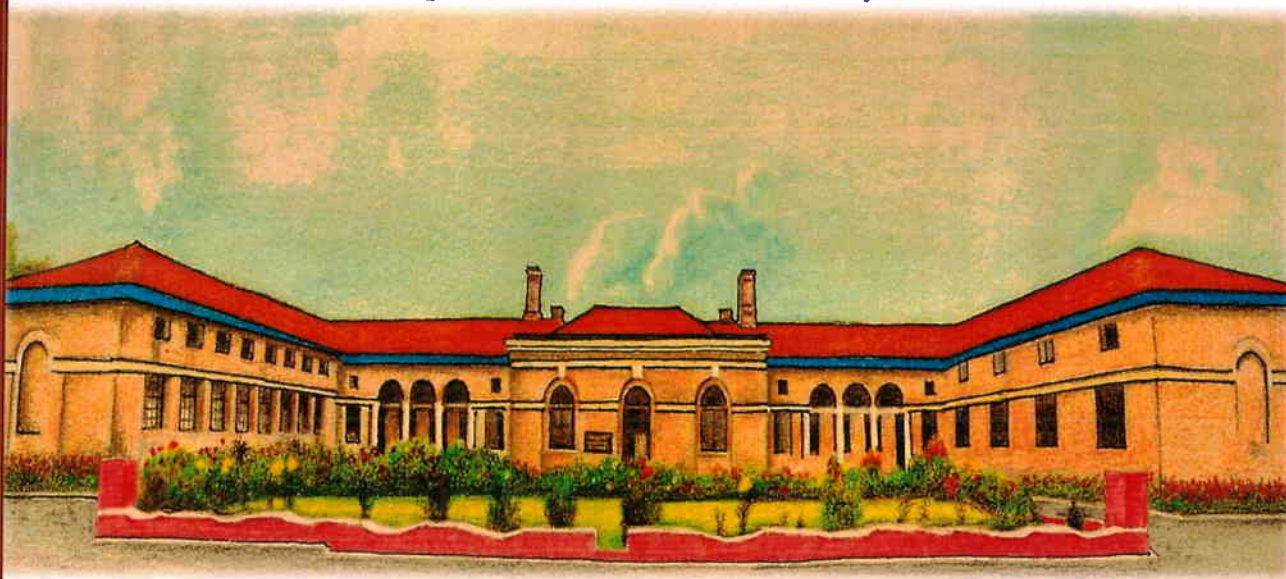




COURSE REPORT

Three days specialized training
on
“Operationalizing Successful Ecotourism”
from 27th Feb to 01st March, 2023
for

Tourism Development Corporations, Tourism Departments,
Tour Operators, Resort & Home Stay Owners



Central Academy for State Forest Service, Dehradun
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Government of India

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India sponsors the 'Training of Other Stakeholders' and 'Personnel of Other Services' on topics/themes related to Forestry, Wildlife, Environment and related issues. In this backdrop, Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFOS), Dehradun under the aegis of Directorate of Forest Education (DFE) Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, conducted three days (from 27.02.2023 to 01.03.2023) training program for "*Tourism Development Corporations, Tourism Departments, Tour Operators, Resort & Home Stay Owners*" on the theme "*Operationalizing Successful Ecotourism*".

The Course Director of the training, Mr. Amlendu Pathak, IFS, Lecturer, CASFOS, Dehradun gave a brief presentation about the course after which Mr. Pradeep Wahule, IFS, in-charge Principal, CASFOS, Dehradun presented the opening remarks. He stated the importance of collective stakeholder approach in ecological conservation and livelihood generation for which, this very step to conduct training for other stakeholders is taken up by CASFOS. Chief Guest Mr. Rajiv Bhartari, IFS, PCCF & Chairman, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board gave the inaugural address. In his inaugural speech, the Chief Guest mentioned about ecotourism being a business but having responsibility towards ecological conservation at the same time. He emphasized upon the importance of ecotourism in livelihood generation. Guest Speakers like Mr. Ajay Srivastava, IFS (Retd.) former PCCF & HoEF, HP, Mr. Sanjay Sondhi, Founder Trustee, TITLI Trust, Dr. A.K. Bhardwaj, IFS (Retd.) former PCCF & HoEF, Kerala, Mr. Bachi Singh Bisht, Bachhi Corbett Ramnagar, Uttarakhand, Mr. Mohan Chandra Pandey, Secretary, Corbett Gram Vikash Samiti, Mrs. Malika Viridi, Founder, Himalayan Ark, Munsyari deliberated on various topics related to Operationalizing Successful Ecotourism in this training program. The detailed timetable showing session-wise topics and resource persons is enclosed as **Annexure-V**.

