

Tribal & Ethnic Women Empowerment Program

TRIBAL AND ETHNIC WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOGNOSY AND PHYTOPHARMACY

Program Coordinators:

Dr.S.P Dhanabal, Dr.B.Duraisamy, Mr.P.Dhamodaran, Dr.Jayaprakash . M & Dr.Nilani.P,

Phase-I : Tribal women empowerment program on utilization and validation traditional knowledge on indigenous fruits and herbs in food application and home remedies. Sponsored by JSS University, Tribal research center, Government of Tamilnadu & CSIR, New Delhi. JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty, conducted two days work shop /training program as Tribal women empowerment program on utilization and validation traditional knowledge on indigenous fruits and herbs in food application and home remedies on the 6th & 7th Dec, 2012

The two days work shop as Fruit Preservation/Utilization Training Programme for tribal women created an awareness in preservation and processing of indigenous fruits and vegetables. The work shop was also a platform to educate the tribal women on the nutritional value of the indigenous fruits of Nilgiris, emphasizing on their food application and their use as home remedies and general cosmetics. The program facilitated 60 tribal women to take up hands on training and apply the modern technique to equip themselves to start with self-ventures in the form of micro fruit processing units at different locations to process and produce different value added food products. The workshop was inaugurated by Mrs.Yamuna ,Employment Officer,Nilgiris District and Dr. Maheswaran, Director ,Tribal Research Center, Nilgiris.The representatives from Community care center,Ootacamund, Earth Trust Foundation and Oxygen Environment Trust demonstrated various fruits and herbs preservation techniques to the tribal women .The staff and students of JSS College of Pharmacy demonstrated the simple herbal formulation to be used as home remedies.The program was well appreciated by the delegates, resource persons ,invitees, Government officials and media persons. The overwhelming response and enthusiasm of the delegates had encouraged the organizers to conduct such work shop on regular basis.



Phase-II : On 2nd June 2013, One day work shop Health & Nutrition Awareness Workshop For Mother And Child for ethnic women was conducted in Mel Kowhatty village, Nilgiris to create an awareness in preservation and processing of indigenous fruits and vegetables. The work shop was also a platform to educate the ethnic women on the nutritional value of the indigenous fruits of Nilgiris, emphasizing on their food application and their use as home remedies and general cosmetics. The program facilitated 60 women and 10 children .Food processing scenario in this region has been neglected among tribal and ethnic people and this work shop provided adequate hands on training on fruit preservation and nutritional food preparation with the help of available indigenous fruits of Nilgiris. This work shop laid a platform for developing a small scale industry for the tribal women by introducing by back arrangements and financial assistance form like-minded NGO'S in Nilgiris district. The participants and the village head were completely satisfied with the training program and awareness provided during this workshop. They expressed their sincere thanks to JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund for organizing this program which they felt very useful and much needed for gaining knowledge on fruits and vegetable preservation techniques. They also requested to conduct at least three such programs every year.



Phase-III : On 3rd and 4th August 2013, Two day work shop on “ Healing through breathing” was conducted for ethnic Badaga community in Mel Kowhatty village, Nilgiris . Awareness was given on the powers of breath to transform consciousness; that indeed an alchemical reaction takes place with the use of breathing techniques. The villagers had the privileged of having a teacher to instruct on the proper use of the breath and to heal through one’s own breath. Breathing techniques were taught for 25 women and 7 men who were asthmatic and people with bronchial disorder facing breathing difficulty. The participants were benefited by this program and awareness provided during this workshop and expressed their sincere thanks to JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund for organizing this program.

Phase IV: Three days National workshop on “Need of Regulatory Perspective (Intellectual Property Rights) to conserve the Western Ghats Vital Medicinal Plants and Tribal Indigenous Practice Knowledge”

JSS University, Mysuru, JSS College of Pharmacy, Udthagamandalam, Indian Pharmaceutical Association Nilgiris Local Branch and Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy have jointly organized a three days National workshop on “Need of Regulatory Perspective (Intellectual Property Rights) to Conserve the Western Ghats Vital Medicinal Plants and Tribal Indigenous Practice Knowledge”. This workshop has been designed to provide a constructive idea to the western Ghats native tribal people empowerment by creating an awareness among them in terms of coining their medicinal plants indigenous traditional practice knowledge with modern science and recent advancements in clinical practice. Although tribes have been blessed with traditional medicine practice knowledge but their illiteracy and ignorance restrict them to disclose the information. The lectures organized were directly delivered to the tribal traditional knowledge holders and to the budding researcher and on other hand it directly encouraged the traditional medicinal practitioner to involve voluntarily in an intellectual property rights filing against their myth.

