



SOCIETY FOR ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY, INDIA (SFE - INDIA)

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Contents

ISE SFEC Special Edition 2023

- Message from the secretary
- Reports on 22nd ISE and 10th SFEC 2023 Congress
- Traditional Healers Meet at Shillong, Meghalaya April 2023
- Report on the National Seminar at Jadavpur University, June 2023
- Events conducted under SFE Bhopal Local Chapter
- Exploring the Hidden Realm of Endophytic Fungi Isolated from Himalayan Medicinal Plants
- Annual Awards of Society for Ethnopharmacology 2023
- Achievements and honours
- SFE in Media

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Message from the Founder

Dear Friends,

SFE has completed 10 years of its very successful journey on 'globalising local knowledge and localising global technology' with its presence throughout the country for the dissemination of knowledge on promotion and development of Ethnopharmacology and Medicinal plant Research. Our expanding capabilities are evident in the resounding success of the 10th International Congress of SFE and the 22nd International Congress of ISE (ISESFEC 2023), which took place in Imphal, Manipur, India from February 24 to 26, 2023. I am delighted to announce that SFE has organized a special issue in the Journal of Ethnopharmacology, published by Elsevier, focused on the congress theme. The deadline for manuscript submissions is December 30, 2023. I am happy to see that the SFE, HQ, Kolkata has established WhatsApp groups for individual local chapters to engage with our active society members to exchange their scientific accomplishments. Scientific achievements of our members are the major strengths of SFE India and we strongly believe that your participation will enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of our activities. I would like to wish you and your family all the best for upcoming festive season- wish you a very happy Durga puja and happy Diwali ahead.

Prof. Pulok K Mukherjee
Founder

Message from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It is our pleasure to see the society has celebrated its 10 years anniversary in the February 2023. The sapling planted by the visionary leadership in the year of 2013 is now grown enough with its strong membership base and rich scientific contribution to the society. Now the society has 17 local branches in different states throughout the country, who are working in the area of ethnopharmacology especially on traditional medicines. This is an abridged version of two issues containing reports of ISE-SFEC 2023 at Imphal, Manipur, report of the national seminar conducted jointly by School of Natural Product Studies, Jadavpur University & SFE and Traditional healers meet at Shillong, Meghalaya. It also contains activities of local chapters, personal achievements and a short article which we received. You are also requested to send the report of activities of local chapters and your major achievements for the next issues.

We strongly believe that your strong participation will make this publication more efficient and effective.

Dr. Subhash C Mandal, M.Pharm., Ph.D., FIC, FIPA
Editor

Join the Upcoming Events

National Seminar on
Ethnopharmacology
for Bioeconomy:
The New Paradigm
28-30 November, 2023

EBNP-23

Society for Ethnopharmacology, India
10th
Convention

Organized by:
CSIR- North East Institute of Science & Technology
Jorhat- 785006, Assam
SFE - Jorhat Local Chapter
In association with:
Society for Ethnopharmacology, India

CSIR-NEIST

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FIRST CIRCULAR
International Conference on Traditional Medicine
& Phytopharmaceuticals (ICTMP)
&
11th International Congress of
Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFEC 2024)

ICTMP-SFEC 2024
JAMMU | February 16th- 18th, 2024

THEME
Ethnopharmacology in Development
of Phytopharmaceutical Drugs

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY
CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIM)
Canal Road, Jammu-180001 (J&K), India
&
Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFE),
Kolkata 700032, India
(SFE-Jammu Chapter)

FOR MORE INFORMATION & UPDATES:

Register Here www.ictmpsfec2024.illm.res.in [csir-illm](https://www.facebook.com/csir-illm) www.illm.res.in [csirillm](https://www.instagram.com/csirillm)

10th year anniversary of SFE Celebrated

Reports on 22nd International Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE) and the 10th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology India

