

**National Conference
on
Conservation, Improvement and
Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants
and Non-Wood Forest Products**
8-9 March, 2011

Organised by



Institute of Forest Productivity
(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)
N.H.-23, Lalgutuwa, Ranchi-835303

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National Medicinal Plant Board
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Govt. of India

RECOMMENDATIONS

Conservation

1. Intensive inventorization of the medicinal plants and NWFPs should be carried out to result in comprehensive database of a) medicinal plants and b) NWFPs.
2. Sufficient numbers of Medicinal Plant conservation areas(MPCAs) and forest genebanks are required to be created for conservation and manipulation of resources for judicious utilization in research and social development.
3. Rapid threat assessment should be organized to bring out conservation assessment and management prioritization plan (CAMP) exclusively for Jharkhand be the first in the region.

Research And Development

1. Identification of species and intra-specific categorization is a challenging task for assessing biodiversity and its conservation. Hence, classical disciplines and taxonomy in particular should be accorded due importance in biological sciences curricula along with modern techniques of molecular systematics.
2. Existing laboratories should be upgraded and strengthened for taking up bioprospecting, DNA fingerprinting and chemical profiling of medicinal plants and NWFPs.



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Sustainable Harvesting & Value Addition

1. Emphasis is desired in developing sustainable harvesting protocols for highly traded and conservation-concerned species.
2. Possibilities need to be explored for setting up value addition points especially by community enterprise for medicinal plants and NWFPs.

Traditional Knowledge

1. Local health traditions need to be documented and assessed; and community knowledge registers be prepared.
2. While reporting medicinal plants and their uses, the mention of traditional community to whom the knowledge of plant belongs must be done.



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Education & Capacity Building

1. There is a need to emphasize the importance of medicinal plants and traditional medicinal practices in the school curriculum including establishment of herbal gardens coupled with capacity building of teachers.
2. Capacity building and training is required at all levels of stakeholders particularly community participants in documentation, threat assessment, sustainable harvesting, establishment of herbal home gardens, basic botany and taxonomy.

Policy related issues

1. Natural heritage site status may be given to areas rich in medicinal plants diversity and traditional knowledge of the residing communities.
2. Mechanism should be evolved for certification of good agricultural and collection practices as well as checking adulteration in raw materials and products through stringent quality control measures.

