

REPORT OF NATIONAL SEMINAR

MARKETING OF MEDICINAL PLANTS AND HIGH VALUED BIORESOURCES OF SIKKIM

AND ADJOINING NORTH EAST REGION

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Presenting a memento by the Head of Department –Principal Secretary-cum-PCCF Mr. M.L Srivastava, IFS, Forests and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim to Mr. K. L.Bhutia, the Honourable Minister, Forests and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim



Lamp lightening by Mr. K. L. Bhutia, Honorable Minister of Forests and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim and the Head of Department –Principal Secretary-cum-PCCF Mr. M.L Srivastava, IFS, Forests and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim in presence of other distinguished guests.

INTRODUCTION

Sikkim is one of the richest Phytodiversity Centres of the country. It is a part of ‘*Himalaya Hotspot*’ and situated under Eastern Himalaya. The state harbors about 26% of the flowering plants of India having numerous endemic and RETS species including many medicinal and aromatic plants.

In the recent time, there are many reports on the medicinal plants of Sikkim having roles in medicine however there are some research gaps between the revenue generations and identified medicinal plants.

Unless the core researches on the aspects of the bioactive molecules determine, none of the medicinal plants could able to fetch the market. Even though, the price in international market may be high, the grower ought to sell the dried plants in low price..

Another point is that the growing demand for herbal products has led to a quantum jump in volume of plant materials trade within and across the countries. The solitary effort on processed medicinal plants will have more scope of the employment as the Planning Commission (2000) estimated over 7, 800 manufacturing units in India.

Keeping this in view, the National Seminar conducted at the Forest Secretariat of Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department, Government of Sikkim for the marketing of Medicinal plants and high valued bioresources of Sikkim and adjoining North East region.

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The National Seminar on the titled “Marketing of Medicinal plants and High Valued Bioresources of Sikkim and adjoining North East Region”,

organized by the Quality Control Laboratory- High Altitude Research, Forests And Environment Department, Government Of Sikkim held on 8th November, 2019 at Sidkeong Tulku Conference Hall, Castanopsis Block, Block C, Forest Secretariat, Deorali, Gangtok, Sikkim.



The Honourable Minister of Forests and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim consented to inaugurate the function and was present as Chief Guest in the presence of the Principal Secretary-cum-PCCF, Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim, Chief Conservator of Forest (HQ), F&E Department, Government of Sikkim, Rajan Daipaayan Sen, Chairman, Agriculture Sector Council, ER , Dr D. Maity, Professor, Calcutta University, : Dr V. Joshi, G.M , Aromatics Ltd, New Delhi, Scientists from the different parts of Country, Universities, colleges, buyers and sellers.

During the inauguration session, the Honourable Minister addressed the august meet and had given the following messages as under:

1. “The market of the medicinal plants are scattered in the bit and pieces in the State of Sikkim and we are hopeful to bring back to mainstream. In this Government, I am, humbled to convey you that we will look forward for the back and forward linkages with the assured values of Medicinal Plants.”
2. “Any such good proposals, if it is beneficial to the communities, let us come forward and move hand in hand.”
3. “In the recent time, the quantification of medicinal plants and their efficacies are need of the hour. We are heading towards global village and its market is bigger in Sikkim and North East region. Our strength is the blessed land with the gradient of the altitudes and I am, hopeful that we can make happen setting a good exemplary state of the world.”
4. “The State Government will support to such good ideas which support entrepreneurs’ development and revenue generation in the sustainable way.”



During the inaugural speech of the Principal Secretary-cum-PCCF, he emphasized on the potential of the phytodiversity of Sikkim. He urged to all cross-section of the scientific and forest fraternities for the constructive sustainable approach for the bioresources management with the highlights on the seventeen development goals of UN.

Some roles undertaken by the State Government for the conservation of biodiversity were also put forward to the august house mentioning Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve, one of the world's richest ecosystems, and its declaration as UNESCO's World Heritage Site in 2016. Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve is a **First Mixed Heritage Site Of India** and its prosperity is unparalleled whereon its importance is increasing day by day for its unique combination, he added.



The keynote speaker of the seminar was Mr Rajan Daipaayan Sen, Chairman, Agriculture Sector Council, ER who is an expert on the marketing of medicinal plants since three decades. He addressed all bottlenecks and remedies of the issues to enhance the market potential and

networks strengthen.

Other eminent speakers were the Professors of Calcutta University and the General Manager of Aromatics Ltd, Ghaziabad, UP and Professors of several other institutions.

The speakers delivered information on the identification of the valued species, backward and forward linkages, quality analysis, tests and identification of resources.

Besides all above, the abstract volume of seminar was also released during the seminar for the distribution to the participants.