10th year anniversary of our beloved society was celebrated with fanfare by hosting the 22nd International Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE) and the 10th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology India (SFE-India) during February 24th to 26th, 2023, at the City Convention Centre in Imphal, Manipur, India. The theme of the congress was "Reimagine Ethnopharmacology: Globalization of Traditional Medicine." Prof. Pulok K Mukherjee, Director of the Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD), Imphal, Manipur, and Dr. Nanaocha Sharma, Scientist at IBSD, served as the Chairman and Organizing Secretary of ISE-SFEC 2023, respectively. The event featured diverse topics, traditional wisdom, biodiversity, and a focus on the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot. It aimed to promote bioresources in India, with special emphasis on the North Eastern region (NER).

The congress was preceded by a series of 75 international webinars on "Reimagine Ethnopharmacology" held from May 2020 to September 2022, featuring more than 50 national and international speakers and over 1500 participants. The inaugural session included esteemed guests such as government ministers, scientists, and international representatives. Keynote sessions covered topics like ethnopharmacology, drug discovery, and the global scenario of traditional medicine. The event featured 15 plenary sessions, with topics spanning from bioresources and traditional medicine to ethnobotany and drug development from botanicals. Eminent national and international speakers enriched these sessions with their expertise.

Scientific Sessions, and Panel Discussions: Scientific sessions allowed over 90 oral presentations and 278 poster presentations, fostering discussions and knowledge sharing. Traditional Healers' Conclave explored ancestral medicine, and a business meet connected professionals with industry representatives. Panel discussions addressed publication ethics and the future of ethnopharmacology, with esteemed editors and experts sharing insights. The congress concluded with valedictory sessions, recognizing outstanding presentations and contributions. With approximately 1500 registered delegates from various fields, the 22nd ISE-SFEC 2023 was a comprehensive gathering that facilitated the exchange of knowledge and ideas among experts and enthusiasts in ethnopharmacology and traditional medicine.

Traditional Healers Conclave: One of the major highlights of this congress was Traditional Healers' Conclave: "Traditional Healthcare Practices - Exploring Ancestral Medicine". Many healers from different states of India including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Manipur, Mizoram and many more states joined the conclave as a panellist and shared their valuable knowledge on traditional and folklore medicine practices. Dr. Marco Leonti, Prof. M. G Matsabisa, Dr Caroline Wekerle, Dr. Pramod H J, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patra, Dr. Rajesh Singh Pawar, India, Dr Jatin Kalita, Dr. Chandana Barua, also shared their knowledge regarding traditional healthcare practices.

i-Connect Program: The congress also featured an "i-Connect program: Business Meet" that connected professionals with industry representatives. Government officials, including Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, attended this session, emphasizing the importance of ethnopharmacology and traditional medicine in India.

Scientific Impact and Outreach: The congress witnessed the participation of more than 1500 registered delegates from diverse fields, including pharmacy, Ayurveda, medical, dental, and life sciences. It served as a platform for scientific exchange, debate, and the dissemination of ideas among professionals, technologists, industrialists, and traditional healthcare practitioners. The 22nd ISE-SFEC 2023 was an enriching experience for all attendees, receiving overwhelming feedback and leaving a lasting impact on the field of ethnopharmacology and traditional medicine. For further information about the Society for Ethnopharmacology India and its activities.

In summary, the 22nd ISE-SFEC 2023 was a remarkable event that resulted some achievements like fostered knowledge sharing, and promoted the global advancement of ethnopharmacology and traditional medicine.



