

**A Report on the Training Programme under NMPB Funded project on
"Cultivation of High Valued Medicinal Plants" held at Nogli, Rampur, Shimla
(25.02.2014)**

Under 'National Medicinal Plants Board' funded project, the Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla conducted one day training programme on '**Cultivation of High Valued Medicinal Plants**' at Nogli, Rampur Distt. Shimla (H.P.) on 25.02.2014. About 44 progressive farmers of Kinnaur & Rampur region and frontline staff of Rampur Forest Division took active participation in the training programme. The training programme was conducted with a view to sensitize farmers and field functionaries of HPSFD towards medicinal plants cultivation and conservation.

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F and Coordinator of this training programme welcomed the participants (44 no.) on their arrival to Training Hall at FRH, Nogli, Rampur, Shimla. He also briefed about the day's event to the participants. **Sh. S.S. Kataik, IFS**, Head of Division, HFRI Shimla in his inaugural address stressed upon the importance of such training programme for especially for initiating commercial cultivation of medicinal plants in Himachal Pradesh and also conserving these valuable wealth in their natural habitat. The day's proceedings started with **Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-E** by highlighting the activities of the institute. **Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist-C** spoke about the importance of medicinal plants, livelihood issues and proper identification of high valued medicinal plants. Thereafter, **Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F** presented his work on nursery techniques for raising Atish (*Aconitum heterophyllum*), Chora (*Angelica glauca*), Kukti (*Picrorhiza kurroa*) and Mushakbala (*Valeriana jatamasi*) and also detailed about the NMPB funded project recently launched at HFRI, Shimla. He also made detailed presentation on marketing of medicinal plants, composting and vermin-composting techniques etc.

Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-E gave a presentation on the agro-forestry and inter-cultivation of medicinal plants in orchards of temperate areas of Himachal Pradesh. Then in the afternoon, **Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Scientist -F** subsequently made detailed presentation on Bamboos including hill bamboos. Dr R.S. Minhas, Chairman HIMOARD (Himalayan Organization for Organic Agri-Products, Research & Development) informed the participants about organic farming and its importance with respect to medicinal plants cultivation. He also suggested various bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides for organic farming and importance of forming groups particularly for certification and marketing of organic produce. To benefit the participants fully in the evening, a complete session was conducted as interaction among participants and experts. During this session participants expressed their opinion about medicinal plants cultivation & conservation and freely interacted with the resource persons. Relevant queries of the participants pertaining to various issues regarding cultivation of medicinal plants in the field were duly addressed through expert opinion of the resource persons.

In the end, a special Vote of Thanks was also extended by **Dr. Sandeep Sharma** to the participants.

SOME CLIPS OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME



