Three Days Training Programme for Other Stakeholders on

‘Cultivation of Important Temperate Medicinal Plants: An Option for Diversification and Augmentation of Rural Income’

HFRI, PANTHAGHATI, SHIMLA, 25th to 27th September, 2019

Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Panthaghati, Shimla organized Three Days Training and Demonstration programme on ‘Cultivation of Important Temperate Medicinal Plants: an option for Diversification and Augmentation of Rural Income’ for other stakeholders from 25th to 27th September, 2019. This Training Programme was sponsored by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. About 33 participants including Teachers, ITBP Officials, Eco Task Force Officials, NGOs, Elected Panchayat Representatives, Bank Officials, Media Persons, etc. took active participation in the Training Programme.

The Inaugural Session of the Training Programme started with a brief introduction by Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Training Coordinator. He while welcoming the Chief Guest and officials from different departments/sectors, briefly explained the schedule of the Three Days Training Programme and told that resource persons from different fields will interact and deliver lectures on Identification, field and nursery techniques, inter-cultivation, commercial cultivation, disease management and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants.

Dr. S.S. Samant, Director, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Panthaghati, Shimla welcomed the Chief Guest of the Inaugural Session Sh. K.S. Thakur, IFS, APCCF, CAMPA, HPSFD and delegates of the Training Programme. He briefly informed about the research and extension activities going on at HFRI and gave a gist of recent research achievements. He urged participants to take full advantage of this opportunity to freely interact with the Experts and Resource Persons and to get benefited from the training programme.
Sh K.S. Thakur, IFS, APCCF CAMPA and Chief Guest of the Training Programme thanked Himalayan Forest Research Institute for organizing this important Training Programme. He expressed satisfaction over the wide range of topics included in the training schedule. He told that Himachal Pradesh is bestowed with rich wealth of medicinal plants species and local communities have well defined rights in the forest area. He further told that the importance and demand of medicinal plants is constantly increasing owing to growing inclination of peoples toward use of Ayurvedic medicines as compared to the Allopathic medicines which are much cheaper and had no side effects. The market of medicinal plants is growing with time and there are immense opportunities in the medicinal plant sector by which farmers of the state can fetch extra income by adopting cultivation or inter-cultivation practices he added.

He informed that keeping in view the importance of medicinal plants, Himachal Pradesh Forest Department has also created a Medicinal Plants Cell under JICA and also launched schemes like Van Smridhi Jan Smridhi, etc. He hoped that the participants will definitely be benefited from this Training Programme. Praising the role of Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Panthaghati, Shimla he said that HFRI is a renowned National Institute and medicinal plants and had taken lead role in extension activities. He urged training participants to be in touch with HFRI, Shimla and to adopt and spread whatever learnt during training at HFRI in their work sphere and day to day life.

Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist –F, proposed formal vote of thanks on this occasion. He specially thanked Chief Guest Sh. K.S. Thakur, IFS, APCCF (CAMPA), HPSFD for sparing his valuable time and gracing the occasion as Chief Guest of the Inaugural Session.

During the Three Days Training Programme Experts from Himalayan Forest Research Institute; University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni; Govt. Degree College Theog and College of Horticulture and Forestry, Neri, Hamirpur delivered talks on various topics related to field botany, ethnobotany, biodiversity conservation and management, seed and nursery techniques of medicinal plants, production of quality planting stock, disease management delivered by Dr. S. S. Samant, Director, HFRI; Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist, HFRI; Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist HFRI; Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist, HFRI; Dr. Anil Thakur, Associate Prof. Botany, Govt. Degree College, Theog (Shimla); Dr. Kamal Sharma, Associate Professor, CoF, Neri (Hamirpur); Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Professor, UHF,
Different topics covered during the Training Programme were: Domestic Consumption of Medicinal Plants by Households, Folk Healers and Local Practitioners in India; Nursery techniques of important temperate medicinal plants; Status and Conservation of medicinal plants in Indian Himalayan Region; Modern Nursery Techniques and Production of Quality Planting Stock; Inter-cultivation of temperate medicinal plants with horticulture crops: an option for augmenting rural income; Basics of Plant Taxonomy for proper identification of Medicinal Plants; Improved Nursery Techniques of Harar, Bahera, Aonla and Reetha; Cultivation of important medicinal and aromatic plants of Himachal Pradesh; Experience sharing while working with communities for developing medicinal plants sector; Eco-friendly management of Diseases in Nursery and Importance of ethno-botany & ethno-botanical uses of temperate medicinal plants.

First and last day of the Training Programme i.e., 25th and 27th September, 2019 mainly consisted of the Lecture Sessions by different Resource Persons. The participants were also taken to Field Research Station, Shillaru, Shimla and alpine pasture, Hattu, Shimla, for actual demonstration on nursery practices and identification of different temperate medicinal plants species during the second day of the Training Programme i.e., on 26th September, 2019.

The Closing Session of the Training Programme i.e., on 27th September, 2019 was chaired by Dr. S.S. Samant, Director, HFRI. Delegates interacted freely and their questions/doubts were duly addressed by the Resource Persons and Experts. Training delegates provided their valuable feedback during this session. Certificates were also distributed to the participants by Director, HFRI, Shimla. Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Training Coordinator presented formal vote of thanks to all Resource Persons for sparing their valuable time; participants for active participation and officers and officials of HFRI involved wholeheartedly for making this Training Programme a success. In the end, he also thanked Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi for sponsoring this Training Programme continuously since last seven years under umbrella scheme of forestry and capacity building.

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Some Glimpse of the Training
ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से खत्म होने की दिशा में इतनी जरूरी भूमिका का निभाने के लिए ज्ञान आत्म-निरीक्षण करने और प्रत्येक व्यक्ति में भर्ती करना जरूरी है।