Valedictory session was presided over by Chief Guest Dr. Ramana Athreya, Associate Professor, IISER, Pune during which an interactive session with the participants was also held. Dr. Athreya talked about the importance of Researchers, Tour Operators and Forest department working in a more synchronized manner to achieve the goals of Ecotourism.

A total of 24 participants from 3 States registered for the training out of which 23 participants successfully completed the training programme. A compendium of articles, presentations related to the relevant topics covered during the course, apart from the copies of the presentations made by the experts provided in soft copy to each trainee as part of the training kit by the Academy.

Overall impact of the training was positive and the feedback and high rating from the participants corroborates the assessment of the organizers. The training programme was very well appreciated by the participants who also requested for more of such training programmes in future.


Format for reporting evaluation of refresher course conducted by the institute/organization for other stake holders sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, GOI, New Delhi as per the merged format of MoEF&CC and JICA

Course Report

MoEF&CC /DFE's letter number and date		4-898/प्रशि0- 11/ वशिनि-2022 / 3686, दिनांक- 02.01.2023
Institute's reference number		No. 4-131/TRG.II/OSE/2022/7389, dated 08.02.23
1.	Name and complete address of the Institute (including phone, fax, and e-mail)	Central Academy for State Forest Service, Dehradun Ph: 01352-2754575/2754648 Email-casfos.dd-mef@gov.in
2.	Title of the course	Operationalizing Successful Ecotourism
3.	Duration & period of the Course	Three Days 27 th Feb to 01 st March, 2023
4.	Name & designation of the Course Director	Shri Amlendu Pathak, IFS, Lecturer
5.	Number of officers participated	23 (Details at Annexure-IV)
6.1	(a) Did the institute get in touch in advance with the participants of the course?	Yes
	b) If yes, when (mention the date of communication to the officers)?	08.02.2023
	(c) Details of nomination received from States prior to the Course	30
	(d) How many officers received the intimation?	All
	(e) How many officers responded?	24
6.2	(a) Were the course expectations of the participants ascertained by the institution?	Yes
	(b) If yes, how, and when (dates)?	By direct interaction and in form of feedback on prescribed proforma collected during the course
7.1	a) Was the course conducted at the institution's campus? If no, where?	Yes
	(b) Whether the course was "residential" or non-residential. If residential, whether the residential facilities were provided in the institution's own hostel or in a hotel etc.?	Yes, Residential facility was arranged in the Guest House of FSI, ONGC & CASFOS, Dehradun
7.2	(a) Total no. of working days in the course	3 days
	(b) Total no. of sessions planned/covered in the course	6 Session
	(c) No. of sessions, which could not be conducted as planned with reasons	NIL
	(d) Internal faculty hours	-
	(e) Guest faculty hours	09 hrs
	(f) No. of days / hours spent on field visit(s) if any	01 day
Enclosure (2 copies each): - Final course timetable - List of faculties (both in-house and guest faculty) - Final list of participants - The background material supplied to the participants		