Traditional Healers Meet at Shillong, Meghalaya April 2023

A traditional healers meet under the Himalayan Bioresource Mission Programme, Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India was organised jointly with Institute of Bioresource and Sustainable Development (IBSD), Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India and Bio Resource Development Centre (BRDC) Shillong Meghalaya at IBSD Meghalaya Node, 5th Mile, Upper Shillong – 793009 on April 18th 2023. Prof. Pulok K Mukherjee, Director, IBSD, Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India delivered his welcome note and inaugurated the programme. DR. Jitendra K Shukla, Scientist-in-Charge, IBSD Meghalaya Node, Shillong highlighted on the traditional practices in various district of Meghalaya and discussed the important flora and fauna of Meghalaya. Dr. K Ojit Singh, Project Scientist, IBSD, Imphal discussed on the validation methodology of traditional medicine of Eastern Himalayan region. Dr. Sansuk Lyngdoh Nonglait, Project Scientist, BRDC, Shillong shared her knowledge regarding traditional medicinal practices in Meghalaya by the traditional healers. Dr. Evanylla Kharlyngdoh, Scientist, IBSD, Meghalaya Node, Shillong highlighted on the importance of documentation and preparation of herbarium and extract library of the traditional medicine in Eastern Himalayan region. Dr. Kakali Mukherjee, Executive Committee Member, Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFE), India and Ms. Seha Singha, Project Coordinator, SFE, India highlighted the background and activities of SFE for the promotion of traditional healthcare practices. Many healers from various districts from Meghalaya joined this program and shared their experience and knowledge of traditional healthcare practices. Mr. Christopher Myrthong, Traditional Healer, West Khasi Hill, Meghalaya, Mrs. Magdalin Kurkalang, Traditional Healer, East Khasi Hill, Meghalaya, Mrs. Koilinda Kharbani, Traditional Healer, West Khasi Hill, Meghalaya, Mr. H. Carehome Pakyntien, Traditional Healer, Jaintia Hill, Meghalaya, Mrs. Blendalin Thongni, Traditional Healer, West Khasi Hill, Meghalaya, Mr. Genesisster Blah, Traditional Healer, West Khasi Hill, Meghalaya and many other traditional healers attended the program. Dr. Sunil Thorat, Scientist, IBSD, Meghalaya Node, Shillong ended the program with vote of thanks.



Report on the National Seminar at Jadavpur University, June 2023

The “National Seminar on Role of medicinal plants to combat metabolic disorders and associated pathological complications” was organized by School of Natural Product Studies, Jadavpur University and Society for ethnopharmacology which was supported by National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. The main focus of this seminar is traditional medicine, particularly Indian medicinal plants, and their ethnopharmacological applications in addressing metabolic disorders. It aimed to bridge the gap between traditional and modern medicine, addressing issues such as therapeutic evaluation, drug discovery, scientific validation, quality assessment, and safety aspects. Eminent scientists and professionals from diverse fields of natural product sciences delivered lectures and conducted practical demonstrations on instrumental techniques like HPLC and plant tissue culture. The event attracted over 200 participants from various Indian states and provided a collaborative platform for extensive research and knowledge dissemination, emphasizing the importance of scientific validation and evaluation of Indian Medicinal Plants for therapeutic efficacy in metabolic disorders.



Events Conducted under SFE Bhopal Local Chapter

Truba Institute of Pharmacy, Bhopal in association with Vigyan Bharti, Madhya Bharat Prant organized One Day National Symposium on 11th May 2023 for celebration of "National Technology Day" under SFE Bhopal local chapter and Institutional Innovation Council, TIP. The theme of symposium "Bright Tradition of Science in India" successfully highlighted the invaluable contributions of India's ancient scientists, the potential for integrating traditional knowledge into contemporary technology, and the accomplishments of modern Indian scientists. The presence of many renowned personalities from the science stream makes the symposium successful. Shri Praveen Ramdas Ji, National Secretary, Director, Vibha Vani, New Delhi, India, Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Dixit, former Head and Professor, Dr. H. S. Gour Central University, Sagar, Prof. (Dr.) S. P. Vyas former VC and Professor, Dr. H. S. Gour Central University, Sagar, Er. Sanjay Singh Kaurav, Secretary, Vigyan Bharti, Madhya Bharat Prant, Dr. Shailendra Singh, Executive Member, Vigyan Bharti, Madhya Bharat Prant was present in the symposium.

