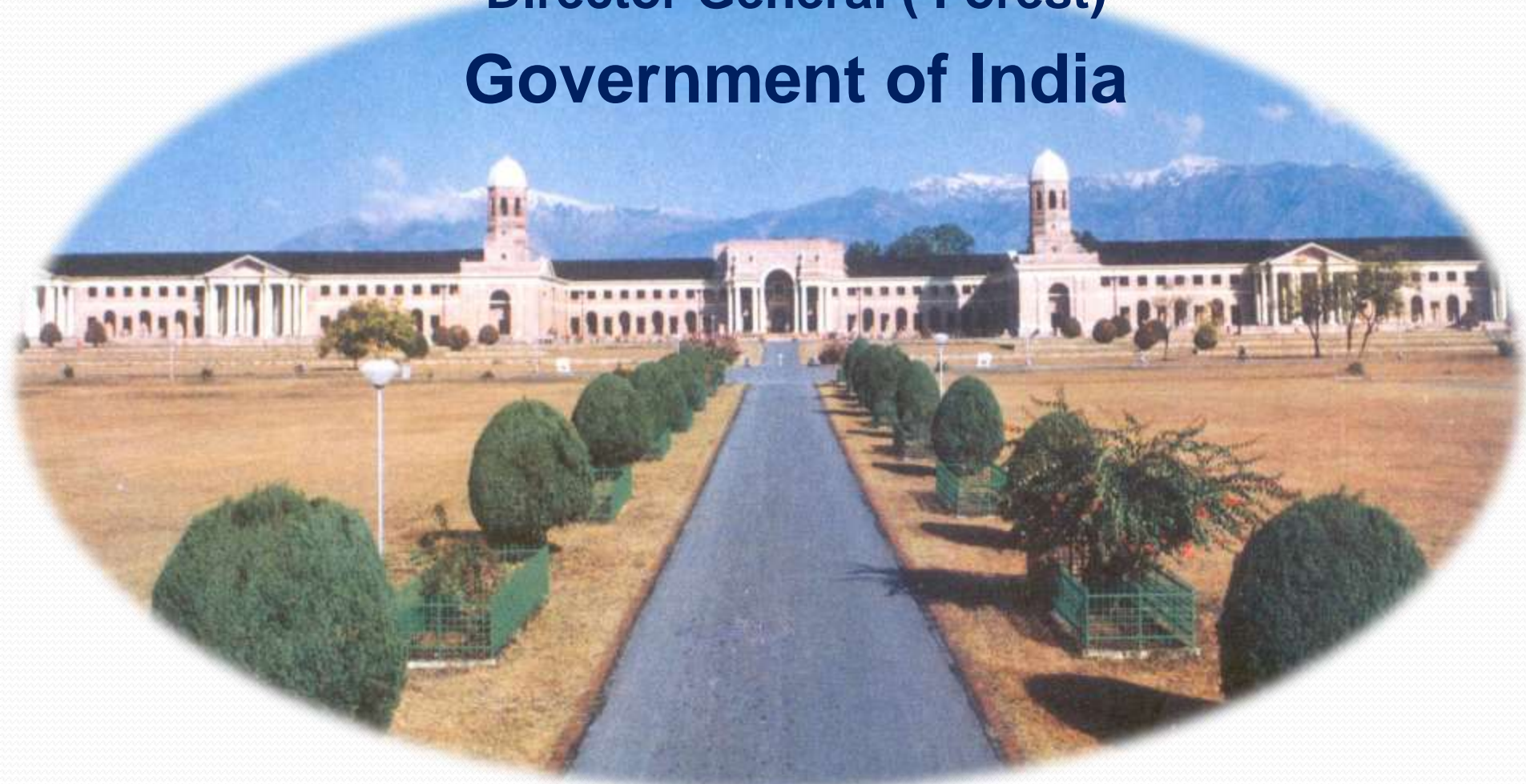


Forestry Education in India: International collaboration

Dr. S.S. Negi

Director General (Forest)

Government of India



Forestry Education

Evolutionary Development

- **Inseparable from forestry training since beginning of scientific forestry in 19th century**
- **Dovetailed into forestry training for more than a hundred years**
- **Need for academically educated forestry professionals outside government grew with passage of time**
- **Universities and colleges began courses in forestry about 3 decades ago**

