

State level seminar on sustainable collection and profitable cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants in Gujarat was organised at DMAPR, Boriavi Anand

One day seminar on sustainable collection and profitable cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants in Gujarat for researchers, growers, traders and industrialists was organised by the Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research (DMAPR), Anand in collaboration with the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala on 18th January, 2012. The main objective of this seminar was to increase awareness among researchers, academicians, private sector, entrepreneurs and policy makers the recent advancement in aromatic and medicinal research and development in Gujarat. The programme started with brief inauguration followed three technical sessions where lead lectures and presentation of papers made in oral and poster presentations. Dr. G. C. Jadeja, Principal and Dean, Anand Agricultural University, Anand was the chief guest of the inaugural function which was chaired by Dr. Satyabrata Maiti, Director, DMAPR.

The chief guest, Dr. G. C. Jadeja, in his inaugural address, stressed the need and importance of sustainable collection and cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants in Gujarat. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Satyabrata Maiti, said that aromatic and

medicinal plants occupied an important position in the socio-cultural, spiritual and medicinal arena of rural people of India in general and Gujarat in particular. Cultivation of these crops will help in diversifying our agriculture for new cash crops. There is increasing pressure of unsustainable collection and over exploitation of these plants leading to shortages of bio-diversity, besides a number of valuable medicinal plant species have become threatened, rare or even endangered due to over-exploitation from their natural habitats. Their sustainable management and harvesting will not only conserve biodiversity, but will help to sustain supply chain and environmental health and to generate employment as well as enhance export earnings. Finally, the seminar ended with a valedictory session which was also chaired by Dr. Satyabrata Maiti. Dr. Vepin Chaudhary proposed vote of thanks at the end.



(From Left: Dr. Satyabrata Maiti (Centre), Dr. GC Jadeja and RS Jat)