

**National Workshop & stakeholder meet on “Medicinal Plants in Eastern India:
Prospects and Constraints”**

6th August 2021, Patna:

ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna to commemorate 75 years of India's Independence organized a **National e-workshop & stakeholder meet on “Medicinal Plants in Eastern India: Prospects and Constraints”** on 6th August 2021. In this program, Dr. Vikramaditya Pandey, ADG (Horticulture), ICAR, New Delhi marked his presence as the Chief Guest. In his address, Dr. Pandey addresses issues like generating databases related to medicinal plants found in our country, use of the integrated medicinal system, emphasized the use of these herbal products at the household level. He also mentioned that how in the Eastern region presence of an abundant labor force can be utilized in herbal plant cultivation. Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Director, ICAR RCER, Patna served as Patron in this Workshop. In his welcome address, Dr. Ujjwal Kumar briefed about the importance of the topic. He highlighted huge demand for these medicinal plants during the covid-19, present production status and domestic demand of these plants, emphasized market linkages, extraction, and processing. Eminent researchers such as Dr. Asis Majumdar (Professor, Jadavpur University), Dr. Yamini Bhushan Tripathi (Professor, BHU), Dr. P L Saran (Principal Scientist, DMAPR), Dr. B B Basak (Scientist, DMAPR), Dr. Sumit Chakraborty (Professor, UBKV, Coochbehar) Dr. Kaushal Kumar (Head, BAU, Ranchi), Dr. S Swain (OUAT, Bhubaneswar) insightful presentations on medicinal plants cultivation and shared their experiences. Many of them have presented various success stories on medicinal plants in the eastern region. Prof. Asis Majumdar, Nodal Coordinator RCFC, Eastern Region, emphasized the cultivation of herbal plants along with wild harvesting. He discussed the species-wise demands of different herbs, their annual consumption pattern in India, price management of these plants, and priority species for cultivation in different Agro-climatic zones of India. During stakeholder meetings, many buyers from Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, and Jharkhand has participated and given their valuable suggestion. The main objective of the program was knowledge sharing among various stakeholders who are working on medicinal plants and update the knowledge of scientists, faculties, students, farmers, and stakeholders regarding medicinal plants in Eastern India. A total of 225 participants including the state department officials, KVK scientists, medicinal plant growers, buyers, students, NGOs and academicians, traditional medical practitioners have participated in the e-workshop. Dr. Tanmay Kumar Koley, Organising secretary of this workshop gave the formal vote of thanks.
(Source: ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna)

