

INTERACTIVE MEETING HELD ON 20TH AUGUST 2004 AT ARID FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, JODHPUR

An interactive meeting was organized at Arid Forest Research Institute, on 20th August 2004 to establish liaison with various end users and possible collaborators for smooth implementation of the project “**Study of Characteristic Features Pertaining to Bio-drainage Potential of Some Selected Tree Species**”, funded by the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Government of India. Discussions were held on the following points:

- Identification of suitable location (waterlogged) for raising experimental plantation
- Ground water monitoring
- Quantification of ground water recharge (seepage)
- Suitability of different species in the experiment
- Modalities of cooperation among various departments

Eighteen (18) delegates representing different departments, NGOs and farmers and 25 Scientists/ Officers from the institute participated and discussed on the abovementioned points in the meeting.

Recommendations

- The project should be supported by thorough review of literature and visit to different institutes working on the same line.
- Experimental area may be selected in consultation with State Forest Department and Command Area Development Agency after surveying different localities in the region.
- The house suggested four species i.e. *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Tamarix* spp. and *Casuarina* spp. for the experimental plantation under field trial.
- In lysimetric study salinity levels and water levels may be kept similar to the conditions available in the field. However, low salinity regime should be given preference.
- Peizometer should be installed in the experimental site for ground water monitoring.
- Water balance equation may be worked out.
- People’s participation in the form of their expectation, suggestions and other inputs may be ensured
- Coordination among various departments may be ensured by sharing their experience and expertise in the field.