

AN INTRODUCTION

India with 15 agro-climatic zones is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of biodiversity. Out of about 17000-18000 species of flowering plants, more than 7000 are estimated to have medicinal usage in folk and documented systems of medicine like Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy (AYUSH).

Medicinal plants are not only a major resource base for the traditional medicine and herbal industry but also provide livelihood and health security to a large segment of Indian population. It is estimated that more than 242 species in India are having commercial value. The domestic and industrial demand of medicinal plants is increasing day-by-day.



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NATIONAL MEDICINAL PLANT BOARD



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In order to promote medicinal plant sector, Government of India set up National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) on 24th November 2000. Currently, the board is working under the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy); Government of India.

The primary mandate of NMPB is to develop an appropriate mechanism for coordination among various ministries/departments/organizations and implementation of support policies/programs for conservation, cultivation, trade export and overall growth of the medicinal plant sector, both at the central and state levels.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES OF THE BOARD

Although in recent years the cultivation of medicinal plants has started gaining momentum, still a significant part of our requirement of medicinal plants as raw material for the herbal pharmaceutical industry continues to be met from wild sources. To meet the increasing demand for medicinal plants, NMPB focuses on *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation and augmentation of the growing stock of local medicinal and aromatic plants species. The NMPB also promotes research and development, capacity building through trainings, raising awareness through promotional activities like creation of home / school herbal gardens.



Seeds of Medicinal plants



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NMPB also seeks to support programs for quality assurance and standardization through development of Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GA & CPs), development of monographs laying down standards of quality, safety and efficacy; development of agro-techniques and credible institutions for certification of quality of raw drugs, seeds and planting material.

The main objective of NMPB is development of medicinal plant sector by developing strong coordination among various ministries/ departments/ organizations for implementation of policies / programs related to medicinal plants.

REGIONAL-CUM-FACILITATION CENTRE (RCFC)



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The NMPB is engaging reputed research institutions/other organizations, universities, etc. for co-ordinating the activities in the medicinal plants sector and to act as Regional-cum-Facilitation Centers (RCFC) in six different regions (East, West, North, South, Central and North East) of the country. For the central region comprising of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the NMPB, vide its letter F.No. A-11019/04/2016-NMPB-III dated 21st August,2017, has approved the proposal of State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur to establish RCFC in the institute campus. This RCFC will act as one stop center for the

growers, cultivators, researchers, traders and other stakeholders of medicinal plants and to function in close co-ordination with State Medicinal Plant Boards (SMPB), the state implementing agencies of the medicinal plant component of the AYUSH Mission etc. This RCFC shall provide a service window for growers of Medicinal Plants (MPs), for supporting conservation, development, marketing and cultivation of medicinal plants and provide handholding support to stakeholders in terms of technology dissemination and also for establishing primary processing facilities, etc. besides undertaking identified research relevant to the area concerned as and when assigned.

Development of medicinal plants requires an effective institutional mechanism for technology transfer on crops and varieties that can be grown in an agro-climatic zone, the soil suitability for a particular crop, the cultivation practices, identified sources of quality seed and quality planting material. Farmers/growers have felt need for hand holding support, so that cultivation of medicinal plants as a crop diversification option, may pick up to the desired level.



Marketing of Medicinal Plants

FUNCTIONS OF RCFC

- (i) To act as one stop shop for all matters related to medicinal plants in the region concerned and provide support to NMPB to fulfill its mandate and to act also as Facilitation Centre of NMPB. It would also undertake research activities pertaining to the region concerned.
- (ii) To facilitate and get engaged in setting up of primary processing, grading and marketing facilities, etc. in collaboration with local stakeholders / organizations of repute.
- (iii) To develop managerial and technical skills among the concerned stakeholders, including growers and collectors and to provide strategic support by organizing trainings, workshops, seminars, etc.
- (iv) To develop agro-technology of medicinal plants, especially endangered and high demand species in the region with focus on organic cultivation and customization / field trials of already developed agro-techniques.
- (v) To develop region-specific quality planting material and to scientifically handle issues concerned with it.
- (vi) To facilitate sale of medicinal plants / produce, etc. resolving demand / supply issues, etc. and also develop a database on demand, quantity sold and prices of major species alongwith development of marketing facility in the region by setting up of minimum support price (MSP) mechanism.
- (vii) To provide inputs on conservation, sustainable cultivation, technology upgradation, training and research on medicinal plants and to engage forest departments concerned and other concerned departments of the states in those activities.