Details of the activities of Bhoopal Local Chapter -

Date	Type of Event	Theme	Resource person	No. of participant	Sponsored/ in association with
26/04/2023	World Intellectual Property Day	Innovation in IPR Scenario in India	Dr. N.K. Choubey, Sr. Principal Scientist & Head, Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre, PIC, MPCST Bhopal.	85	SFE Bhopal Local Chapter, IIC-TIP
11/05/2023	National Symposium (celebration of National Technology Day)	Bright Tradition of Science in India	-	455	SFE Bhopal Local Chapter and Vigyan Bharti Madhya Bharat Prant

30/05/2023	Health Awareness session	Heart Attack Risk and related factors	Dr. Avadhesh Narayan Khare Cardiologist, MBBS, MD (Medicine), DM (Cardiology)	80	SFE Bhopal Local Chapter
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Exploring the Hidden Realm of Endophytic Fungi Isolated from Himalayan Medicinal Plants

Mehak Kaur¹, Mayurika Goel^{1*}

¹TERI-Deakin Nano Biotechnology Centre, Sustainable Agriculture Program, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), TERI GRAM, Gurgaon, 122001, India

The Himalayan region, renowned for its breath-taking landscapes, diverse ecosystems and contrasting climates, is also a treasure trove of medicinal plants with ethnobotanical history in indigenous and centuries-old therapeutics practices. They have played a pivotal role in traditional medicinal systems such as Ayurveda, Tibetan, and Chinese medicine because of uncommon morphology and strategies for survival and are considered principal components for novel drug. Endophytic fungi isolated from such medicinal plants have garnered attention from the researchers' community owing to their potential of producing similar metabolites as that of their host plants and aiding in the conservation of the host plant. They reside within the plant tissues without causing any visible harm and have been found to play significant roles in the defence system of the host plants. Bioactives isolated from them have biotechnological applications in agriculture, industrial and pharmaceutical sectors and are prospective alternate sources to produce antibiotics, antioxidants, anticancer, immunosuppressant and insecticidal compounds.

One of the most significant contributions of endophytic fungi in the Himalayan plant ecosystem is their ability to enhance the adaptability and resilience of their host plants by tolerating various stressors, such as extreme temperatures, drought, and pathogen attacks through bioactives (Chowdhary et al., 2012). Furthermore, endophytic fungi such as *Trichoderma* and *Serendipita* can also contribute to nutrient cycling in the ecosystem by solubilizing minerals, making them more accessible and produce plant growth promoting hormones such as auxins from *Phoma*, improving plant growth (Baron and Rigobelo, 2021). This function is particularly important in nutrient-poor soils often found in high-altitude regions of the Himalayas. They also produce a wide array of bioactive compounds, including alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenoids, peptides, polyketones, phenols, and volatile organic compounds that have demonstrated significant pharmacological properties. Anticancer compound paclitaxel (or Taxol) has been isolated from *Fusarium* residing in the Himalayan yew (Garyali et al., 2013). Endophytic fungi isolated from Himalayan plants such as *Muscodor*, *Alternaria*, *Fusarium* and others producing antimicrobials could be used as biocontrol agents to protect valuable crops and medicinal plants from diseases (Chandra et

al., 2021). Bioactives from endophytic fungi can also be used in the production of nutraceuticals such as fatty acids, pigments, antioxidants and anxiolytics (Kalra et al., 2020).

Despite their potential, the study and application of endophytic fungi from Himalayan medicinal plants face several challenges. For example, many endophytic fungi are difficult to replicate in the laboratory and axenic conditions, which can hinder their study and exploitation. Developing commercial products from endophytic fungi requires compliance with regulatory frameworks, which can be complex and time-consuming. The Himalayan region is ecologically sensitive, and the collection of plant and fungal samples must be done with utmost care to avoid disruptions. Ongoing research efforts should focus on collaborative efforts from political, conservation and scientific backgrounds improving understanding of the biology of endophytic fungi in the Himalayan ecosystem, ensuring that the rich biodiversity of the Himalayas remains intact for generations to come. Their untapped potential of production of bioactives can lead to several ground-breaking discoveries benefitting both flora and fauna.