8	(a) Had the same or similar course been conducted earlier under the sponsorship of the MOEF&CC/Department of Personnel and Training (Government of India)?	No. This is the first time such course is being organized.
	(b) What changes based on the feedback received in the previous course were made in the current course?	NA
9	Feedback received from current course participants in terms of: (*1.1, 2.1 shown at Annexure-II refer to question number in Part C or Part D of the feedback form.)	
9.1	Course Content and Structure (CCS)	Course Content & Structure including reading material was found to be relevant and highly appreciated by the participants with rating of 94.69% Course aim was met to the full satisfaction & as per feedback, there was increase in knowledge level of the participants.
9.2	Training Faculty (TF)	The participants have rated the training faculty at more than 95.17% Training faculty and their lectures were highly appreciated by the participants.
9.3	Usefulness of the course (UOC)	The participants have given feedback that the training course will be highly useful immediately and in future for their job with combined rating as 92.50%
9.4	Overall impression about the Course (OIC)	The participants have given feedback about overall impression of the course was very good with rating 95.00%
9.5	Participants' views about the strengths and weaknesses as well as other aspects pertaining to the course	Overall, the participants have appreciated the course. The suggestions made by them along with Academy's comments are attached. (Annexure-1)
9.6	Logistics (including Residential accommodation, Food quality, Classroom facilities, Computer facilities and Recreation facilities and Time management etc.)	The expectations of the participants regarding level of infrastructural facilities available in the training Institute has been met.
9.7	Weighted Average of the course	The weighted average of the course has been rated as 94.34% which is found to be very satisfactory.
10	General remarks of the Course Director on the nature and extent of participant's involvement in the course including attendance punctuality and interest evinced	The participants were enthusiastic and expressed their keenness to learn. Majority of the participants were punctual and appeared very interactive during the sessions.
11	Suggestion highlighting the areas of improvement in the Course for future by Course Director	Feedback received is excellent in all aspects of course design, content, quality, etc.

		However, the suggestions to have more such training on a regular basis could be considered for future.
12	Comments of the Institution on how the feedback is proposed to be recycled into future programmes in terms of course content, methodology, etc.	As reported by the participants, they were immensely benefitted by the course. Academy will try its level best to incorporate the suggestions for further improvement of the course in future. However the suggestion to include sessions/ training on outdoor activities is not feasible at CASFOS.


 (Amlendu Pathak, IFS)
 Course Director


 Counter sign
PRINCIPAL

Annexure-I**Course Director's comments on
participants' views about the strengths and weakness pertaining to the course.**

S. No.	Participants' views	No. of participants who have expressed the view	Course Director's Comments
1	The programme was very well managed and designed	7	Appreciate the comment.
2	The programme will require little bit longer	2	Not required. 3 days are good enough for such courses.
3	Not just the home stay or resort but knowledge about outdoor activities should be included	3	Training on outdoor activities related to tourism cannot be conducted at CASFOS.

Numerical value of feedback and Weighted Average

For calculation of numerical value of feedback, each factor is valued as percentage value to the top grade given to the factor. If no answer is provided, it is excluded from calculation. (cf; where number of grade is 4, percentage value be 100, 75, 50, 25)

Average of numerical value of factors consisting of the element is a numerical value of the element.

1. Course Content and Structure (CCS) = 94.69

- 1.1 Course aims met (95.00)
- 1.2 Increase of knowledge (96.25)
- 1.3 Relevance of content (95.00)
- 1.4 Reading Material (92.50)

2. Training Faculty (TF) = 95.17

- 2.1 Assessment of the Course contents/topics = 93.74
 - Contents (95.15)
 - Presentation (94.13)
 - Quality of Discussion/Interaction (93.22)
 - Meeting for Objectives (92.47)

- 2.2 Assessment of the Field Visit = 96.60

3. Usefulness of the Course (UOC) = 92.50

- 3.1 How useful to you immediately (92.50)
- 3.2 How useful to be for the future jobs (92.50)

4. Overall Impression about the Course (OIC) = 95.00

5. Logistic = 93.75

- 5.1 Residential accommodation (92.00)
- 5.2 Food quality (93.00)
- 5.3 Classroom facilities (98.00)
- 5.4 Time management (92.00)

Weighted Average for the Course

For calculation of Weighted Average (WA), following formula is used.

$$WA = (CCS (100\%) + TF (100\%) + UOC (75\%) + OIC (100\%) + L(75\%)* 100/450$$

$$WA = (94.69+ 95.17+ 69.37+ 95+ 70.31) *100/450$$

$$= 94.34\%$$



Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest Mr. Rajiv Bhartari, IFS, PCCF & Chairman, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board