- (viii) To domesticate wild species which are in demand and are endemic to the region and develop varieties thereof.
- (ix) To take forward initiatives onGAP, GFCP, etc. in the states concerned and develop species-specific GAPs and GFCPs of the region and their dissemination.
- (x) To function as a platform for bringing together the different stakeholders of medicinal plants in the states (SMPB, implementing agencies of Mission Scheme, other institutions and civil organizations involved in the development of medicinal plants sector).
- (xi) To assist various organizations in the region in formulating project proposals in the priority areas identified by NMPB and also giving wide coverage of the scheme with emphasis on identification of region-specific issues.

(xii) To develop capacities of concerned stakeholders by developing and implementing training programmes, orientation sessions, etc.

(xiii) To organize periodical meetings/ workshops/ consultation of stakeholders .

(xiv) To review the projects sanctioned by NMPB to various organizations in the concerned states and also to conduct monitoring and evaluation of the projects sanctioned by NMPB as and when assigned.



(xv) To collect and maintain database of all concerned sectors of medicinal plants in the states and to integrate the databases of various states in the region.

(xvi) To undertake identified research studies of relevance in the region and other matters concerned with medicinal plants, including dissemination of research findings / new technologies in the medicinal plants sector.

(xvii) To develop strategy for IEC (Information, Education and Communication) and implement IEC activities.

(xviii) To document and disseminate success stories of activities supported by NMPB.

(xix) To publish yearly report of the activities of the centre.

(xx) Any other work assigned by NMPB from time to time.

SETUP OF RCFC

- The office of the RCFC in central region is in the Administrative Building of the State Forest Research Institute, Polipathar, Jabalpur –482008 (MP) India
- The RCFC covers the Central Region of India (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.)
- The RCFC will work under the administration, guidance and supervision of Director, State Forest Research Institute, Polipathar, Jabalpur (M.P.)
- Regional Director, RCFC will have overall control over the execution of RCFC activities
- Coordinator, RCFC will coordinate with the NMPB, SMPBs concerned, state forest departments concerned and officials of the SFRI, Jabalpur/Raipur. He will also convene the meetings of the coordination committee as Member Secretary
- There will be a Coordination Committee headed by the Director, SFRI, Jabalpur, as Chairman. The Coordinator will be its Member Secretary



Medicinal Plants



धवई (बुलफोर्डिया फुलिफोसा)



इंद्रायण (ट्राइकोसेल्यस बंजिटेटा)



बरुण (कॅटिगिया रेलिजियोसा)



बौंदा (एर्मिनसिया बेलेरिका)



10

बीजासार (टीटोकार्पास मारसुपियन्स)



12

बाबची (सॉरेलिया कारोनिफोलिया)



बुधी, इंधजी (शिलोरिया एन्टीडिसेन्टिका)



15

बघ (एफोरस केलैमस)



18

बगही (बकोपा मोनेरी)



19

कतिहारी (एन्तोरिडोसा सुफची)



24

काला घट्टा (क्यूस मैटल)



26

कबनार, कंबतार (बीडिनिया बेरीएण्टा)



28

कंकड सर्फंद (कॉन्स्टिस स्पेसियोसस)



32

कहुआ (फ्युका लॅटिफोलियम)



34




मौलशी (मईमोरास इनेजीवी)



41

शिनोले गी (बचोनापरेस लेसिनियोसा)

RCFC, Staff Members

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- Other members of the Co-ordination Committee will be as follows:-

1	DDO & Administrative Officer
2	Regional Director & Head, RCFC
3	Dy. Director (Research)
4	Head, Biodiversity & Medicinal Plants Branch
5	Head, Forest Ecology & Environment Branch
6	Head, Genetics, Plants Propagation and Bio-Technology Branch
7	Head, Seed Technology Branch
8	Head, Botany Branch
9	Head, Tree Improvement Branch
10	Head, Social Economics & Marketing Branch
11	Head, Training & Extension Branch
12	Consultants
13	Subject experts

- The above committee will meet regularly, at quarterly intervals, to review and monitor the implementation of the Action Plan of the RCFC.
- DDO, SFRI, Jabalpur will also work as DDO of RCFC.

All the stakeholders, such as growers, collectors, processors, traders and representative of pharmaceutical industries utilizing medicinal plants may contact the RCFC Coordinator for any information or further details.

Correspondence Address

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