

20' December'2019

**WERE PARTICIPATED IN RESEARCH INSTITUTE...  
WOOD INDUSTRY INTERACTIVE HISTORICAL MEET.  
VENUE – FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE (FRI), DEHRADUN**



- The 'Research Institute – Wood Based Industry Interaction Meet', organised at FRI, Dehradun, was inaugurated by the Director General, Dr. S. K. Gairola – Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC), on 20th December 2019.
- FRI Director Dr. Arun Singh Rawat (IFS), IWST & IPIRTI Director Dr. M. P. Singh (IFS), Forests Products Division Head of FRI Dr. N. K. Upreti, Wood Technologist Association (WTA) President Shri. S.C. Jolly & Industry representatives Shri. Devender Chawla, Shri Ajay Oberoi among, WTA Gajendra Rajput, Anil Singh, Manoj Gwari, Avdhesh Yadav, Kishore, Mukesh Yadav, Hariharan Vaidya, Victor Xavier others were present to grace the occasion. Wood industry representatives from 14 States took part in the Meet.
- The Director General complimented the three institutes – FRI, IWST, and IPIRTI for organising the Meet and conveyed that the present effort will go a long way in giving insight to the researchers about current issues faced by manufacturers. The researchers will also have a platform to pass on their useful findings to the industry fraternity.
- FRI Director Shri A. S. Rawat (IFS) spoke about the Challenges in India's timber industry due to globalisation, increased automation & rising labour costs, competition from other Asian countries, and because of a rise in alternative materials to wood.
- Some of the important research outputs from Forests Products Division of FRI, IWST & IPIRTI, especially during the past decade were presented for the benefit of the participants from industries.
- WTA, on behalf of the entire industry sector presented significant points for taking into consideration the availability and transport of timber raw materials across the country.
- Shri Devender Chawla & Shri Ajay Oberoi among spoke about the problems faced by the industry sector and how the government and related authorities can help the industry get over current circumstances.
- Shri Ajay Oberoi spoke about the areas in which FRI & IPIRTI can assist and support plywood industry to improve in areas such as resins/adhesives, BIS standards, training & seminars, among others.
- WTA Secretary Shri Manoj Gwari spoke about the past decade of functioning of WTA and its activities & significance in bringing together all the stakeholders of the sector. WTA Vice President Shri Gajendra Rajput, Gen. Secy. Shri Anil Singh, Secy Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Shri Umesh, Shri Mukesh Yadav, Shri Sunil Srivastav & Shri Victor Pallikkal were present.
- A panel discussion was held as the concluding session of the Meet, in which scientists and industry representatives took part in detailed discussions regarding various techno-economic aspects of the industry & institutes. WTA presented the case for Farmer support by introducing minimum support price (MSP) for timber, financing of standing timber volumes of farmer, and transport subsidy for enabling timber to be utilised across the country in a competitive manner. WTA technical division also presented the need to significantly reduce formaldehyde emissions in products manufactured by the industry sector.
- The Meet concluded with Vote of Thanks from Research Coordinator & Head of Forests Products Division FRI, Dr. N. K. Upreti.

*Subhash Jolly*

**Dr. N.K.Upreti**  
Scientist – G  
(Head – Forests Products Division, FRI)

**S.C. Jolly**  
President  
Wood Technologist Association (WTA)