Opening Remarks by Mr. Pradeep Wahule, IFS, In-charge Principal, CASFOS



Brief description about the course by Mr. Amlendu Pathak, IFS, Course Director



Lecture session by Mr. Ajay Srivastava, IFS (Retd.), PCCF & HoFF, HP



Lecture session by Dr. A.K. Bhardwaj, IFS (Retd.) PCCF & HoFF, Kerala

Annexure – III**Details of Topics & Resource Persons**

Sl. No.	Topic	Name	Contact No.	E-mail
1.	Concepts of Ecotourism: Development and Future	Mr. Rajiv Bharatari, IFS, PCCF & Chairman Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board	9412053603	utt037@ifs.nic.in
2.	Ecotourism: A tool for Conservation and Livelihood Generation	Mr. Ajay Shrivastava, IFS(Retd.) PCCF & HoEF, Himachal Pradesh	8057981755	ajay.srivastav1@gmail.com
3.	Latest Trends in the Concept of Ecotourism	Mr. Sanjay Sondhi, Founder Trustee, TITLI Trust.	9412052189	sanjay.sondhi1@gmail.com
4.	Government's Initiatives in Developing Ecotourism	Dr. A.K. Bhardwaj, IFS(Retd.), PCCF & HoEF, Kerala	9412056376	anilbhardwaj@wii.gov.in
5.	Role of Private Resort Owners in Ecological Conseration	Mr. Bachi Singh Bisht, Bachi Corbett Ramnagar, Uttarakhand	9837042189	rainbowbachi@gmail.com
6.	Case Studies of Successful Ecotourism Models	Mrs. Malika Vardi, Founder, Himalayan Ark, Munsyari	9411194041	malika.virdi@gmail.com

Annexure- IV

Details of Participants

S N	Name of the Participants	Designation	Contact No.	Email Id	State
1	Mr. Gaurav Sharma	Manager, Jalori House, Kullu	9857172100	98517172100gaurav@gmail.com	Himachal Pradesh
2	Mohd. Sajid	Owner, Himachal Hiking	8219691845	sajidkhan18893@gmail.com	Himachal Pradesh
3	Mr. Tek Bhadur	Expedition Leader, Kailash Rath Treks	8627011149	thakurtejinder11@gmail.com	Himachal Pradesh
4	Mr. Ravi Palsra	Owner, Divine Land Homestay, Kullu	7807237310	ravi.kullu1998@gmail.com	Himachal Pradesh
5	Mr. Anand Kumar	Owner, Leopard's Den Home Stay	9415054235	anand.wildlife@gmail.com	Uttar Pradesh
6	Mr. Brijendra Kumar	Nature Guide, Dudhwa National Park	7307319323	brijendrakumar307@gmail.com	Uttar Pradesh
7	Mr. Mahendra Kumar	Nature Guide, Dudhwa National Park	9721150942	mahendrakumar307@gmail.com	Uttar Pradesh
8	Mr. Ranjeet Kumar Bhargav	Nature Guide, Dudhwa National Park	9628228210	ranjeetkumarbha123@gmail.com	Uttar Pradesh
9	Mohd. Asif Saifi	Tour Operator, Uttarakhand Adventure & Hikes	9690461359	m.a.saifi969@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
10	Mr. Bharat Singh	Owner, Chopta Resort, Rudraprayag	9758667755	info@choptaresort.com	Uttarakhand
11	Mr. Bachi Singh Bisht	Nature Interpreter, Corbett Tiger Reserve, Nainital	9837042189	bachibisht@yahoo.co.uk	Uttarakhand
12	Mr. Mohan Chandra Pandey	Secretary, Corbett Gram Vikash Samiti, Nainital	9411324204	mp94.corbettvillage@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
13	Mr. Indra Singh Bisht	Treasurer, Corbett Gram Vikash Samiti, Nainital	9012308933	indrasinghbisht@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
14	Mr. Hari Chand Dhali	Director, Kaathkuni Edu. Tourism & Consultants LLP, Dehradun	6006047269	hcdhali789@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
15	Mr. Sarabjot Singh	Manager, Granny's Den Resort, Dehradun	7900544913	sarabjotsinghsethi@gmail.com	Uttarakhand

