

Skill development training programme to the farmers under SCSP scheme for promotion of medicinal & aromatic plants cultivation organized by ICAR-DMAPR, Anand

ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand organized a skill development training program under the SCSP scheme entitled **Promotion of medicinal and aromatic plant cultivation for livelihood and health security of SCs in Gujarat** during 10-12 October, 2022. In the beginning of the programme Dr. Akula Chinapolaiah, scientist and chairman of the SCSP committee, ICAR-DMAPR welcomed all the participants and staff of DMAPR. Dr. Samadhan Yuvraj Bagul, scientist and



member secretary briefed about the objectives of the training program to enhance the skills in the farming of medicinal plants. He also said about the introduction and activities of the SCSP scheme to the participants to promote the cultivation of medicinal plants. Dr. Satyanshu Kumar, Director (Acting) chaired the program and during the inaugural program, he emphasized the importance of medicinal and aromatic plants and as remedies for various ailments of human beings since the Ramayana period. He also stressed about the demand for medicinal plants has been increased due to Covid-19 and he said that there is a good scope for the expansion of the area under MAPs by resource-poor people for their livelihood. In this 3 days training program, a total of 15 lectures were delivered in areas of importance and uses of MAPs, good agricultural practices, agro economics and marketing and business prospects of MAPs, production of quality planting materials, low-cost input management and natural farming, post-harvest management and value addition of MAPs, in addition to that the practical sessions of the visit to the herbal garden, raising of nurseries and propagation methods for the production of MAPs seedlings and extraction of essential oils by hydro-steam distillation. In the valedictory program, Dr. Satyanshu Kumar, Director distributed the certificates to the participants and he stressed the cluster farming of medicinal plants for easy marketing and high benefits to the growers. A total of 40 SC farmers from the Nadiad and Anand districts participated and were benefitted. Later, the farm inputs such as a knapsack sprayer and plastic crates were distributed to the participants. In addition to that lemongrass slips were also given to the beneficiaries to promote herbal plants in their kitchen garden. Finally, the program ended with vote of thanks proposed by Shri. Sureshbhai Prajapati.



(Source: AKMU, ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand, Gujarat)