

# SOCIETY FOR ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY (SFE-INDIA)

## **NEWSLETTER**

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February 2015

# We welcome you all

2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Society for Ethnopharmacology, India







Affiliated to





February 20-22, 2015, Nagpur, India

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#### **Editorial**

News Letter 3rd issue highlights the different activities of the Society in 2014 throughout the Country from Raipur - Jhansi - Dehradun - Kolkata on the theme of "Benefits & Opportunities of Medicinal Plant Research" in India. The traditional knowledge may transform the society, if we translate those information into products through modern Science and Technology. With such mission the Government of India has set up a new Ministry of AYUSH. The Society for Ethnopharmacology (India) is working hard to disseminate such information's in the Scientific and Social arena so that our society can contribute to the control of lifestyle, drug-resistant, emerging & difficult-to-treat diseases, using our centuryold wisdom.

## Go for the opportunities in natural product research!

At the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology, ISE, held in Chile last year, we had an afternoon session dedicated to students meeting experienced researchers. We sat in a small groups and talked, 'one Post Doc voiced that the old had



had it so easy'. That sparked an interesting discussion, as it transpired that the old professors had had close to 10 years of unsecure temporary employment in different places before securing a permanent position, had faced deportation, been single parents etc. There is no doubt that scientific inventiveness and hard work are the foundation for any career – you need to build a strong CV – but networking is what gets you the job, mostly. The path might bend and turn, but as long as you gain useful experience it is steps in the right direction. Luckily, the world has regained an interest in natural products, so the prospects in our area of research are looking brighter again. Your dreams might come through!

Join the society and explore the oportunity.

----- Anna Jager, President, ISE, UK

### SFE, India - Globalizing Local Knowledge -Localizing Global Technologies

Friends,

The society for Ethnopharmacology, India has made its presence throughout the country & I amhappy to welcome you for the 2nd International congress of our Society at Nagpur. The society provides several opportunities including networking development and promotion of medicinal plants & natural products amongst students, researchers, academician & industries. This society is working on dissemination of knowledge in the field of Ethnopharmacology through different chapters in different parts of India. It is great to note that over 1000 delegates are joining the congress. I personally thank all of you for joining the congress and making this society vibrant in sharing of knowledge. We are very much thankful to all the members in general & specifically the members of the executive board, Editorial board of the news letter, Coordinators for the local chapters for their hard work for promotion the society. We are very thankful to the Nagpur local chapter specifically Dr. Prakash Itankar and team for organising the mega event this year. We would like to request you all to join the forum and explore the opportunities.

---- Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, SFE, India

### **Events of SFE-INDIA Local Chapters & Head Quater**

International Conference on "Cutting edge technology in New Drug Discovery & Drug Delivery Systems"; October 11-12, 2014.



Raipur local chapter of SFE India organized an International conference on frontiers in pharmaceutical science and research with the theme "Cutting edge technology in New Drug Discovery & Drug Delivery Systems". This event was organized by the Columbia Institute of Pharmacy, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India, during October 11–12, 2014. SFE-India thanks Dr S. Saraf Coordinator of Raipur local chapter and Dr Amit Roy, Principal of Columbia Institute of Pharmacy, Raipur and the total team for organizing this event.

# National Conference on "Ethnopharmacology in Drug Development: Perspectives & Challenges"; November 14-15, 2014.

The Jhansi local chapter organized a national seminar on **Development:** "Ethnopharmacology in Drug Prospects and Challenges". This event was organized by University in with Bundelkhand association Sciences. Institute of Biomedical Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, India, during November 14-15, 2014. SFE-India thanks Dr Rambir Singh Coordinator of Jhansi local chapter and his active team members for organizing this event.



# National Seminar cum Workshop on "Ethnopharmacology and Drug Discovery - Perspectives & Challenges"; November 21-22, 2014.



The Dehradun local chapter organized a national workshop cum seminar on "Ethnopharmacology and drug discovery from medicinal plants" during November 21-22, 2014 .The event was organized by Shri Guru Ram Rai Technology Sciences. Institute of and Dehradun, SFE-India thanks Uttarakhand. Dr Preeti Kothiyal coordinator of Dehradun local chapter and all the members of her team for organizing this event.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Convention & National Seminar on "Opportunities in Medicinal Plant Research"; November 29-30, 2014.

