

Workshop cum consultative meeting on Biodiversity Management Plan and Regional Wildlife Plan for Makum Coalfields, Assam

A workshop cum consultative meeting on **“Biodiversity Management plan and regional wildlife plan for Makum coal fields, Assam”** was organized by Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat at Conference Hall of Block Development Office, Margherita Block, Tinsukia District on 15 March 2017. The prime objective of the workshop was to present the findings of the study conducted by the Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat under the project entitled “Preparation of Biodiversity Management Plan, Regional Wild life Plan and Carrying capacity Study for the Makum Coal fields in Assam” funded by North Eastern Coalfields (NEC), Coal India Ltd for the Assam Forest Department. The objective also included discussion and enlisting the suggestions/comments made by the participants for further improvement of the Biodiversity Management Plan and Regional Wildlife Plan for Makum Coalfields, Assam. All the stakeholders including representatives from district administration, Forest department, elected representatives, local Gaon Panchayats and subject matter experts were invited to discuss the findings and chalk out appropriate mitigative measures in the light of the findings of the study done by RFRI, Jorhat .

A total of 35 participants were present at the workshop including SDO (C), Margherita, BDO, Margherita, Representatives from local Gram Panchayets, DFO (WL), Tinsukia, Representatives from Digboi Forest Division, NGOs and subject matter expert from Digboi College and Margherita College. The programme opened with a formal welcome of the participants by Dr. Dhruva Jyoti Das, Scientist D, RFRI. This was followed by introduction of the participants that included a brief of the area of interest of the participants. Shri Bikram Kairi, SDO (C), Margherita chaired the session. A detailed Power Point presentation on the project findings and the possible management measures proposed by RFRI under Biodiversity Management Plan and Regional Wildlife Plan was made by Dr. Dhruva Jyoti Das. This was followed by a vibrant group discussion and all the participants were requested to give their comments and suggestions for further improvement of the management plans. All the members participated enthusiastically and discussed various issues related to impact of mining, consequences on biodiversity and its possible mitigative measures. The workshop ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Ajay Kumar, Scientist C.

Glimpses of the workshop



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