TECHNICAL SESSION

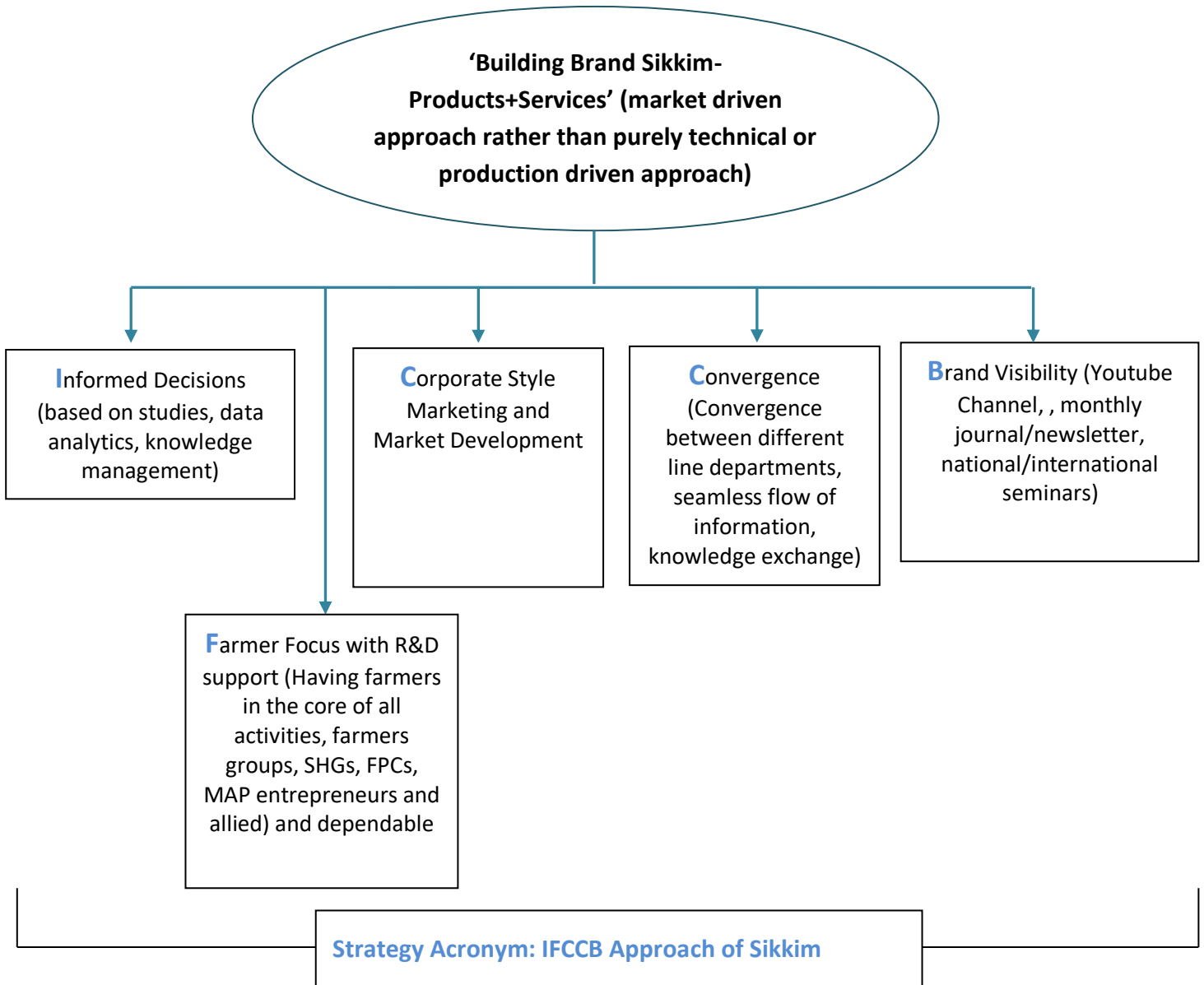
The sessions were opened for the discussion and had the recommendations as under:

1. Quality certified medicinal plants should be produced to fetch good price.
2. Policy in support of farmers/ growers need to be updated for the strengthening the possible market.
3. The constituent of medicinal plant produces must be evaluated from the Quality Control Laboratory of Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim.
4. Branding the medicinal plants like “Sikkim Brand” may be helpful to identify the products in the international market.
5. Establishment of network of growers and digitalization of the produces may be strengthen.
6. The harvested MAPs need to be examined at the State owned Quality Control Laboratory to avoid adulteration.
7. Wherever possible, both in situ and ex situ cultivation of MAPs should be encouraged. If cultivated, the care should be taken to retain the active ingredients of these plants to fetch the market value.
8. The collectors of the MAPs in the forest fringe areas need to be trained for the quality collection and management. Furthermore, the Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAP) require more conservational attention than commercial exploration for sustainability.



9. A Steering Committee may be constituted to advise the technical aspects for sustainable market of the MAPs. Such Committee may include experts such as Forest officials, Maps Growers, Academician, Marketing Experts, Researchers, Scientists etc.
10. A Seminar Proceedings shall be published that will act as the first guiding book for the next plan and purposes.

Strategic Architecture



EVENTS OF SEMINAR

POSTER AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS















