

**Regional Evaluation-cum-Training Workshop for ENVIS Centres (Southern Region),
5-6th February, 2015 at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**

A 2-day evaluation-cum-training Workshop for ENVIS Centres of Southern Region (i.e., Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry) was held at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu hosted by ENVIS Centre at Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding and on 5th and 6th February, 2015. Around 50 participants of thematic as well as State/ UT ENVIS Centres participated in the Workshop. Speaking on the occasion, Economic Adviser, Shri M. Kannan stressed on the need to evolve the ENVIS Scheme as a one of the tools of Decision Support available to the Government of India for formulating various environmental policies and decisions. Among the experts who attended the Workshop for evaluation included Dr Rajasenan, Dr Rajaannan, Dr G Srinivas Rao, Dr. Haripriya Gundimeda and Prof. Kavikumar. Two parallel sessions for evaluating the activities of Thematic and State ENVIS Centres were carried out in the workshop. The second day of the Workshop was marked by a crucial training by NRSC officials Shri P. G. Diwakar and Shri Arul Raj on Bhuvan portal, a geospatial portal to enable the GIS-based information in the websites of the ENVIS Centres. The Workshop concluded with a thought-provoking session by experts who shared their remarks and experiences as well as the concluding address by Economic Adviser, Shri M. Kannan. A cultural programme was also conducted on the second day.