

### **A brief report on tribal outreach activities**

- ✚ The department of pharmacognosy, JSS College of Pharmacy, is also in close association with tribal communities of the Niligiris (Todas, Kotas, Kurumbas, Paniyas and Kattunayakas) in order to motivate, train and empower this ethnic population with outreach programmes like workshops.
- ✚ On 6, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012, the department of pharmacognosy conducted tribal and ethnic empowerment programme ( sponsored by JSS University, Tribal research center, government of tamilnadu & CSIR, New Delhi) at JSS college of pharmacy, in two phases with a motto of utilization and validation of traditional knowledge on indigenous fruits and herbs in food application and home remedies as phase-I , health and nutrition awareness workshop for mother and child for ethnic women was conducted in mel kowhatty village, Niligiris, in order to create an awareness in preservation and processing of indigenous fruits and vegetables . The programme facilitated 60 women and 10 children. The entire programme was coordinated by Dr. Nilani , Dr. S.P.Dhanabal, Dr. B. Duraiswamy & Mr. P. Dhamodaran.
- ✚ On 29<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2012, A international workshop was conducted entitled “ Indo- South Africa workshop on traditional Medicine System : Sharing Knowledge and Experience” , Sponsored by DST, India & DST, Republic of South Africa, The programme was coordinated by Dr S.P.Dhanabal, Professor, JSSCP, Ooty. A good interaction between Indian scientists and South African scientists had take place on Traditional Medicine System of India and South Africa. The South African delegates actively interacted with Ethnic tribal groups of the Niligiris and gained knowledge on Indian traditional and tribal system of medicines .
- ✚ On 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> August 2013, the department conducted two day workshop on healing through breathing was conducted for ethnic badaga community in mel kowhatty village, the nilgiris. The main motto of this breathing workshop is to heal oneself through breathing by activating the kundalini energy. Breathing techniques was taught for 25 women and 7 men (Sponsored by JSSCP, Ooty).

✚ On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, A workshop cum exhibition on “the nutritional and medicinal value of the culinary herbs and fruits to the tribal population of the Nilgiris district” with special reference to tribal herbal culture, sponsored by Hill Area Development Programme, Ootacamund, was organized by the Department of pharmacognosy and Phytopharmacy on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015. This was attended by 58 participants of different tribal hamlets of Nilgiris district. The very purpose of organizing the workshop was to create awareness among the tribes, the nutritional and medicinal value and uses of culinary herbs grown in and around their living places. Also 25 participants belonging to member countries of the nonaligned movement (NAM) took part in the workshop. Srinivas R. Reddy, Project Director, Hill Area Development Programme and Field Director (MTR) inaugurated the workshop and emphasized that though the Nilgiris has been blessed with abundant herbal wealth, most of these herbal species have been found inside the jungles and reserve forests and the need of the hour was to collect data of such herbs to evolve mechanism of commercial cultivation to take their benefit to the common man. He also added that the fast food culture has been spreading very fast among the young people which has no or very low nutritional value and emphasized to look back to the traditional food and herbs to keep good health. A hand book on medicinal plants containing information in tamil about the herbs and medicinal plants has been distributed to the participants. Dr. S. Rajan, Scientist, AYUSH department, Nilgiris, Dr. Shanthi, Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Ootacamund, Dr. B. Duraiswamy, Professor and Head, and the organizing secretary of the workshop spoke on various topics during the lecture session. Dr. Dr. S. P. Dhanbal, Principal told that the participants from NAM countries can exchange the tribal wealth of their respective countries to have a broad knowledge of the herbs. Dr. Arun Kulshehtra, Director General, Centre for Science & Technology of the NonAligned and other Developing Countries (NAM S&T) highlighted the various Indian System of Medicines and their importance. Dr. P. A. Khushalappa, Director Academics, JSS University, Mysore participated and spoke on the medicinal uses of herbs. The workshop has been sponsored by the Hill Area Development Programme, Udthagamandalam .

✚ On 25<sup>th</sup> June , 2016, An international symposium was conducted entitled “ Identifying & Protecting Indigenous Knowledge and Technology in endangered traditions , organized by Dr. S.P.Dhanabal , Principal, JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty. The Programme was sponsored by the NEAR foundation, The Niligiris, VETHA center for transdisciplinary studies, USA & JSS College of Pharmacy (JSS University), Ooty. The Symposium is highlighted by many speakers from badaga population with a theme how to protect endangered traditions. Poster sessions were also conducted and the best two posters were awarded and felicitated.

✚ On 29<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, 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”. As Dr. S.P.Dhanabal as Chairman, Dr. B.Duraiswamy as convener, Prof . P. Dhamodaran as Chairaman-organising Committee and Dr. M.R. Jeyaprakash as an organizing Secretary and programme was sponsored by JSS University, Mysuru. The workshop was a grand successful event , All the tribal ethnic groups of the Niligiris have been trained by the deparment faculty members and research scholars on how to conserve the vital medicinal plants and tribal indigenous practice knowledge, more than 150 people from Todas, Kotas, Kurumbas, Paniyas, Kattunayakas and Badagas were participated in this event.

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