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Annual Awards of the Society for Ethnopharmacology 2023

15 awards were conferred on eminent personalities and researchers by SFE for their excellence for promotion and development of medicinal plant research and ethnopharmacology.

a) **SFE - Lifetime Achievement Award** - “Sibeswar Saha Memorial Award” - 2023

Awardee: Professor Sudhir K. Sopory

b) **SFE - Outstanding International Ethnopharmacologist Award**- “Pranab Banerji Memorial Award” - 2023

Awardee: Prof. Satyajit D Sarker

c) **SFE - Outstanding National Ethnopharmacologist Award** -“Harihar Mukherjee Memorial Award” - 2023

Awardee: Dr. Guruaribam Shantibala Devi

d) **SFE - ZANDU Award for “Best Research on Plant Drugs”** instituted by Emami Ltd., Kolkata – 2023

Awardee: Prof. Alvaro M. Viljoen

e) **SFE - Outstanding Service Award** “Pratim Banerji Memorial Award” supported by Parkar Robinson Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata -2023

Awardee: Dr. Lal Hingorani

f) **SFE- T. Sen Oration Award** – 2023

Awardee: Dr. Caroline Sonja Weckerle

g) **SFE – Herbal Industry Leader Award** “Dr. Shivaji Rao Kadam Award-2023

Awardees: Sami - Sabinsa Group Limited, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

h) **SFE-Special Recognition Awards**

“Dr. Subodh Chandra and Mamata Mukherjee Memorial Award”-2023

Awardees: Dr. Sanjay Kumar

i) **SFE-Special Recognition Awards** – 2023

Prof. Nongmaithem Rajmuhon Singh

j) **SFE-Outstanding Local Chapter Award** - 2023

Awardee: Dr. Nanaocha Sharma, Eastern Himalaya Local Chapter

k) **SFE - Outstanding International Ethnopharmacologist Award** – 2021

“Pranab Banerji Memorial Award-2021” - instituted by the Society for Ethnopharmacology

Awardee: Prof. Thomas Efferth

l) **SFE – Best Publication in Ethnopharmacology and Traditional Medicine Research Award** “Dr. Nirmal Kumar and Nirupama Chatterjee Memorial Award” - 2023

Awardee: Dr. Minakshi Bhattacharjee received the award for the article entitled, “Natural furin inhibitor(s) as potent therapeutic molecule to mitigate SARS-CoV-2 infection”

m) **SFE – Best Publication in Ethnopharmacology and Traditional Medicine Research Award**

Awardee: Dr. Prasoon Gupta received the award for the article entitled, “Heterorhabdus and Photorhabdus Symbiosis: A Natural Mine of Bioactive Compounds”

n) **SFE – Best Publication in Ethnopharmacology and Traditional Medicine Research Award**

Awardee: Dr. (Mrs.) Arulmozhi received the award for the article entitled, "Standardization and Ameliorative effect of Kalyanaka ghrita in β -amyloid induced memory impairment in Wistar rats"

Heartiest Congratulations:



Ms. Rakhi Kabhiya, Asst. Prof. at SOP, DAVV, AIPER, Indore and Member of SFE Bhopal Chapter for receiving the *Second* prize for oral presentation in the Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry category in recently concluded APTICON 2023 For recent publication of one book and several Book Chapters in books published by several Publishers

SFE in Media

IMPHAL, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

2nd day of International Bioresource Conclave and Ethnopharmacology Congress i-Connect programme inaugurated, SFE-Annual Award Ceremony held

IMPHAL, Feb 25

On the second day of the International Bioresource Conclave and Ethnopharmacology Congress, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India joined online and inaugurated i-Connect programme and SFE-Annual Award Ceremony.

