



## **SOCIETY FOR ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY, INDIA (SFE-INDIA)**

### **Report on the Second International Congress (SFEC -2015)**

**Organized by**

**Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences,**

**Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur**

**“Validation of Medicinal Plants and Traditional Medicine – Global Perspectives”**

**Februarys 20-22, 2015**

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SFE-India was formed in 2013, registered under the West Bengal Society Registration act 1961, and affiliated to the International Society for Ethnopharmacology, UK. The society has made its presence through the country, which provides networking opportunity for development and promotion of medicinal plants and natural products. The Society works on dissemination of knowledge in this area through different local chapters made in different parts of India with the major highlights on “*Globalizing local knowledge and localizing global technologies.*”

The second International Congress (SFEC - 2015) of the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFE-India) was organized by Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur, India during February 20-22, 2015 with the theme “Validation of Medicinal Plants and Traditional Medicine – Global Perspectives”. The congress has witnessed mammoth gathering of around 1000 delegates around 20 countries all over the world. About 65 Lectures from eminent speakers throughout the globe and more than 500 scientific Oral and Poster presentations.

Before the inauguration of the congress, a series of preconference workshops were organized to ascertain various technicalities related to natural product research. The first section was carried out at Gurunanak College of Pharmacy, Nagpur on the theme of “Scope for Research in Natural Products, Funding Opportunities and Publication”. Eminent editors/editorial board members of various impact journals delivered lectures in this workshop. In addition, scientists from various funding agencies of India also gave their deliberations on various schemes and funding opportunities from Govt. of India in promotion of Natural Products Research. Dr. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Associate Editor, Journal of Ethnopharmacology, Elsevier; Dr. Michael Heinrich, Editor, Journal of Pharmacy & Pharmacology, Pharmaceutical Press, UK; Dr. Anna Jager, Associate Editor,

Journal of Ethnopharmacology, Denmark, Dr. Rita Banerjee, Scientist F, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Dr. Neeraj Tandon, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi and Dr. Tapan Kumar Mukherjee, Ex-Editor, Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, CSIR-NISCAIR, India delivered their lectures. The workshop helped in learning the technique for writing a high impact good quality paper and also became aware of various funding opportunities in the field of Natural Product Research.

Simultaneously, Second section of the workshop was organized at Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur on the topic “Research Methodology, Molecular and Chromatographic Modes of herbal Drug Standardization and Role of Stereotaxic Neurosurgery in Ethnopharmacological Research”. Dr. Geoffrey Cordell, President, Natural Products Inc., Evanston, USA spoke on Methodologies involved in Plant Research, Ethics of researcher and Publication of research. Mr. Akshay Charegaonkar, MD, Anchrom, Mumbai and Dr. Pravin Wakte, Department of Chemical Technology, BAMU, Aurangabad, India discussed issues related to chromatographic evaluations of herbal drugs, Dr. T. Shrinivasu, Head, Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering, R.T.M. Nagpur University delivered talk on Recent Advancement in the Field of Plant Biotechnology and its Role in Identification and Molecular Standardization of Medicinal Plants, while Dr. Rajesh Ugale, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, R.T.M. Nagpur University demonstrated Application of Stereotaxic Neurosurgery in Ethnopharmacological Research.

The third part of the preconference workshop included demonstration on “Panchakarma and Ksharsutra” which was conducted at Baidyanath Life Sciences, Civil Lines, Nagpur, India by Dr. M. N. Suryawanshi, Asst. Director, AYUSH Research Centre, Nagpur, Dr. Subhash Raut and Dr. Ghanshyamdas Kodwani, Government Ayurveda College, Nagpur.

The congress was inaugurated by Shri Shekhar Dutt, Honorable Ex-Governor of Chhattisgarh, Dr. Chandreshwar P. Thakur, Former Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Dr. Vinayak Deshpande, Vice Chancellor, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur at Vasant Rao Deshpande Hall, Nagpur. Other respected dignitaries who attended the program were Dr. Vedprakash Mishra, Chancellor, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences University, Karad, Prof. Anna Jager, President, International Society for Ethnopharmacology UK, Dr. Michael Heinrich Professor, The School of Pharmacy, London, Dr. Pratim Banerji, President, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India, Dr. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India, Mr. A. K. Nigam (IFS), Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra, Nagpur, Shri. Ashok Giri, Joint Commissioner, Food and Drugs Administration, Nagpur, Dr. Naresh Gaikwad, Chairman LOC, SFEC-2015, Dr. Pramod G. Yeole, Convener, SFEC-2015 and Dr. Prakash Itankar, Organizing Secretary, SFEC-201. Felicitation of the eminent scientists and ethnopharmacologists were made in this function followed by the introduction of Society by Dr. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India and

special keynote lectures by Prof. C K Kokate, Vice – Chancellor, KLE University, India, Dr. Geoffrey Cordell, President, Natural Products Inc., Evanston, USA and Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan, Pune, India.