S N	Name of the Participants	Designation	Contact No.	Email Id	State
16	Mr. Naveen Rawat	Manager, Granny's Den Resort, Dehradun	9193065084	naveenrawat2409@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
17	Mr. Rajeev Bhakt	Nature Guide, NWS, Haldwani	7302703640	rb7301703640@gmail	Uttarakhand
18	Mr. Bacchi Singh Dangwal	Camping in- charge, Camp Sunkiya, Nainital	8859490276	bacchidangwal@gmail	Uttarakhand
19	Mr. Jagdish Chandra Bahl	Owner, Vishal Homestay, Dehradun	9837894847	jbahi_1@yahoo.com	Uttarakhand
20	Mr. Ramesh Chandra Suyal	Owner, Sparrow Nest Corbett Tigers in Corbett	9758613308	ramesh_naturalist@live.com	Uttarakhand
21	Mr. Vivek Yagnik	Owner, Viva Villa, Dehradun	9694033007	vivabungalow@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
22	Capt. Avinash Jaswal (Retd.)	Prop., Riverside Homes Homestay, Dehradun	7579486265	avinashjaswal2007@gmail.com	Uttarakhand
23	Mr. Mukesh Bisht	Asst. Manager, Granny's Den Resort, Dehradun	6397588338	mukeshbishtuk07@gmail.com	Uttarakhand

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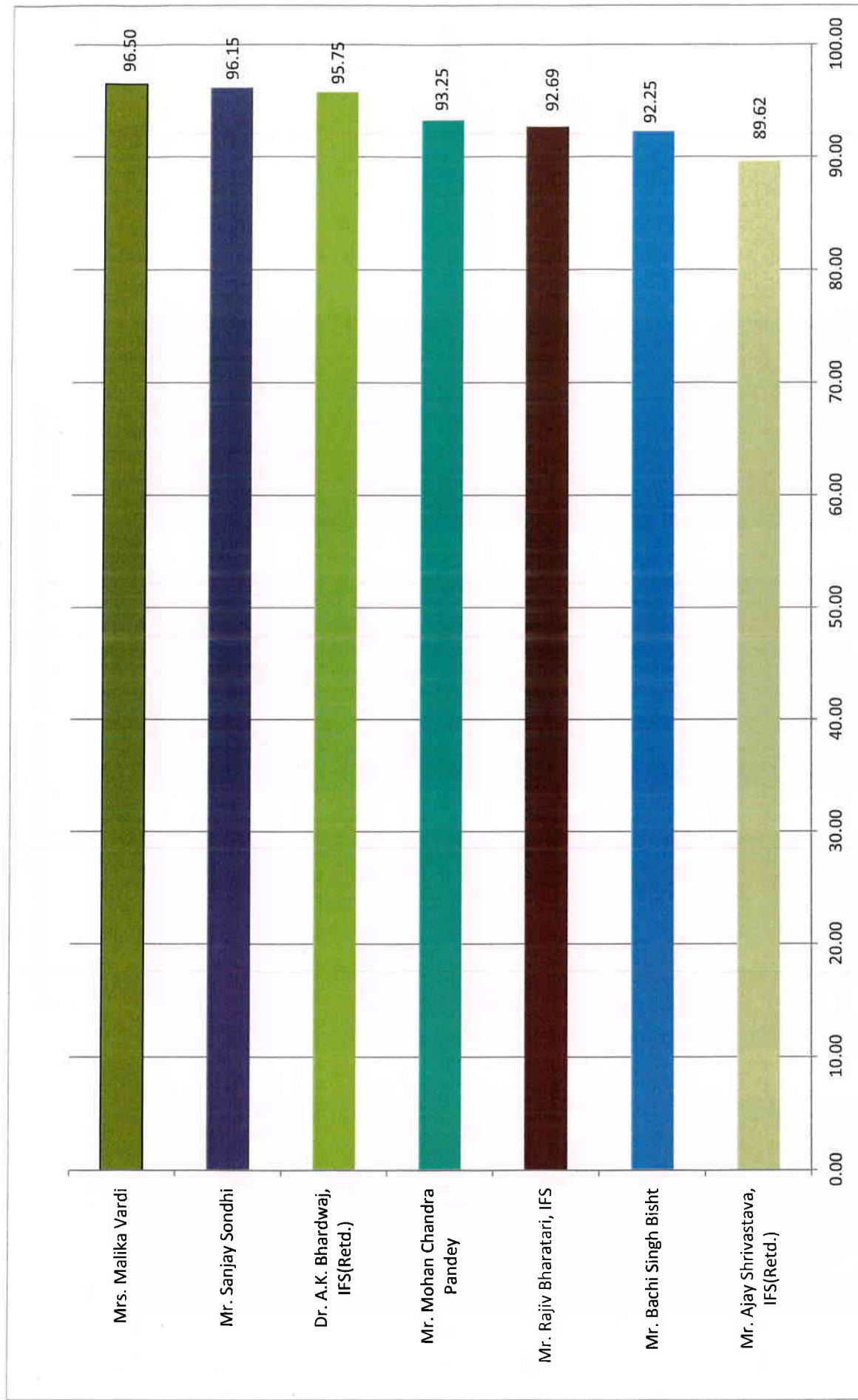
Date / Time	Session I		Session II		Session III		Session IV	
	0945 -1115		1130-1300		1400-1530		1545-1715	
27.02.2023 (Monday)	Inaugural Session: Concepts of Ecotourism: Development and Future (RB, PW, AP)	Tea Break	Ecotourism: A tool for Conservation and Livelihood Generation (AS)	Lunch Break	Latest Trends in the Concept of Ecotourism (SS)	Tea Break	Participants' Experience Sharing (AP)	
28.02.2023 (Tuesday)	Field Visit: Jabarkhet Nature Reserve, Mussoorie							
01.03.2023 (Wednesday)	Governments' Initiatives in Developing Ecotourism (AKB)	Tea Break	Role of Private Resort Owners in Ecological Conservation (MCP, BSB)	Lunch Break	Case Studies of Successful Ecotourism Models (MV)	Tea Break	Valedictory Session (RA, PW, AP)	

