

GUJARATH TOUR OBSERVATION REPORT

1. 11-11-2022: From Vadodara to Kevadia

- i. Roof top solar policy is very good and popular. About 20% of the houses, offices in towns are having roof top solar panel systems.
- ii. Gujarat Forest Development Corporation is doing standing action of plantations, based on the volume calculation yield is estimated.
- iii. Every where Konacarpus is planted on the hedges as well as Median spaces on the Highways.
- iv. There is a good competition for Pulpwood material. Rs.6500/- per ton for above 12" girth (30cm) material is fetched.
- v. Farmers are selling the Eucalyptus as pole material for which Rs.7000/- per MTs (Including Transportation) is fetched.
- vi. Statue of Unity; Fitting tribute to the great leader Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. A very good place for promoting National integration
- vii. Narmada dam height is 163 mtrs.

2. 12-11-2022: Tour of Parks at Statue of Unity, Kevadia

I. EKTA NURSERY:

- a. Nursery layout is good.
- b. Pagoda's with bench arrangement is good.
- c. Top is covered by artificial grass.
- d. Fountain is simple and good.
- e. Orchidarium is well maintained.

II. Cactus Garden: 450 SPP of Cactus & Succulents are available. Green house structure is good. Adeniums are healthy & in flowering.

- a. Grafting Technology of Cactus is interesting.
- b. Base plant is Hylocereus. On this any Cacti can be propagated. Such models can be tried for replication in Botanical Garden.

III. Butterfly Garden: Professionally managed.

- a. Layout or garden is good.
- b. Butterfly Stages are depicted on a model which is interesting.
- c. Variety of plants attracting butterflies are planted. True to the name lot of butterflies are seen in the Garden.
- d. Some of the plants planted are Ixora, Ashoka, Purple lantana, Yellow lantana, Jatropha, Xenia and Kuphia etc.,
- e. Male butterflies are attracted and perching on Crotalaria retusa (Butterfly bar). Such a model to be replicated in Botanical Garden.

IV. **Arogyavanam:** Gate is very elegant. Maintenance by Forest Department is good.

V. **Kevadia Jungle Safari:** Area: 375 Ac. Gate is very elegant.

- a. 1100 plus animals and 100 SPP are displayed.
- b. Managed by Forest Department
- c. The land is very undulating. Seven different altitudinal levels from 220' to 466' are available.
- d. This area was used by Jaypee dam building agency.
- e. During construction of Sardar Sarovar Dam this area was used for fabrication, Batching plant and was also dumping site of more than 2500MTs of scrap metal and debris.

VI. **Valley of Flowers:** Entrance gate with live climbers is good. Such a model can be replicated in Botanical Garden for one of the gates.

VII. **Vishwavan:** At the entrance globe structure is attracting. This can be replicated in Botanical Garden. Chairman sir is very fascinated by this simple structure.

3. 13-11-2022: Journey from Kevadia to Sonagadh

I. **Subabul plantation:** Farmer Raju wadia.

- a. This is seed plantation with irrigation model
- b. Harvesting is done every 2.5 years
- c. Seed used is K636 direct seed sowing
- d. 4 to 5 crops are taken
- e. 1st cut: 45 to 50 MT / Ac. Rate fetched: Rs.3600/- MT. Harvesting charges Rs.550/- per MT.

II. **Subabul plantation Farmer:** Saketh Patel

- a. Farmer is doing crop rotation with Subabul plantation and Sugarcane.
- b. Subabul is Nitrogen fixer and the leaf is easily degenerated into the soil thereby increasing the productivity of land.
- c. Farmer is reaping good revenue through Subabul cultivation.

III. **JKPM – Unit; CPM, Sonagadh:**

- a. Clone production nursery: Subabul Clone.No.40 – Duration 14 months – Yield: 100 MT / Ha. Targeting for one year duration Subabul crop with 100 MT yield so as to wean away farmers from Sugarcane cultivation.
- b. Development of new Subabul Hybrids: In Subabul less seed production trials are in progress. Hybrids are new clones which are self sterile and hence all the vigor is transported to vegetative growth.
- c. Clone.No.283 turbo is performing very well.
- d. Seen a 3 ½ year old plantation which can yield 250 MT per Ha.

IV. R & D Experiment Plot Nursery:

a) Eucalyptus Cl.2135, Cl.413, JK-02, Jumbo & Casuarina clone C-5 plants are displayed.

b) Subabul clone: Subabul hybrid, Subabul Cl.CPM-40 are displayed.

c) Modern Mist-Chamber of 840 Sq.Mtr with a capacity of 5 lakh clones per batch is in operation.

d) Comparison of Subabul CPM.32 with agriculture crops Sugarcane and other crops has been made. This plot in Jamnagar area in 13Ac in a period of 18 months has produces 62MT per Ha on 40% moisture.

e) The total income from Subabul clone is Rs.67833/- Wheat and Cotton combined is Rs.48978/- and Sugarcane is Rs.66000/- over a period of 18 months. This is a irrigation model in black soil area.

We to have black soil areas like., Kista Sagar (Paloncha Division) where the performance of Eucalyptus is very poor. We may cultivate such Subabul clones to increase the productivity per Ha.

e) JKPM has got plants for formation of International Gene Bank of Pulpwood species for different countries.

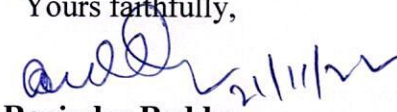
f) Seen the Tissue culture lab of JKPM where Eucalyptus clones, Acacia hybrid, Subabul and Casuarina are propagated.

g) Learnt about one species *Schizolobium amazonicum* found in Brazil which is capable of reaching 30mtrs high in 5 years (with average growth 6 mtrs per year), easily cultivable and capable of yielding 600 MT of wood per Ha in 10 years.

Overall the visit has been very fruitful and gave insights and guidance to the future plan of increasing Pulpwood productivity and achieving 200MT per Ha by 2030 from Telangana State Forest Development Corporation Ltd., plantations.

Thanking You.

Yours faithfully,


Sri.A.Ravinder Reddy,
General Manager (C)