Inauguration

Three days national workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Sruthi Rajan Misra, Director and Principal, Jaipur college of Pharmacy, Dr. P. Nilani, Nodal Officer, Quality division, JSS University, Mysuru delivered the chief guest address. Dr. Surthi stressed the importance of conserving the en-dangered medicinal species. Dr. S. Rajan, Field botanist from Ministry of AYUSH, elaborated the present scenario of Shola forest and their importance in the ground water level improvement. Dr. S.P. Dhanabal, Principal, JSSCP, Ooty has delivered the presidential address and he emphasized all the tribal community to utilize this opportunity to empower their life in terms of economical status and to file the Intellectual property Rights. Dr. B. Duraiswamy, Prof and Head of the department, Prof. P. Dhamodaran and Dr. M.R. Jeyaprakash were the organizers this workshop and Mr. Chaithanya Ph. D scholar proposed vote of thanks. The copy of agenda enclosed as Annexure 1.

TECHNICAL SESSION

Session 1

Topic : Herbal remedy to Prevent diseases.

Speaker : Dr. P. Nilani, Professor and Nodal officer, Quality division, JSS University, Mysury, Karnataka.

Dr. P. Nilani, interacted with tribal practitioners and she spotted the light about the known and unknown herbs present surrounding their houses and how the herbs could be used as a medicine for simple and regular disease. She highlighted how they can convert their basic knowledge to entrepreneurship knowledge. She discussed about some views regarding involvement and improvement of their herb related knowledge in terms of cultivation, collection, identification, development of herbal garden and its maintenance and also involvement in research etc., she stressed that, regular use of herbs in home may prevent lot of diseases and it helps indirectly to the individual, family and society's economical growth. She pointed out certain commercial products which are available in market in dosage forms for example Garlic available in terms of garlic capsule, turmeric and ginger is marketed in terms of turmeric ginger tea, liquorice available in the capsule forms etc. She compared the product difference in terms of amount and quality wise. She explained with example the treatments for different kinds of headaches. She shared lot of thoughts to empower the tribes.

Session 2

Topic : Traditional medicinal plants and practice in Nilgiris

Speaker : Mr. C. Suresh, President, Oxygen Environment safety association, The Nilgiris

The speaker illustrated the current traditional medicinal practices followed by the Tribal people of Nilgiris on regular basis. He delivered his lecture around an hour and he disclosed more than 60 medicinal plants, their name and their day-to-day significance as a home remedies. He exemplified that, the western ghats of Nilgiris biosphere blessed with more than 30, 000 varieties of herbs whereas in the present scenario lot of herbs vanished off and many herbs was in the endangered list, mainly because of the deforestation and related climatic change. Though there is a dramatic decrease in the herbs variety, some herbs have been used even today for the treatment of chronic and non chronic diseases. For example, 'vallaari' have been used to improve the memory. 'Rubus' and 'Berberi' have been used for the liver re-generation. 'Kari Kaataan Nerungi' have been utilized as a medicine for the open wounds. He also mentioned that, in present modern system of medicine also 'Virali Paste' have been used as a primary packing material for the bone fracture. He pointed out that, the 'Oosi Kala Kaa' plant root is the one of the most competitive herbal medicine for the liver regeneration compare to the modern system of medicine. 'Thaneru vittan Kilangu' is the medicine and have been used by the tribal medicinal practicing knowledge holders for bone marrow disorders. The 'Sirukurunjan' plant is the regular medicine for the diabetes mellitus. He also told the 'Sevalli' root decoction for the treatment of throat

infections. He enumerated that, 'Kavakasu Kilangu' is the perfect medicine for severe diarrhea and vomiting. It saves the patients from over dehydration during dysentery. The tribes use 'Nilapanai Kilangu' as a herbal remedy for the leprosy disease. 'Kaana Vazhi' have been used regularly as a blood purifier. The green leaves of 'Pulikeerai' can be used as a medicine for the shock. He also mentioned herbal medicine for the Polio diseases.