In the inaugural program of the congress the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFE-INDIA) annual awards were conferred to different eminent scientist/ industries for outstanding contributions on Ethnopharmacology. Dr. C. K. Kokate received the SFE Lifetime Achievement Award i.e. “Bisheswar Saha Memorial Award”; Dr. Geoffrey Cordell received the SFE Outstanding International Ethnopharmacologist Award i.e. “Pranab Banerji Memorial Award”; the SFE Outstanding Indian Ethnopharmacologist Award “Harihar Mukherjee Memorial Award” was conferred to Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan; Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh Rawat received the SFE – ZANDU Award 2015 for “Best Research on Plant Drug”. Further, the SFE - Special Recognition Award 2015 was awarded to Mr. Sibeswar Saha, Mrs. Sibylle U. Saha and Mr. Birendra Kumar Sarkar for their valuable contribution in medicinal plant research. The “SFE Outstanding Service Award 2015” was received by Dr. Prakash R. Itankar for his valuable contribution in promotion and development of Society for Ethnopharmacology; M/s. Shree Baidyanath Ayurved Bhawan Pvt. Ltd, Nagpur was honored with the “SFE - Herbal industry leader award 2015”.

Several special lectures and plenary lectures were delivered on critical issues for promotion and globalization of traditional medicine, ethnopharmacology and medicinal plant research by a galaxy of eminent scientists and researchers from all over the world. Among the eminent speakers, Dr. Geoffrey Cordell, USA, Prof. Anna Jäger, Denmark; Dr. Michael Heinrich, UK, Dr. Hiroyuki Fukui, Japan, Dr. Bernard Mouillac, France, Prof. Elin Yulinah Sukandar, Indonesia; Dr. Dilip Ghosh, Australia, Dr. Ganesh Thakur, USA, Dr. Yusuf OZTURK, Turkey, Dr. Colin Wright, UK, Dr. Mohammed Razdar Khan, Canada, Dr. Alvaro Viljoen, South Africa, Dr. Namrita Lall, South Africa, Dr. Marco Leonti, Italy, Dr. D. K. Mitra, India, Dr. Tuhinadri Sen, India, Mr. Jarnail Singh (IFS), India, Dr. Sitesh C Bachar, Bangladesh, Dr. Bhushan Patwardhan, India, Dr. Chandra Kant Katiyar, India, Dr. Debprasad Chattopadhyay, India, Dr. A.K.S. Rawat, India, Dr. Anjan Adhikari, India, Dr. Olatunde Peter Ajagbonna, Nigeria and many other representing 20 countries of the world delivered their valuable talks.

The congress also had a display of various exhibitions related to natural product research and dissemination of knowledge regarding importance of traditional medicine compared to conventional one. The stall represented by the Forrest Development Corporation of Maharashtra was highly appreciated, where more than 25 vaidyas (traditional healers) represented different zones of country displaying traditional and focal medicines of their respective zone. The exhibition also included stalls displaying their food, herbal, nutritive products and chemical reagents from Nisha Herbals Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, Shree Baidyanath Ayurved Bhawan Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, Gondwana Herbs Pvt. Ltd., Dhule, Zim Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur and MGIRI Pvt. Ltd., Wardha; Alka Scientific Instruments Pvt. Ltd.,

Nagpur had a display of various scientific instruments and chemical reagents, while Shri Shail Herbs Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur had displayed more than 60 medicinal plants with their specifications.

The special highlight of the congress was the Business Conclave Meet of industrialists dealing with herbal medicines which was organized in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Shri Nitinji Gadkari (Union Transport Minister, Government of India, New Delhi, India), where all the critical issues related with the bottlenecks in the herbal industry, promotion and marketing strategies to meet the demand of herbal medicines to common people were discussed. It was decided to prepare a policy guideline in the form a memorandum to be submitted to The Central Government, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of AYUSH and the Maharashtra State Government after having a series of talks with various stakeholders.

The conference ended with a valedictory program with the prize distribution of scientific oral and poster presentation. In the valedictory program, special recognition was made by SFE-India & ISE, UK to the organizers to recognize their services for the promotion Ethnopharmacology in India. Thus the second congress of the society was very successful in every aspect.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International congress of the society will be organized by the Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur during February, 2016. We invite all of you to join the society. More information on the activities, awards and membership of the society is available on **[www.ethnopharmacology.in](http://www.ethnopharmacology.in)**. For further information you may please contact Dr. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, SFE & Director, School of Natural Product Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata 700032, India.























