

## **Refresher Training Programme on “*Business Opportunities in Agroforestry*”**

**2 – 4 March, 2021**

### **Training Report**

ICAR–CAFRI, Jhansi in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad organized a three-day Refresher Training Programme on “Business Opportunities in Agroforestry” for around 45 established agripreneurs under AC&ABC scheme from March 2 to March 4, 2021. The training was conducted virtually with an intent to acquaint the participants with the untapped potential of agroforestry systems and capitalizing its veiled business opportunities. The agripreneurs had already received 45 days residential training by the National Training Institutes (NTIs) to set up their Agri-ventures.

The program began with a welcome note by Dr. Priyanka Singh, Scientist, ICAR–CAFRI. Dr. K. Sai Maheswari, Assistant Director, MANAGE highlighted the appositeness of attaching the trainees to ICAR-CAFRI through her Special Remarks. Dr. A. Arunachalam, Director, ICAR–CAFRI, appreciated this collective effort of capacity building and contemplated its role in up scaling agroforestry across the country.

The technical sessions were graced by renowned agroforestry experts namely, Dr. J C Dagar, Ex ADG, NRM Division, ICAR HQ; Dr. B P Bhatt, Former Director, ICAR RCER, Patna; Dr. K T Parthiban, Dean, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam; Dr R C Dhiman, Wimco Ltd., Rudrapur, US Nagar, Uttarakhand; Prof. Dr. Atul, Rtd. Director of Extension, CSKHPKV, Palampur; Dr. S N Mishra IFS, CCF & GM UP Forest Corporation, Lucknow; Dr. K Kareemulla, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad; Dr. Vijay K Yadav, Director, ICAR–IGFRI, Jhansi; Dr. M J Dobriyal, Professor (Forestry), RLBCAU, Jhansi and Dr. S P Ahlawat, Principal Scientist, NBPGR, New Delhi along with Dr. A K Handa, Principal Scientist and Dr. R. Vishnu, Scientist of ICAR-CAFRI. The experts shared their valuable experiences on various prospects of agroforestry keeping in view the national priorities such as vulnerability of agricultural production systems to climate change and role of agroforestry as sustainable option for a new green and economic revolution. The benefits of agroforestry systems as a bankable opportunity and associated challenges on commercial investment were also discussed. Agroforestry value chain, bio-fuels from trees, carbon credits etc. also got highlighted in different sessions. Overall, the training programme was fruitful for the participants, which was reflected through their keen interest and positive feedback report.

