

Visit of Sh. T.K.A Nair, Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to ICFRE, Dehradun.

On the invitation of Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, Director General, ICFRE & Chancellor FRI (Deemed) University, Sh. T.K.A. Nair Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is in Dehradun for his two days visit to Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education and Forest Research Institute. Sh. Nair has to his credit an unblemished record of distinguished service spanning over four and a half decades with the state Governments of Punjab and Kerala and the Government of India. He held several important positions including those of Managing Director, Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries, Chairman, Public Enterprises Selection Board; Govt. of India and Principal Secretary to Prime Minister. During his tenure as Chairman of Marine Products Export Development Authority, his contributions to the promotion of aqua-culture and value addition in the export of marine products have been path breaking. He also served as Special Secretary in the Planning Commission and Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment of Forests.

Shri Nair has been the recipient of several awards including the Rotary Sake of Honour Award, Global Organization of Person of Indian Origin Honour Role, K.P. S. Menon Award 2009, India vision Person of the Year-2009, Swami Vivekanand National Award-2011, Bharat Ratna Gulzarilal Nanda Bharat Sevak Award -2011 and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Governance instituted by the Asian Centre for Corporate Governance & Sustainability.

During his two day visit (20-21st March) in FRI & ICFRE, he addressed the Forest Officers, Scientists, Research Officers, Ph.D. Scholars & Students of ICFRE, FRI & FRI (Deemed) University in the convocation Hall of FRI on 20th March 2013. In his speech, he spoke on various dimensions of development and inclusive growth which should be sustainable. He desired that the younger people who have access to technology translate the result of research for the betterment of the rural India. He emphasised that through innovative research we can initiate opportunities and ensure water and food security for poor and educate not so privileged section of society particularly.

Director General, ICFRE & Chancellor, FRI (Deemed) University Dr. V.K. Bahuguna and Director, FRI and Vice-Chancellor, FRI (Deemed) University shared the dais with Shri T. K. A. Nair.

On 21st March, Shri T.K.A. Nair will inaugurate one day workshop in FRI on "Integrating Forest Based Enterprises with Rural Development for Livelihood Support and Economic Growth". The workshop will mark the celebration of World Forestry Day at ICFRE. The Workshop is a step towards recognizing the contribution of rural institutions and net-working with the various stake holders of forestry research, such as State Forest Departments, Van Panchayats, Gram Sabhas, Self-help groups and NGOs working in the field of rural livelihoods. The workshop is expected to be attended by representatives from various Van Panchayats, Gram Sabhas, Self-help groups from different states especially Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. Representatives of State Forest Departments and NGOs are also expected to participate. Sh. T.K.A. Nair will release of a Booklet on "Forestry Research: ICFRE supporting Rural & Tribal Livelihoods". Shri Nair will also inaugurate "ICFRE Interactive Portal" and will visit "Prena Souvenir shop" depicting handmade forest based articles by rural artisans opened under "Direct to Consumer" scheme of ICFRE, FRI Museums & Laboratories.

On this occasion Sh. T.K.A. Nair also launched the website of Indian Forester, which is the oldest journal in forestry science in the country. Sh. Nair said it is a matter of great

pride that this prestigious journal is adopting latest technology to help make large impact in International arena.

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