Session 3

Topic : Cultivation and collection process of herbs

Speaker : Dr. N. Selvaraj, Professor, Horticulture Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Ootacamund, The Nilgiris

Dr N. Selvaraj had delivered a talk on the potentially available herbs species in the Nilgiris biosphere. He highlighted a lot of practical procedure by which the tribes can strengthen their economic needs. For example he explored the method of preparation of tea, green tea, white tea, lemon tea, and different types of "Kasayam" which is having commercially a lot of economical potency. He insisted the tribes to involve such type of business to come up from their financial troubles. He explained the method of preparation along with the quality parameters to be checked to decide the quality and purity of the products. Professor N. Selvaraj exemplified the importance of organic herbal medicine cultivation. He projected the comparative status of the quality soil, herbs, fruits, vegetables before and after the recent development on the use of fertilizers in agriculture.

Session 4

Topic : The extinct medicinal practice by Nilgiris Tribes

Speaker : Dr. S. Rajan, Field Botanist, Emerald division, Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi

Dr. S. Rajan, Working as a Field botanist at Emerald, He delivered his lecture in the extinct medicinal practice area. He shared a lot of information regarding the ancient system practice and rare species which were used by tribal people to eradicate certain chronic diseases. He explained the origin of the local tribal community, their work nature, their habilitation, nature of treatment and their general practice on day today life. As per his presentations, we could understand each herbal treatment has unique way of practice, they could be successful on their practice, since they strictly followed their food habits and regular practice and their unique procedure in the treatment. He illustrates the plant and animal origin based medicinal practice. He also expressed that, in the present scenario the legal amendments are restricting the practitioners to do the same practice. Government concerned more about the extinct species of plants and animal and framed very stringent regulations to protect the same. In the present situation, the modern science is in search of the researchers who can produce the solid evidence for the ancient system of medicines. He also enumerated the difficulties faced by the modern researchers in terms of proof development. He stressed the tribal community to come forward to share the information with JSS University type of research institute to optimize the scientific evidence. He also articulated the WHO Traditional medicine strategy 2014-23 statement, it stating that, "Traditional and Indigenous medicinal system is found in almost every country in the world and the demand for its services is increasing. TM, of proven quality, safety, and efficacy,

contributes to the goal of ensuring that all people have access to care. Many countries now recognize the need to develop a cohesive and integrative approach to health care that allow governments, health care practitioners and, most importantly, those who use health care services, to access T&CM in a safe, respectful, cost-efficient and effective manner. A global strategy to foster its appropriate integration, regulation and supervision will be useful to countries wishing to develop a proactive policy towards this important - and often vibrant and expanding - part of health care”.

Session 5

Topic : The Patent procedure to file the indigenous medicinal practice knowledge.

Speaker : Dr. S. Sankar, Professor and Patent layer, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund, The Nilgiris.

As a patent advisor of JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund, he demonstrated the procedures and the different stages of patent to the tribal community. He pointed out the stages of patent filling. In India, like the rest of the world, naturally occurring herbal medicines are not patentable. This is because of the laws of the natural phenomena, but under certain conditions, the natural products can be patented. As for example, a process for value addition of the a naturally occurring sources can be patented provided they are compliment with other clauses of patent. Still the patent filer has to fulfill certain knowledge-related, Traditional-related and benefit-related details for filling a herbal-product related patent applications.

This seminar very well explained the procedures, requirements, fees terms and other regulations by the Indian intellectual Property office currently under force.

Session 6

Topic : The Role of Lead molecules in Natural Medicines

Speaker : Dr. B. Duraiswamy, Professor and Head, Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund, The Nilgiris.

