



## Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu

**RCFC, SKUAST-Kashmir in collaboration with SKUAST-Jammu organised Stakeholders Meet-cum-Workshop on Medicinal Plants**



Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu organized a one day Stakeholders Meet-cum-Workshop on Medicinal Plants in collaboration with Regional-cum-Facilitation Centre, North II, SKUAST-Kashmir sponsored by National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India. Prof. Pradeep K. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu inaugurated the workshop in the presence of Dr. Sheikh Bilal Ahmed, Regional Director, RCFC North II, Dr. N. Padma Kumar, Advisor, NMPB, Ministry of AYUSH, Dr. Phuntsog Angchuk, Director, Indian System of Medicine (ISM), Dr. J.P. Sharma, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, Sh. Rakesh Kumar Srangal, Director Horticulture, Jammu and Dr. R.K. Arora, Associate Director Extension & I/c KVKs, SKUAST-Jammu and other statutory officers of the .

In his inaugural address, Dr. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu deliberated upon the issues related to cultivation of medicinal plants in Jammu region. Focussing on the availability of more than 3 lakh barren and uncultivated area in the state, he discussed the opportunity for farmers to enhance their income through cultivation of medicinal plants. Considering the accessibility of varied ecosystems, from sub-tropical to temperate, in Jammu region, Dr. Sharma invited Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH to discover the possibility of setting a sub-centre at SKUAST-Jammu for wider coverage of farmers in entire Jammu region.

While presenting the welcome address, Dr. Arora discussed the priorities of KVKs in Jammu region to supplement farmers' income through cultivation of medicinal plants. Dr. Sheikh Bilal Ahmed discussed the efforts of his centre to popularise medicinal plants in whole Jammu and Kashmir state and requested stakeholders to take keen interest in developing the state as a hub of medicinal plants.

Dr. Kumar, Advisor, NMPB discussed the various schemes offered by National Medicinal Plant Board for increasing the base of medicinal plants. He informed that Ministry of AYUSH is offering exposure visits for farmers of J&K to visit different states topping the list in production of medicinal plants. Dr. Phuntsog Angchuk, Director, ISM deliberated upon the importance of using traditional knowledge for treatment of various diseases through medicinal plants. Sh. RK Srangal, Director Horticulture stressed upon the introduction of interventions such as intercropping and mixed cropping of medicinal plants in the established orchards and farms. Dr. J.P. Sharma, Director Research stressed upon the need for carrying out research to develop new varieties which can enhance the active ingredient in usable parts of respective medicinal plants.



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Dr. Wahid-UI-Hassan of State Medicinal Plant Board and Dr. Lalit M Gupta of SKUAST-Jammu delivered the expert lectures on cultivation and use of medicinal plants. The programme was organised with a collaborative efforts of different organizations, including Krishi Vigyan Kendras of SKUAST-Jammu. More than 150 farmers from different districts of Jammu region, including Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri, Reasi, Doda etc. shared their views and concerns related to production and marketing of medicinal plants. Dr. Pawan Kumar Sharma presented the vote of thanks and Dr. Shalu Thakur carried out the proceedings of the programme.