Abbreviations:

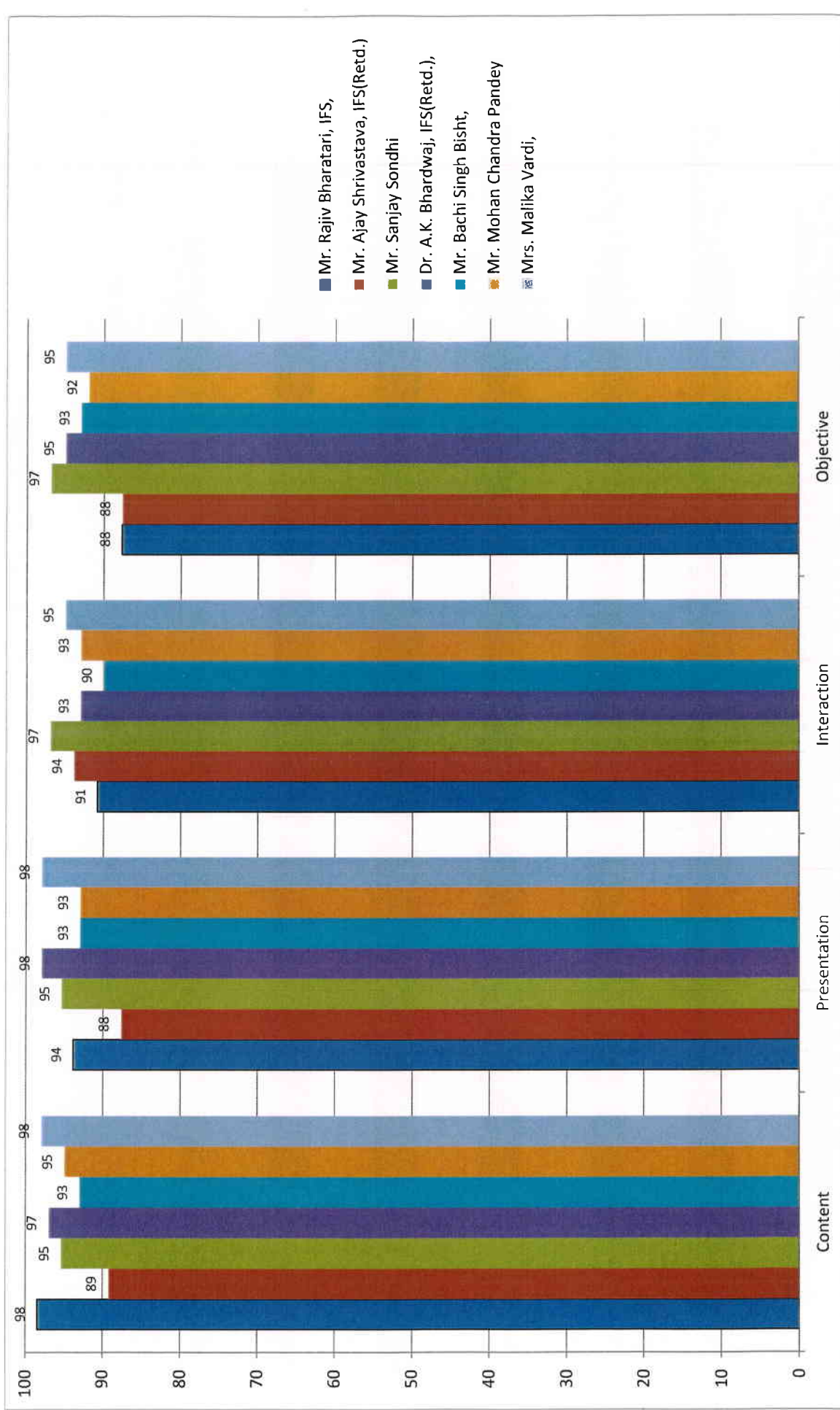
RB	: Mr. Rajiv Bhartari, IFS, PCCF & Chairman, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board	RA	: Dr. Raman Athreya, Associate Professor, IISER, Pune
AP	: Mr. Amlendu Pathak, IFS, Course Director, CASFOS Dehradun	PW	: Mr. Pradeepchandra Wahule, IFS, Lecturer, CASFOS, Dehradun
AKB	: Dr. A K Bhardwaj, IFS (Retd.), PCCF & HoFF, Kerala	SS	: Mr. Sanjay Sondhi, Founder Trustee, TTLTI Trust.
AS	: Mr. Ajay Shrivastava, IFS (Retd.), PCCF & HoFF, HP	MV	: Mrs. Malika Virdi, Founder, Himalayan Ark, Munyari
BSB	: Mr. Bachi Singh Bisht, Bachhi Corbett Ramnagar Uttarakhand.	MCP	: Mr. Mohan Chandra Pandey, Secretary, Corbett Gram Vikash Samiti, Nainital



