

AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES: ICAR training programme kick starts for prospective farmers

Cultivators receive fillip on proper marketing & supply of medicinal plants

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

Shillong: A three-day training programme on 'Good Agricultural and Collection Practices of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants' (GACP) kick started on Tuesday at the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam in collaboration with the Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research, Anand, Gujarat.

There were 20 participants from all over the Northeastern states who are taking part in the training wherein a through status of marketing and supply chain in the medicinal plants will be covered during the programme.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Dr SV

Ngachan, Director, ICAR Research complex highlighted the importance of cultivation and collection practices maintaining the quality to attract the entrepreneurs and boost the business.

He also emphasized the scope of medicinal and aromatic plants in NEH region and a demand driven cultivation. He applauded the participants in taking leadership activities with their state governments, forest departments and KVKs for creating awareness on conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants keeping the good practices in the NE region.

Ngachan also stressed on basic and strategic research in this sector in the region for the ben-



efit of the society. He highlighted that there should be quality cultivation and preservation of the medicinal plants.

Dr Arnab Sen, Head Division of animal health welcomed the invitees and the participants in

the training programme.

Dr RS Jat, Sr Scientist, DMAPR, Anand, Gujarat who dwelt on the subject GACP elaborated on topics such as principles of GACP of MAP, biodiversity management, protection of plant varieties, breeders and farmers right's, DUS testing for medicinal plants, quality control and certification, quality seed and planting material. The status of marketing and supply chain in the medicinal plants will be covered during this training.

Dr Satyabrata Maiti, chairman of the function, director, of DMAPR, Anand, Gujarat highlighted the importance of traditional system of medicines like Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha.