



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT, BHOPAL

**One week Compulsory Training Course for IFS officers organised  
on**

**“Forest Certification: Opportunities & Challenges”**

**During 18-22 February 2013**

**Course Director: Prof. Manmohan Yadav**

IIFM conducted One Week Training Course on the topic **“Forest Certification: Opportunities and Challenges”** for Indian Forest Service Officers during February **18-22, 2013**. 21 Senior Indian Forest Service Officers representing the States & UTs of Goa, Meghalaya, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tripura, Nagaland and Uttar Pradesh participated in this programme in addition to faculty members from IIFM. The programme was sponsored by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests as Compulsory training course for the Indian Forest Service Officers.

The training course provided a comprehensive understanding on the topic, the need for forest certification and its applicability in Indian context and the requirements and detailed procedure for undertaking certification. The programme also highlighted the potential of initiating an Indian Forest Certification Council for the benefit of forest-based industries and the raw material producers including small farmers.

Apart from sharing of experience amongst the participating officers, key inputs were provided by the IIFM faculty namely Prof. Manmohan Yadav, Professor A K Patil, Professor Shahbaz Ahmad, Prof. KK Jha, Prof. AK Dharni & Dr. Omprakash Madguni. Eminent experts working this emerging field were also invited to interact with the officers and these include - Dr. H.D. Kulkarni, Vice President (Plantations), ITC Ltd., Dr. Ram Prasad; Former Director, IIFM; Dr. R.C. Sharma, Former PCCF,

Chhattisgarh; Mr. KK Singh, President Lok Vaniki Samiti, MP; Mr. Sachin Raj, SCS-India; Mr. Manu Jose Mattam, SCS-India and Ms. Anushree Shukla, BILT.

In order to provide exposure to the real life situation and the process of forest certification two field visits to Ratapani wildlife sanctuary and the Lok Vaniki Teak plantation area in Dewas were undertaken.

The participating officers appreciated the efforts of the farmers involved in Lok Vaniki project in Dewas district of MP where in teak forest areas are managed according to a management plan and the farmers have decided to undertake forest certification of their teak forests from an international forest certification scheme. The farmers expect to realize better prices for their teak that could be used for export purpose.



Participating officers with the resource persons for IFS One week training course at IIFM on Forest Certification during February 28, 2013