The International Bioresource Conclave and Ethnopharmacology Congress is being organised by the Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) in collaboration with the International Society for Ethnopharmacology, India and International Society for Ethnopharmacology, Switzerland, said a statement by IBSD, Imphal.

During the event, the Minister also inaugurated a centre for outreach activities and scientists and students hostel facility of IBSD. He highlighted that the conference is

focused on globalization of traditional medicines which is being organized for the first time in NER.

He spoke about various programmes during the congress where around 105 scientific lectures by eminent scientists and around 700 delegates representing over 35 countries and all the States of India.

During the programme, Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India highlighted various activities of DBT for the development of Bioeconomy and promotion of ethnopharmacology in re-

cent context. He appreciated the initiative of Professor Pulok K. Mukherjee, Director, IBSD for organising this congress in Imphal to showcase and develop the unique bioreresources of Manipur in particular and the whole NER at large.

Professor Pulok K. Mukherjee highlighted various sessions being organized during the congress mainly focussed on "Reimagine Ethnopharmacology: Globalization of Traditional Medicine".

Professor Marco Leonti, Secretary, ISE highlighted various activities of the soci-

ety which is working on the mission "Globalizing local knowledge and localizing global technologies".

During the Annual Award Ceremony of SFE, awards were given to Professor Thomas Efferth, Professor Satyjit D. Sarker, Professor Gururibam Shantibala Devi, Professor Alvaro M. Viljoen, Dr. Lal Hingorani, Dr. Caroline Sonja Weckerle, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Professor Nongmaithem Rajmahon Singh for their excellence in their research areas.

During the congress a special panel discussion session "i-Connect program: Business meet" was organized for the developing industry linkage with the entrepreneurs of this region. This congress will provide an environment for knowledge sharing among researchers, policymakers, industry persons, healthcare practitioners and decision-makers interested in the promotion of bioreresources, traditional medicines, ethnopharmacology and drug discovery.

Imphal Free Press SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 25 | 2023 STATE

Three days conference is to identify unique bioresource of NER: Union Minister

By A Staff Reporter IMPHAL | Feb 25

Union minister of state (independent charge) for the ministry of science and technology, earth science, Dr. Jitendra Singh said on the second day of the conference that the conference is to identify the unique bioresource of the northeast region.

The union minister on Saturday attended a three-day International Bioresource Conclave along with the 22nd Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology and the 10th Congress of Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE SFEC-2023) at the City Convention centre, Imphal via online.

The theme of the conclave is "Reimagine Ethnopharmacology: Globalization of Traditional Medicine".

He said the conference is witnessing scientific deliberations by experts from forty countries around the globe and provides an environment for knowledge sharing among researchers, traditional healthcare practitioners, bio entrepreneurs and policy makers for the development of bioeconomy from bioreresources of NER.

Northeast region starts receiving focus from prime minister of India, the union minister said adding that conference is being organised for mitigation process and sustainability of bioresource. The conference will not go off without benefit, it will help to carry out evolution from grass root level, he added.

The conference is for societal benefit and for serving the entire region. In the next 25 years, India will be in front from the contribution of the northeast region. The traditional herbal care practices will go to global care, he added.

Department of biotechnology, ministry of science and technology, government of India, secretary Rajesh S Gokhale said that the rich bioreresources of NER have tremendous potential for developing globally acceptable nutraceuticals, phyto-pharmaceuticals and as a source of modern medicine through advanced technological interventions.

The conference will provide a platform for globalisation of local rich bioreresource and traditional knowledge as well as localising global technologies towards developing the bioeconomy in the north eastern region, he said.

It will provide a mechanism to establish the linkages between academics and industry for promotion of local start-ups for developing the products from bioresource towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat", Gokhale said.