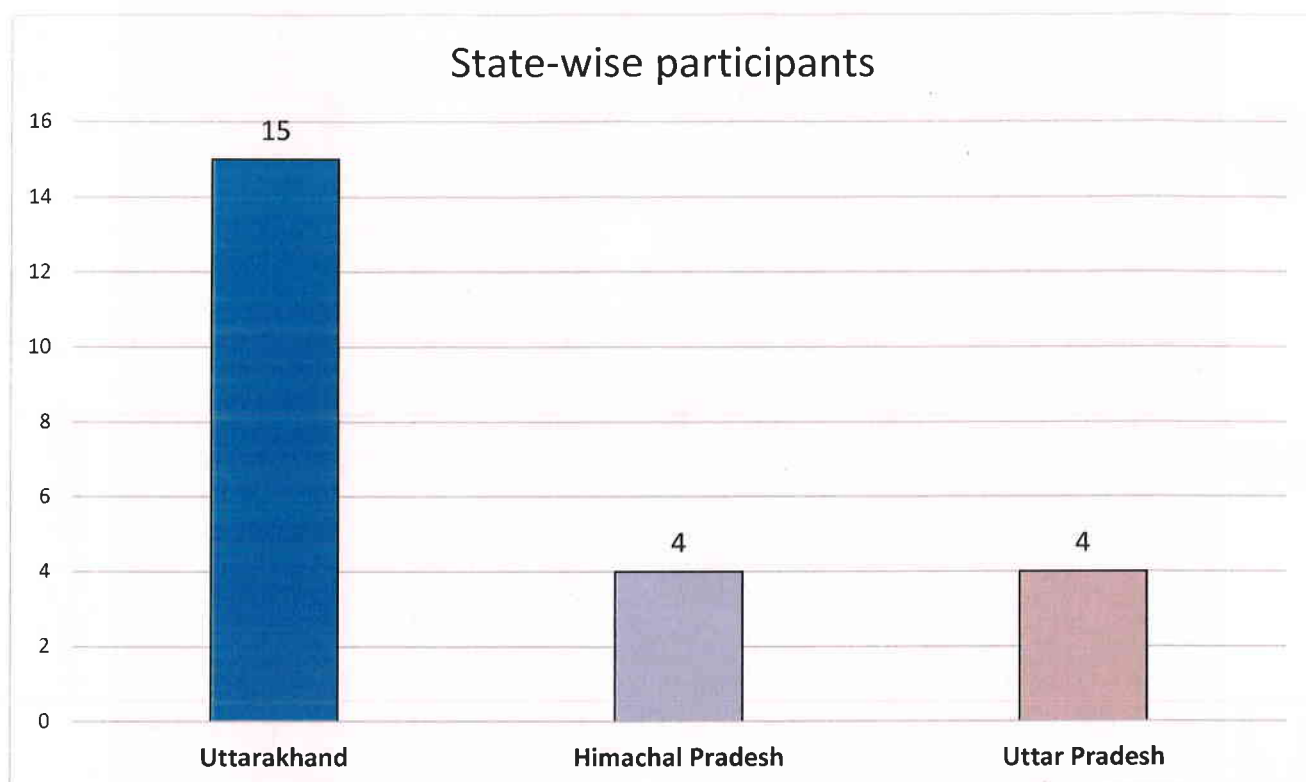
Valedictory Session



Overall Feedback of Resource Persons on all Parameters



Parameter wise breakup of feedback of Resource Person



CENTRAL ACADEMY FOR STATE FOREST SERVICE, DEHRADUN

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For Tourism Development Corporations, Tourism Departments, Tour Operators, Resort & Home Stay Owners
from 27th February to 01st March 2023



Sitting Row (L - R)	:	Shri Amlendu Pathak, IFS, Course Director, Shri Rajiv Bhartari, IFS, PCCF & Chairman, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board, Shri Ajay Srivastava, IFS (Retd.) Former PCCF & HoFF, Himachal Pradesh, Shri Pradeep Wahule IFS, In-Charge Principal, Dr. T.Beula Ezhil Mathi IFS, Lecturer
Standing Row 1 (L - R)	:	Sh. Bharat Singh, Sh. Gaurav Sharma, Sh. Indra singh Bisht, Sh. Bacchi Singh Dangwal, Mohd. Asif Saifi, Sh. Mohan Chandra Pandey, Sh. Bachi Singh Bisht, Sh. Jagdish Chandra Bahl, Sh. Anand Kumar, Capt. Avinash Jaswal (Retd.), Sh. J.M.S Bisht, Supdt.
Standing Row 2 (L - R)	:	Sh. Ravi Palsra, Sh. Rajeev Bhakti, Mohd. Sajid, Sh. Tejinder Thakur, Sh. Ranjeet Kumar Bhargav, Sh. Brijendra Kumar, Sh. Ramesh Chandra Suyal, Sh. Sarabjot Singh, Sh. Vivek Yagnik
Standing Row 3 (L - R)	:	Sh. Harichand Dhali, Capt. Sarabdeep Singh Manchanda, Sh. Naveen Rawat, Sh. RK Meena, LDC, Sh. Mukesh Bisht, Sh. Amit Prajapati, Course Asst., Sh. Mahendra Kumar, Sh. Anish Kumar Dixit, Course Clerk, Sh. Syed Zawar Hussain, Caretaker, Sh. Brijmohan, LDC

Group Photograph