iFOREST | INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY & TECHNOLOGY

FOREST FIRES, CLIMATE CHANGE AND NTFP COLLECTION IN MAHARASHTRA

A Civil Society Discussion

July 5, 2023 | 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
The Pride Hotel, Nagpur

AGENDA

Registration	*10:00 AM*
Inaugural Session	*10:30 AM – 11:50 AM*

- Welcome remarks and introductory remarks by Mandvi Singh, Program Director, Energy and Climate Change, International Forum for Environment, Sustainability & Technology (iFOREST)
- **Opening address** by Dilip Gode, Executive Director, Vidarbha Nature Conservation Society (VNCS)
- **Opening address** by Jayant Kulkarni, Director Conservation, Wildlife Research and Conservation Society
- **An inquiry into the anthropogenic origins of forest fires: Focus on tendu leaf collection; and community-focused interventions for forest fire prevention: Presentation** by Prerna Sah, Senior Research Associate
- Q & A session
- Unveiling of factsheets

Panel discussion on the rising threat of forest fire incidences in Maharashtra, anthropogenic origins, and effective mitigation strategies	*11:50 AM – 12:50 PM*

Key questions

1. What is the typical nature of forest fires in Maharashtra, and what are the implications regarding the forest ecosystem, biodiversity, ecosystem services and climate change?
2. What are your opinions about the origins of forest fires? Are practices like those of NTFP collection responsible for these fires?
3. What is being done to prevent and mitigate the occurrence of forest fires and what needs to be done?
4. What role do you envisage for the various stakeholders, especially communities, in forest fire management?

Moderator: Mandvi Singh, Program Director, Energy and Climate Change

Discussion panel

Panellists:

1. Mandar Pingle, Deputy Director, Satpuda Foundation
2. Suresh Chopane, President, Green Planet Society
3. Satyajit Jena, Senior Program Manager, Foundation for Ecological Security
4. Sawan Bahekar, President, SEWA

Moderated discussion among the delegates	*12:50 PM – 13:50 PM*
Closing Remarks by Mandvi, iFOREST	*13:50 PM – 13:55 PM*
LUNCH	*14:00 PM onwards*