

National Nursery Assessment and Accreditation Committee



(Notified under the provisions of Accreditation Protocol for Agroforestry Nurseries by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare vide F.No.18-1/2023-NRM-AF (FTS:132982) dt:20.12.2023)

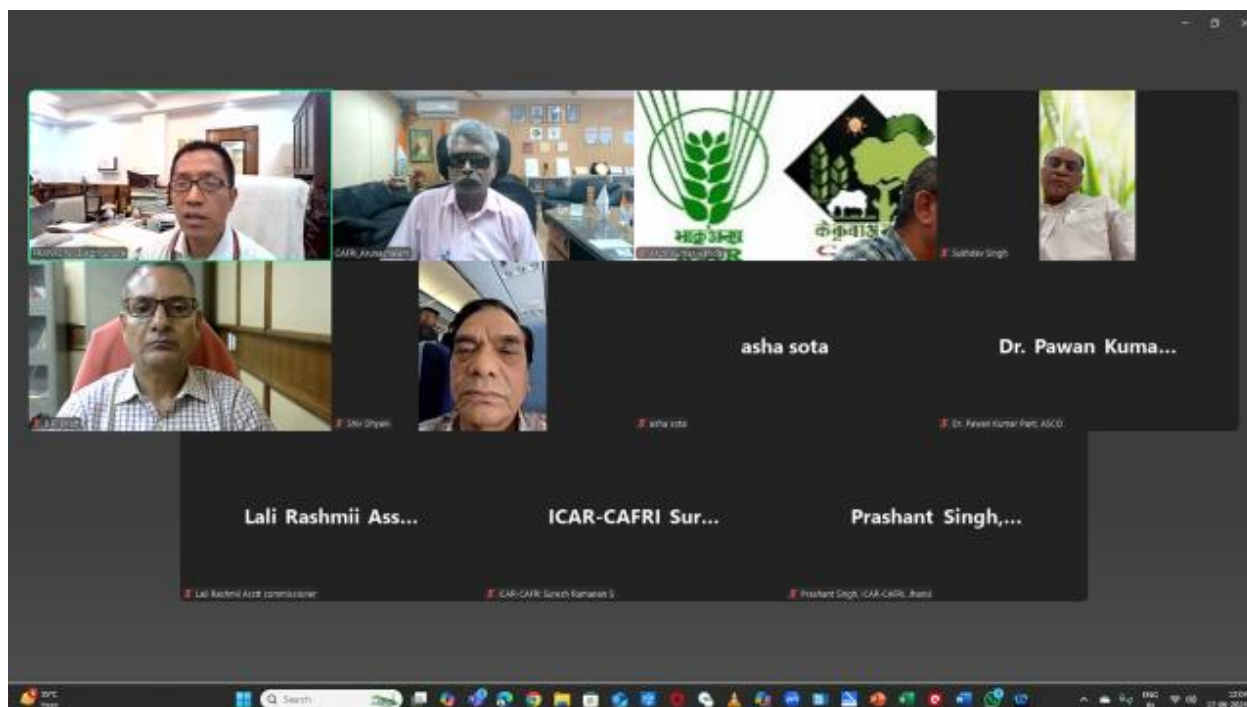
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17.06.2025

Proceedings of the 4th National Nursery Assessment and Accreditation Committee (NNAAC) Meeting held on 17th June, 2025 (Virtual Mode)

The following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Franklin L. Khobung IFS, Jt. Secretary (NRM), MoA&FW, Govt. of India
2. Dr. A. Arunachalam, Chairman, NNAAC
3. Dr. S.K. Dhyan, CIFOR-ICRAF India Office
4. Dr. S.D. Singh IFS, NRAA
5. Dr. B.P. Bhatt, ICAR
6. Smt. Asha Sota, Member Secretary, NNAAC
7. Dr. A.K. Handa, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CAFRI
8. Mr. Suresh Ramanan, S. Scientist, ICAR-CAFRI
9. Smt. Lali Rashmi, DoAC&FW
10. Dr. Pawan Kumar Pant, ASCO, DoAC&FW

The representative members from NAEB, MoEF&CC could not participate in the program due to some important meetings in his Ministry.



The 4th NNAAC meeting began with a welcome note and briefing of the purpose of the meeting by the Chairman of the NNAAC to consider the assessment reports/proposals received from the State Nodal Agencies for Agroforestry Nursery Accreditation. This was followed by the Joint Secretary Dr Franklin L Khobung, IFS who appreciated the efforts of CAFRI Jhansi in nursery assessment and accreditation process.

A brief presentation was made by the Chairman of the NNAAC Dr. A. Arunachalam, Director, ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi that highlighted the decisions implemented and list of nurseries accredited based on the previous NNAAC meetings. He also briefed about the capacity building programs conducted by CAFRI Jhansi for training the state officials for nursery assessment and accreditation process. He informed that one such program begins today at CAFRI for officials from Tamil Nadu State Agriculture Department. He informed the house that before today's meeting 197 nurseries have been assessed and accredited by the committee and today there is proposal to consider 129 applications (17 Maharashtra, 2 Himachal Pradesh, 10 Karnataka and 100 from Uttar Pradesh) for accreditation. The Chairman informed the house that the one application from Maharashtra was not recommended by SNA and so dropped from further consideration. Also, 40 applications from Uttar Pradesh need to confirm the GPS coordinates and so placed in this meeting to be considered for approval subject to confirmation of GPS coordinates. Dr. Arunachalam mentioned that, if all this gets notified, then we would have 325 nurseries accredited under the protocol for agroforestry.

The Committee carefully considered the applications in totality and recommended the following:

- ✓ Out of 129 proposals received in the meeting, the committee recommended only 128 nurseries (MH-16, HP – 2, KN – 10, UP – 100) for star-rating, as one of the proposals from Maharashtra w.r.t., a nursery in Yavatmal, SFD Division Yavatmal Range, was not considered, as the SNA did not give its positive recommendation as per the protocol.
- ✓ 40 more proposals of Uttar Pradesh also considered and recommended subject to clarification on GPS coordinates of the respective nurseries from the SNA.

If approved, NNAAC can notify 88 nurseries immediately (MH-16, HP-2, KN-10 and UP-60), and upon receipt of clarification from SNA, 40 more nurseries of UP shall be notified.

In addition, the following points were discussed:

- Inspection of accredited nurseries through a third-party inspection procedure may be adopted, after its completion of at least one year of accreditation.
- It was also agreed, as we reach a niche in accreditation process, the standards can be revised periodically over time to facilitate ongoing improvements, if necessary.
- It is important for private nurseries through SNAs to join the accreditation process, and it was suggested that the private nursery owners come forward and actively participate in the accreditation progress.
- The Committee recognized the importance of reaching out to major states implementing agroforestry a join the accreditation procedure of the nurseries established under the scheme.

The meeting ended with thanks to all.