

CHAPTER-XVIII

FORESTRY STATISTICS

Reliable forestry statistics are required at the national level by different agencies for planning, policy analysis, and making decision on forestry investment and development programmes. Statistics are also required to monitor and evaluate the impact of policies and programmes. To make this information available at one place, Directorate of Statistics, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Dehra Dun, has been created under FREEP. The Specific task to be carried out by DOS, is as follows :

- Identify and agree with MoE&F, the primary and secondary forestry data to be collected,
- Liaison with agencies concerned with the collection of primary or secondary data,
- Collect, collate and process the agreed data,
- Check on data reliability,
- Provide required data to M o E & F or other authorised users, in a timely fashion.

FORESTRY STATISTICS INDIA

Directorate of Statistics has been collecting data on forest and pressure on forest from various agencies. For collection of data, two-way approach has been followed. The designed formats were sent to the various States/UT's and/or other agencies. Simultaneously, formats were sent to different institute of Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, working in the various States/UT's. In most of the cases, two sets of formats were received from States/UT's, which were used later for validation of data.

Meanwhile, at the Directorate, efforts were made to finalise the computer software in which the data should be stored. Keeping in view the quantum of data, different types, and competence of the available staff, it was decided to use the electronic spreadsheet (MS EXCEL) in which the staff was conversant for creation of Database.

The data gathered were posted in the forms and output tables were generated which would be useful for the clients and user agencies. The data were placed in seventeen chapters on different aspects of forestry.

ICFRE has brought out three edition of "Forestry Statistics India" as follows :

- a) **Forestry Statistics India 1995**
Forestry Statistics India – 1995 was brought out in 1996.
- b) **Forestry Statistics India 1988-94**
The "Forestry Statistics India 1988-94" was published in 1997.
- c) **Forestry Statistics India 1996**
In this edition two additional chapters on Forest Management and Forest Offences was added. The Forestry Statistics India – 1996 was published in 1999.

d) Forestry Statistics India - 2000

(Data period 1997-98 & 1998-99)

ICFRE, has now taken a policy decision to publish Statistical Information bi-annually and the first bi-annual edition for the data period 1.4.1997 to 31.3.1998 and 1.4.1998 to 31.3.1999 is under printing.

e) Forestry Statistics India - 2001

(Data period 1999 - 2000 and 2000- 2001)

To collect statistical information from the State Forest Department for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, the Data collection forms have been sent to all State Forest Departments and to the Institute/ Centres of the ICFRE.

TIMBER/BAMBOO TRADE BULLETIN

The prices in the open market of the timber and other produce pertaining to the species harvested from forest are dependent on amount paid by the lessees for standing crops, logging cost, transportation and sawing cost, overheads, location of the market and other factors. The pricing mechanism for timber, bamboo and firewood is also dependent on the exploitation of this produce from farm forestry operations. The prices vary from place to place depending on the demand and supply, location of small scale industries and the Government policy on marketing of forest produce. The classification followed in different markets all over the country vary a lot on account of the specific use of the forest produce. Under the World Bank FREE Project, a quarterly Timber / Bamboo Trade Bulletin is published giving information on the prices of important forestry species in 19 market centres spread all over the country. So far 20 (Twenty) bulletins have been published by this Directorate starting from the first edition of December '94 to the latest issue of September '99. Rest of the bulletins viz.; December '1999, and March '2000 are being published on the ICFRE Website.

BIOMETRICAL ASSISTANCE

Biometrical support has been provided to 93 (Ninety Three) research projects of different Institutes of ICFRE. In addition, several consultations have been provided to the Scientists of ICFRE institutes and Centres viz.; Bangalore, Coimbatore; Dehradun, Jabalpur, Jodhpur, Jorhat, Ranchi, Shimla, Allahabad, Chindwara and Hyderabad. Directorate of Statistics shall continue to provide such assistance as and when approached.

STATISTICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

In addition, the experts of the Directorate of Statistics are imparting Statistical Education to students of various streams of Deemed University - FRI.