To attain the aim and scope of the workshop, the tribal and traditional medicinal practioners should be elevated in their natural medicine and also the basic lead molecules information. Even though there are lot of success behind the traditional practice, the indigenous knowledge holders, believe on the myth because they have been trained in non professional environment. They have been strongly trained mentally by thought that, the diseases cured by the power of God and not by the science. The speaker described the commercially available medicine which have been already proven for its phyto constituents. He delivered strong evidence based presentation to appeal, In all the natural and indigenous medicinal practice and in the treatment there is science, strongly plays a major role, rather than the fairy story. For example the digitoxin was the responsible lead derived from *Digitalis Purpurea* have been systematically proved later for its cardiac activity. The reserpine lead derived from *Rauvolfia serpentina* have been proved for its anti hypertension activity. The *Papaver somniferum* and its semi synthetic derivatives are the ever green established medicine for the anesthesia. He brought and distributed lot of ideas to the tribes and to the participant and enlightened their research ideas.

Session 7

Topic : Antibiotic and Herbal drug Interactions

Speaker : Dr. Zhang Xiao- Ying , Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Shaanxi, China.

In the recent days the drug- drug interactions study and the Herbal- Drug interactions studies playing a vital role as a deciding factor in the drug efficacy concern. On the other hand the herbs-antibody interaction studies also gaining more elevations in the science based modern medicine systems. The modern methods of drug discovery covers all the above mentioned interactions. In connection with drug interactions studies, principle now the regulatory bodies under pipeline to regulate the various aspects of the Adverse drug reactions.

Outcomes from the workshop

The workshop deliberations delivered route map in the following lines,

Documentation

The documentation task have been decided to divide in to couple of stages

1. Herbarium Collection
2. Video documentation

Herbarium Collection

The Western Ghats blessed with abundance of rare herb species, some of the tribes were really understood the present status of endangered (extinct) species of herbal variety. They came forward to help to collect those species to prepare herbarium.

Action initiated

Dr. Jeyaprakash MR would initiate the conversation with Mr. C. Suresh and he agreed to collect some rare species of herb and it will be preserved in the department of Pharmacognosy for further identification purpose. The rare species collections and documentation may provides additional credit to the department and to the students.

Video documentation

The workshop organizers prepared video document which covers the one to one interactions interview with Kolikarai Village tribal indigenous medicinal practitioners. As a part of workshop further deliberations processed with the Nilgiris Athivaasi Welfare Association (NAWA) to collect the information's.

Action Initiated

Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy initiated the process and all the department staff and Ph.D research scholars visited the Kolikarai Village near Kotakiri escorted by Mr. Rajkumar, Secretary, NAWA. The initial stage video document have been covered and the same attached. The compact disk possess the one to one interactions with tribal medicinal practices.

Research interest towards Patent

As a results of the workshop JSS College of pharmacy staff and a group of research scholars gained the familiarity among the tribal community. JSS University, Mysore has recently initiated the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to file and protect the indigenous knowledge and medicinal system followed by a local community.

Action initiated

The host department identified certain tribes who is regularly practicing in some chronic and communicable disease in which commonly research scholars were working at present. Some tribes agreed to share their medicinal practice knowledge information with our research scholars , the initial budding relationship will be strengthened for the future collaborations.

Curriculum development

Indigenous medicinal knowledge is transformative and we need to start looking at our post graduate programmes with fresh eyes and be creative in thinking an end points of where curriculum can be developed within a framework which is suitable for pharmaceutical industries. Career pathing is important and the degree(s) need to serve the vision of an interfaced degree.

Action to be initiated:

JSS University would help in designing curriculum for Indigenous Knowledge based Patent filling. It may helpful to empower the knowledge holders and community of practice, we should facilitate the teaching mythology of indigenous system to learn and practice science based Ayurveda.



Inauguration Function



Ethnic community people



Dr. N. Selvaraj, Professor, Horticulture Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Ootacamund . Honored by Dr. B. Duraiswamy Prof and Head, Dept. of Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy



Dr. S. Rajan, Field Botanist, Emerald division, Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi Addressed the Tribal community people from KolziKarai



Dr. S. Sankar, Professor and Patent layer, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund, The Nilgiris. Addressed the Tribal community people from KolziKarai regard Patent Process.



Tribal community people from KolziKarai village



Dr. B. Duraiswamy, Professor and Head, Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund delivered his lecture to Tribes.



Dr. Zhang Xiao- Ying , Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Shaanxi, China. Honored by Dr. S.P. Dhanabal Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ootacamund.



On the Occasion of Valedictory function



Group Snap with Participants

Field work Glimpse