The 1<sup>st</sup> convention of SFE-INDIA was organized at Kolkata and a national seminar on "Opportunities in Medicinal Plant Research" was organized during November 29-30, 2014, jointly with the School of Natural Product Studies Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India. The seminar evidenced participation of over 300 delegates from different parts of India with more than 150 scientific presentations.



## Latest News update

#### Teixobaxtin:

A collaboration of four institutes in the US and Germany together with two pharmaceutical companies has reported in January 2015, that they had isolated and characterized a new antibiotic, killing "without detectable resistance."[1][2][3][4]. With the help of iChip (isolation chip), a bacteria from soil "a grassy field in Maine" was screened that led to discovery of Teixobactin[5]. Teixobactin is an 11-residue depsipeptide believed to be synthesized in E. terrae by the nonribosomal peptide synthetases Txo1 and Txo2 (encoded by the genes txo1 and txo2).[1] Teixobactin is an inhibitor of cell wall synthesis that acts primarily by binding to lipid II, a fatty molecule which is a precursor to peptidoglycan. This is similar to the action of antibiotic vancomycin. Human clinical trials for teixobactin it is to be done where a developmental cost "in the low \$100-millions" on a five to six year schedule has been proposed. Pharmaceutical companies have been reluctant to make such investments in new antibiotics owing to risk of development of resistance due to inevitable wide prescription of the same.[10]

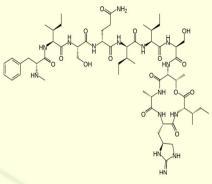


Fig. Structure of Teixobactin

#### References:

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- 2. Wright, Gerard (7 January 2015). "Antibiotics: An irresistible newcomer". Nature.doi:10.1038/nature14193.
- 3. Lewis, Kim (7 January 2015). "NovoBiotic reports the discovery of teixobactin, a new antibiotic without detectable resistance". Cambridge, Massachusetts: NovoBiotic Pharmaceuticals. Retrieved 7 January 2015.
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- 5. Nichols D, Cahoon N, Trakhtenberg EM, Pham L, Mehta A, Belanger A et al. (2010). "Use of ichip for high-throughput in situ cultivation of "uncultivable" microbial species". Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 76(8): 2445-50. doi:10.1128/AEM.01754-09. PMC 2849220. PMID 20173072.
- 6. WO 2014089053, "Novel depsipeptide and uses thereof", published 12 June 2014, assigned to Novobiotic Pharmaceuticals LLC [US].

### Major achievements of SFE Members

Dr. Nishikant A. Raut, Assistant Professor (Sr. Gr.) from Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur and a member of SFE, India has received Start-up Research Grant (Project: "Studies on improvement of solubility and bioavailability of some agents targeting viral species") of Rs 24.5 Lakhs (Young Scientists) from Science & Engineering Research Board, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, New Delhi.











Cutting Edge Technology in New Drug Discovery and Drug Columbia Institute of Pharmacy Chhattisgarh che Delivery Systems that began at in association with Society for



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### SFE-INDIA Executive Committee Meeting at Kolkata, SFE-INDIA Head Quater



## JOIN SFE-INDIA & Explore the Opportunity

### "Globalizing Local Knowledge & Localizing Global Technology"

To work for the promotion of Ethnopharmacology - medicinal plants and other natural products

- medicinal plants and ethnopharmacology around the globe.
- Sharing of knowledge among researchers, Access to a wide network of scholars healthcare-practitioners, and decision- interested in the traditional medicine and makers interested in Ethnopharmacology.
- Organizing conference, seminars, symposia, Encouraging the scientists through awards, workshops etc in different parts of India.

- Networking amongst the researchers in Travel grant for students and young medicinal plants and ethnopharmacology scientists and reduced registration fees to attend the events organized by the Society for Ethnopharmacology.
  - Ethnopharmacology.
- Dissemination of knowledge for promotion Validation and documentation of TM, of TM and medicinal plants medicinal plants and natural products
  - honors, grants etc.
- Information on activities in respect of ■Collaborative approaches for promotion & Ethnopharmacology around the world. development of TM and medicinal pants.

# Healing Plants Nature's Gift for Everyone - Let's Preserve & Promote those Gifts.



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