

## **Consultative meeting for preparation of Detailed Project Report for rejuvenation of River Narmada through forestry interventions at Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur.**

Adopting holistic approach, a multidepartmental consultative meeting was organized by Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur to prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR) for rejuvenation of river Narmada through forestry interventions.

Dr. G. Rajeshwar Rao, ARS, Director TFRI welcomed the guests and requested to incorporate scientific and technical suggestions in their respective fields. Shri C. Behera, IFS and Nodal Officer of the project presented overview about the land use pattern around Narmada, scope and objectives of the work. He also briefed about incorporation of successful forestry related models for natural, agricultural and urban landscapes. Experts from various central and state government departments viz., Narmada Valley Development Authority, Rani Avanti Bai Sagar Project, Irrigation, Forest, Fisheries and Agriculture Departments, Madhya Pradesh State Pollution Control and Electricity Boards, and Tribal Development Department, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur along with Vice Chancellor, Professors, Scientists from ICAR institutes like DWR and NBSS&LUP and Academicians from different Universities shared their views, experiences and constraints about working with regard to Narmada.

Prof. P. D. Juyal, Vice Chancellor, Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University (NDVS), Jabalpur chaired the session. Dr. Giridhar Rao, PCCF and Director, State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur suggested to identify perennial nature before identifying the tributaries under study. He also suggested to incorporate plantation of grasses, herbs and shrubs beside trees for restoration of open forests around Narmada. Dr. P. K. Shukla, IFS, Regional Director RCFC, Central region, Jabalpur, gave his valuable suggestions and asked to incorporate ground truthing beside relying on secondary data. Further, He suggested use of indigenous species and incorporation of bamboos, medicinal plants, fodder and fuelwood species in private land around Narmada. Dr. S. Nayak, Director, Extension services, NDVS University, suggested to incorporate fodder species in the plantations. Shri. S. K. Sinha, Asst. Director Kanha Tiger Reserve evoked concern about change in land use pattern in the buffer zones of national parks of Madhya Pradesh and incorporation of agroforestry models for moisture conservation measures. Various other officers assured to provide their cooperation and support. Other dignitaries Dr. V.S.



Gigimon, HoD. Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur; Dr. R. K. Grover, Jabalpur engineering college; Dr. M.S. Raghuwanshi, NBSS&LUP, ICAR, Nagpur; Dr. Sushil Kumar, DWR and Dr. Sambath, ZSI were also present at the meeting besides officials of M.P. state government forum, PWD, Revenue, Municipal Department Authority, Irrigation engineers etc. Dr. S.D. Upadhyay, JNKVV Jabalpur assured support for various agroforestry and medicinal plant related models to bring non productive grasslands into productive silvipasturesystems. He also assured to share findings of rare endangered species and riparian vegetation work of JNKVV. Various organisations also raised concern about discharge of untreated sewage water in the river and its effect on quality of water, promotion of biogas plants and organic fertilizers to minimise discharge of harmful chemicals in the river and phyto and bioremediation through native species. The programme was compeered by Dr. Fatima Shirin and vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. P.B. Meshram, Group Coordinator Research, TFRI.



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