- Till 1950s, universities did not have in forestry courses
- State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) started in 1960s: Focus on agriculture and allied fields; forestry education was not started during this period
- Few universities started forestry education either as a part of B.Sc. Agriculture or as a post-graduate degree in agriculture
 - Forestry department created in Agriculture College, Solan (H.P. University) in 1967 and compulsory forestry course started under B.Sc. Agriculture. M.Sc. Forestry started in 1976

- **Forestry education taken up in half a dozen universities in late 1970s**

- Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi and Dr. Y S Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan were among the first to start such courses
- ICAR started B.Sc. Forestry programme in 6 agricultural universities in 1985
- Training of faculty with international agencies like USAID, British Council, etc.

- **Govt. of India in 1986 issued resolution**

- B. Sc. degree courses in forestry should be run by agricultural universities and other universities,
- Post-graduate and doctoral work should also be started at FRI and the universities.
- Forestry graduates should be eligible for various posts in forest services as other science graduates.
- Forestry postgraduates should be eligible for teaching and research jobs, along with others of allied disciplines



- More than 35 universities are involved in imparting forestry education at under-graduate as well as post-graduate levels
- All the universities have some research programme also underway or contemplated.

Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

- **Established in 1982**
 - **Masters in Wildlife Science (2 Years)**
 - **Post Graduate Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management (10 Months)**
 - **Certificate Course in Wildlife Management (3 Months)**
 - **Linkages with institutions like UBC and others**

- **Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal**
- Established in January 1982
- Objectives
 - to provide training in management and related subjects for persons from the Indian Forest Service, Forest Departments, Forest Development Corporations and forest-related industries
 - to impart education, primarily by developing and conducting Masters' level programme
- Two-year Post Graduate Programme in Forestry Management launched in July 1988
- Research linkages with many foreign institutions

Forest Research Institute (Deemed) University

- FRI was conferred the status of Deemed University by University Grant Commission in December 1991.
- First Ph.D. degree was awarded in the year 1995.
- The M.Sc. courses were started in the year 1996.
- **Programmes and courses:**
 - M.Sc. Degree
 - Forestry: 2 years
 - Environment Management: 2 years
 - Wood Science & Technology: 2 years
 - Cellulose and paper: 2 years
 - Post-Master's Diploma
 - Natural Resource Management: 1 year
 - Post-Graduate Diploma
 - Aroma Technology: 1 year

Ph.D. Programme

- More than 480 Ph.Ds. Awarded.
- All India Entrance Exam.

Institutes recognized as Research Centres of FRI University for Ph D

- Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal
- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur
- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur
- Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla
- Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bangalore
- Institute of Rain Forest Research, Jorhat
- Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore
- Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi
- Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Kerala
- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun
- Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute, Bangalore
- Forest Survey of India, Dehra Dun
- UP Forest Research Institute, Kanpur
- Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehra Dun
- G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Almora

- FRI UNIVERSITY signed an MOU in November, 2011 with Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany (GAUG) to facilitate the student and faculty exchange programme.
- An MOU was signed in June 2013 with Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Umea, Sweden to facilitate the student and faculty exchange programme and also to promote opportunities for Research Co-operation.

- An MOU was signed in June, 2012 with Institute of Forestry, Pokhara, Nepal to facilitate the student and faculty exchange programme and also to support the Admission of Ph.D. Scholars of IOF, Pokhara in FRI (Deemed) University for capacity building.
- Students from SAARC countries are being admitted every year (since 2012) to pursue their Post Graduation courses (Forestry, Environment Management, Wood Science & Technology & Cellulose & Paper Technology) under SAARC- FRI Scholarship awarded to FRI (Deemed) University by Ministry of External Affairs Govt. of India.

IGNFA AND INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

- UBC
- OTHER FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES

Challenges

- Inadequate faculty in universities with background in forestry
- Inadequate laboratory and field facilities
- Differences in syllabi in different universities
- Lack of job opportunities for forestry students in private sector due to government ownership of forests
- Recruitment procedures of IFS and SFS do not provide any advantage to forestry graduates vis-à-vis graduates of other subjects.

Opportunities for international collaboration

- Increasing role of forestry in international conventions and strategies; climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Cross- country linkages
- Learning experiences
- NGO activities, financial institutions



Thanks