

The Daily Telegrams

...the Largest Circulating Daily of the Islands

p. 47

Port Blair, Friday, February 17, 2023

Web: dt.andaman.gov.in

First of its kind regional workshop on 'Strengthening Medicinal Plants Sector in A&N Islands' held at CIARI

Stakeholders deliberate on various issues concerning medicinal plants sector

Port Blair, Feb.16

A regional workshop on strengthening of medicinal plants sector was jointly organized by NMPB-Regional-cum-Facilitation Centre (Southern Region) Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Kerala along with Andaman & Nicobar Medicinal Plants Board; Department of Environment & Forests, AYUSH and Agriculture Department of A&N Administration today at ICAR-CIARI. Farmers, Scientists, AYUSH Doctors and other officers of A&N Administration participated in the event.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Kamal Dutta, IFS, PCCF, A&N Islands. Dr. Syam Viswanath, Director, KFRI presided over the programme. Dr. Debasis Bhattacharya, Director I/c, ICAR-CIARI, Shri Radhey Shyam Meena, Director (Agriculture/RD/PRI/ULBs), Dr. Anil Agarwal,



Mission Director, Environment & Forests National AYUSH and Dr. KC Chacko, Mission, Dr. Senthil Regional Director, Kumar, IFS, CCF & NMPB, RCFC-Southern Member Secretary Region addressed the gathering on the occasion. The meeting is first of its kind in the Islands where all the

stakeholder Departments, Institutions and Farmers came together on a single platform. The workshop deliberated on various issues concerned with medicinal plants sector.

While speaking, the PCCF stressed on the need for collaborative programmes involving organisations such as KFRI and CIARI for development of the medicinal plants sector for the benefit of the Islanders and the Nation as a whole, in the context of unique resources of medicinal

(Contd. on last page)

First of its kind regional workshop on ...

(Contd. from page 1)

plants in the virgin ecosystem and its potential in the international market.

As a part of increasing the income of farmers, the Director of Agriculture suggested that intercropping of suitable medicinal plants in the existing agricultural system can be considered along with establishing demonstration plots and nurseries for production of quality planting materials. Shri Anil Agarwal, Secretary, National AYUSH Mission stressed the need for planting common medicinal plants in the homesteads. More than 100 farmers participated in the workshop besides other stakeholders and attended the field visit of medicinal plant gardens in CIARI and other institutions.

During the technical session, the participants were apprised about the scheme guidelines of the NMPB by Dr. N. Padmakumar, activities of AYUSH Department by Dr. Kalyan P. Kadbhane, the research work carried out in CIARI by Dr. Pooja Bohra and activities of BSI and important medicinal plants by Shri Gautham Anuj Ekka, a press release from NMPB said.