communities and their concerns were kept neatly outside the purview of all forest management initiatives. In this new policy however, environmental stability, biological diversity and protective functions were given prime importance. These more holistic pursuits would now take the lead, while the goals of economic benefit would have to take a more subordinate position. Another major change was to give the communities a direct role in forest management, something which had never happened since the creation of the forest department. This new provision allowed the needs of local communities to take on a much higher priority than the needs of industry and commerce.

With all these policy changes, the role of the foresters also underwent important change. They were transformed from being simply "producers of goods," to being "managers of forest resources mostly for services," giving vigilance to ecological security, conservation of biodiversity repositories and the overall protection of the forests.

Throughout these many years, this training institute has kept pace with each change being made in the forestry sector, and has consistently prepared officers to effectively shoulder the responsibility of forest management according to the nation's needs.

A Futuristic Vision of Training

The Earth Summit in 1992 aroused interest globally in the protection and sustainability of forests. The concept of Sustainable Forest Management became an important feature of the global agenda. Bodies like the United Nations Forum on Forests came into existence, and the role of forests in climate change became a common part of the social buzz. Whether it's Clean Development Mechanisms or REDD+ mechanisms under the international instruments for combating increasing global temperatures, the forest's crucial role is well recognised now. Discussions about Payment for Ecosystem Services and the management of forests as repositories of biodiversity, for water and other services, etc. will no longer be relegated to the stuffy confines of university faculty lounges, but instead are taking up centre stage in the chatter of average citizens. Foresters, being themselves right in the middle of all of this change, are forced to be agile-minded and eager learners as their role will flex with the changing times and emerging mandates. These changes, at both the national and international levels, exert a dynamic and helpful influence over us whenever our training curriculum is being re-shaped and modified. We keep students out on the front of discovery through engaging the newest and most forward-thinking subjects, and by keeping cutting-edge input flowing. Whenever and wherever advantageous, specialised and advanced institutes are organised for imparting the best training possible for our officers. The training offered at IGNFA is committed to preparing officers for top-notch, professional service, not just for today, but for way into the future.



A.K. Wahal

Director General
Forest Survey of India,
Dehradun

Being a member of elite Indian Forest Service and also being associated with the training of IFS at IGNFA in my various capacities including the Director of the prestigious institute, I have been holding firm belief that paradigm changes are required in the training of IFS personnel both at inception and also at middle and senior levels. In the modern context, a forester's job is not a straight cut one as it used to be in the yore. Forestry challenges have now assumed national/global significance. Even though people would be increasingly getting alienated from forests due to growing urbanization, many more people are becoming stakeholders of the same forests. Increasing number of claims on forests - economic, social and environmental and the plurality of

CHANGING PARADIGMS OF TRAINING FOR IFS PERSONNEL

stakeholders at all scales (global, national and local) with different and sometimes conflicting interests, views and voices, would further complicate the play of forces and decision making in forestry sector. Foresters are, therefore, to be adequately groomed to adopt a more integrated, coordinated and collaborative approach and taking all shades of opinions with them. They are, therefore, to be trained in social skills like coordination, negotiation, conflict resolution, problem solving, dealing with politicians, media, civil society and so forth. Needless to say that both by their training and dispositions, presently the foresters are not well adept in these.

Imperatives of climate change scenarios and the important role that forests play in climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as the need for forest

dependent people and forest ecosystem to adapt to these challenges, would be main focus of concern for the foresters in coming times. Building institutional capacity of the sector/service to use the opportunity to channelise more resources into forest protection, forest rehabilitation and other aspects of sustainable forest management and bio-diversity conservation would be corner stone for the success of the sector/service.

Finance is the key to effective management and protection of forests and there is a great need for innovative thinking and experimentation in this area. Multi-functionality of forests can be used as basis for generating investment into this sector. New ideas like Green National Account taking into consideration the value of ecological services within which the actual

contribution of forests to the economy and society is to be quantified. Besides the basic training in forestry, the officers also need to be given good exposure on valuation, accounting and micro/macro economics to develop skill sets required for green accounting.

At present, policy & programme-making processes and deliberations/exchanges at National/International fora, witness forester's community to be watching from sidelines and feel excluded from the decision making processes. This has primarily been due to the prevailing scheme of things in administration both at the country and states level as also the reluctance on the part of foresters to be involved in mainstream thinking and planning processes. Developing cross sector linkages and integrating forests into landscape approaches & planning and

national policy, would help improve this situation for which foresters at all levels need to be trained and equipped adequately.

Realization that technology would be a big enabling factor in transforming the working system and processes in all Govt. sectors including forestry has to dawn upon the foresters. Integration of IT, Geomatics, Genetics, Bio-technology and other upcoming disciplines may not only help in bringing about desired results but also provide modern outlook and scientific vision for the sector. IFS officers in general, have to be exposed to these trends within the country and abroad and should be encouraged to bring about new ideas and innovative methods into the working system.

Lastly, the foresters alone can help in bringing about the much needed change in perceptions of the people,



polity and other democratic institutions. This would come about if our officers start looking at forestry issues in holistic manner and not in isolation with many other predicaments facing the society - poverty & hunger, water, energy, social conflicts etc. and come out with innovative ways which would help mitigate some of these. Forging & cementing bond with people who are dependent upon forests for their livelihood & existence and not excluding them, should be guiding principles for forest managers. Failing to do so shall isolate the sector much more and may not result in bringing about the much needed priority & consideration that it deserves from politician, planners and policy makers. Holistic approaches in training, right from the beginning may help overcome this deficiency.