India has been taking keen interest in bioreresources, so the conference is the best platform for taking up global level, he added.

On the second day, distributed the annual award ceremony of SFE, India and i-connect programme. Also, inaugurated the centre of outreach activities and Science & Studies Hostel of IBSD, Imphal by president members.

As a presidium member director of IBSD, Imphal professor Pulok K Mukherjee; secretary of ISE professor Marco Leonti; vice-president of Society for Ethnopharmacology, CK Katiy secretary Subhash C Madal attended.

Traditional healers made acquainted with research facilities of IBSD



**BISWADEEP GUPTA
IMPHAL, APR 18**

Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) organized Traditional Healers Meet at its campus at Upper Shillong. This programme was organized under Himalayan Bioresource Mission of Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India in coordination Bio Resource

Development Centre (BRDC), Shillong and Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFE), India.

During the programme, Prof. Pulok Kumar Mukherjee, Director, IBSD highlighted the research activities initiated for documentation & validation of traditional traditional healthcare knowledge of Northeastern Region. He emphasized to work on the translational aspects of selected formulations from traditional healers for the development of bioresources and to boost the economy of the region. During the programme, many traditional healers from East Khasi Hill, West Khasi Hill, Garo and Jaintia Hill shared their ideas, experiences and showcased their products/ formulations.

During the programme, Dr. Sansuk

Lyngdoh Nonglait, Research Scientist, BRDC, Shillong highlighted various activities for documentation of traditional healthcare practices of traditional healers under this programme.

Scientists from IBSD, Dr. J. K. Shukla, Dr. Pardeep K Bhardwaj, Dr. Sunil Thorat, Dr. Evanylla Kharlyngdoh and other researchers shared their ideas.

The programme was attended by representatives from Society for Ethnopharmacology, Kolkata who highlighted various outreach activities of the society for the promotion of traditional healers of NER; many researchers from Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, IBSD, Imphal, BRDC, Shillong.

Traditional Healers were made acquainted with the research facilities of the institute and way forward for the documentation, evaluation and validation of indigenous healthcare knowledge.

IBSD organises women bio-entrepreneurs meet

FMB Report

Imphal: Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) has been working on development of women bio-entrepreneurship through orchid floriculture in Meghalaya with a project supported from Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BRAC) through Department of Biotechnology, Government of India under the leadership of Prof. Pulok Kumar Mukherjee, Director, IBSD in collaboration with Bio Resource Development Centre (BRDC), Shillong.

This project is implemented through a Hub and Spokes model at Umsning Block of Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya. In continuation of this project,

today's programme was organised to strengthen women bio-entrepreneurs where 50 beneficiaries participated and shared their experiences.

During the programme, the IBSD Director mentioned the importance of strengthening the Women Bio-Entrepreneurs for the growth of floriculture as a whole and Orchids as specific to this region. Prof. Mukherjee emphasised for the capacity building of hundred Women Bio-Entrepreneurs of Ri-Bhoi an aspirational district of Meghalaya in collaboration with BRDC.

He pitched for coming up with novel entrepreneurial concepts unique to the region and expansion of the same model in other parts of Meghalaya. Dur-

ing the programme, Merlytom Kazhakayil from Fernando Institute of Inclusive Education, Umsning, Ri-Bhoi highlighted various activities for societal benefit and livelihood generation.

The programme was attended by representatives from BRDC, Shillong who highlighted research and outreach activities for the promotion of Orchid floriculture. Scientists from IBSD, Dr. J.K. Shukla, Dr. Pardeep K Bhardwaj, Dr. Sunil S. Thorat, Dr. Evanylla Kharlyngdoh and other researchers shared their ideas. All the beneficiaries were made acquainted with the Orchidarium and research facilities of the institute and a way forward for entrepreneurial success.



SOCIETY FOR ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY (SFE-INDIA)

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