

# One day Workshop

"Indigenous /Traditional Knowledge and the Sustainable Utilisation of Traditional Food and Medicinal Plants: Propagation, Protection, and Conservation"

14<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Organized by:



## Department of Botany

Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute, Udaipur

(A Unit of Vidya Bhawan Society)

PG College of Arts, Science and Commerce

Affiliated to Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur (Rajasthan)

Sponsored by:



Knowledge Partner:



FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGICAL SECURITY

Venue: Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute, Syphon Choraha, Badgaon, Udaipur

## **About Institute**

Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute (VBRI) is a constituent institute of Vidya Bhawan Society. Dr. Shri Mohan Sinha Mehta, Founder, Dr. K. L. Shrimali and Shri K. L. Bordia, Co-Founder of the Vidya Bhawan Society, established the society with the vision to create a democratic society with education. VBRI is now one of the leading postgraduate college in Humanities, Social Sciences, Commerce and Science in Udaipur. From the beginning, the college has aspired to create a cadre of rural leaders, with a good grounding in diverse social issues. With this in mind, all the institution courses expose students to a diversity of social settings and ideas.

## **About Department**

The Department of Botany, established in 1968, is accredited for the Ph.D. program since 2012 from Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur. With a team of qualified and dedicated faculty supported by strong research contributions in Environment, Biodiversity, Ethnobiology, and Plant Ecology, the department has built a strong academic and research foundation. It offers well-equipped laboratories, and an on-campus Botanical Garden with diverse plant species for practical learning, while also benefiting from sister institutions such as VBKVK and Prakriti Sadhna Kendra. Emphasizing experiential and value-based education, the department engages students in tree plantation drives, biodiversity exploration, and environmental awareness activities, thereby fostering scientific curiosity, ecological responsibility, and holistic development.

## **About workshop**

India, one of the world's eight biodiversity hotspots, is endowed with immense traditional knowledge (TK), bio-resources, and both wild and cultivated medicinal plant wealth, critical for healthcare, food security, culture, and sustainable development. WHO estimates that nearly 80% of the global population relies on herbal medicine, and many modern drugs such as Ephedrine, Morphine, and Vinblastine originated from TK. India's pharmaceutical industry still depends heavily on natural products, with about 80% of raw materials sourced from plants. However, domestic and commercial unsustainable and destructive harvesting practices threaten nearly 39% of medicinal plants, pushing several species—like *Commiphora wightii*, *Chlorophytum borivilianum*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Eulophia ochreatea* etc. in Rajasthan—to endangered status.

Tribal and local communities use over 500 species, in their day to day life but the real threat arises not only from their traditional use, but also from professional unsustainable & overharvesting practices besides other reasons like habitat destruction, mining, urbanization, deforestation, and infrastructure expansion. Safeguarding this bio-wealth requires collective responsibility of all including local and commercial gathers, scholars, academics, researchers along with NGO's working in this field. As NGO coordinators working with rural collectors can bridge between scientific and traditional practices, must also contribute to conservation through awareness, capacity building, and sustainable harvesting or gathering protocols. Promoting Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) and sustainable post-harvest management can create a ripple effect, ensuring both biodiversity conservation and livelihood security.

## **Session details**

### **Session I: Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Modern Science: The Role of Indigenous Medicinal Practices in Contemporary Healthcare.**

- Role of Indigenous medicinal knowledge in modern scientific research.
- Traditional practices and contemporary healthcare solutions.
- Importance of preserving and validating indigenous knowledge systems.

### **Session II: Knowledge and Capacity Building**

- Diversity of medicinal plants with special reference to Rajasthan
- Forest as a major resources of raw material for pharmaceutical industries/ traditional healers/ Ayurvedic practitioners
- Protection of traditional knowledge through People's Biodiversity Register (PBR)

### **Session III: Strategies & Collaborative Approaches for Conservation**

- Role of NGOs, scholars, academics, and researchers in capacity building and awareness creation.
- Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) and sustainable post-harvest management.
- Developing protocols, guidelines, and networks for sustainable harvesting.

### **Session IV: Wild Bio-resources and Food Security of Tribal and Forest Communities**

- Wild food plants harvesting, processing and utilization
- Status of wild food plants and regeneration capacity
- Scope of wild food plants in commercial sectors

## **Expected Outcomes:**

- Creating awareness among all the stakeholders about the conservation of TK and biodiversity
- A trained cadre of NGO facilitators capable of sensitizing and training rural communities
- Greater grassroots awareness on sustainable collecting and gathering practices
- Creation of local conservation champions and networks
- Strengthened collaboration between scientist, academician, NGOs, government, and local communities

## Resource Persons



**Prof. (Retd.) A. K. Jain**  
Hon-Director  
S. K. Jain Institute of Ethnobiology,  
Jiwaji University, Gwalior (M.P.)



**Dr. Arvind Saklani**  
Vice-President - Agri Biotechnology  
Semi-Sabinsa Group Limited,  
Bengaluru



**Prof. (Retd.) S. S. Katewa**  
Ex-Head  
Department of Botany,  
University College of Science,  
MLSU, Udaipur



**Dr. Satish Kumar Sharma**  
Retd. ACF  
Forest Department, Rajasthan



**Dr. G. P. Jhala**  
Programme Coordinator Afforestation  
Seva Mandir, Udaipur



**Dr. Anil Sarsavan**  
Sr. Programme Manager  
Foundation for Ecological Security  
Bhopal (M.P.)

## Organising Committee

*Chief Patron*

**Shri Jitendra Kumar Tayalia**

**President**

Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur

*Patron*

**Shri Rajendra Bhatt**

**Chief Executive Officer**

Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur

*Chairperson*

**Prof. (Retd.) Kanika Sharma**

**Director**

Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute, Udaipur

*Organising Secretary*

**Dr. Anita Jain F.E.S., F.P.T.**

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### Members of Advisory Committee

**Prof. (Retd.) S.S. Katewa**, Head of Department of Botany, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur.

**Dr. Vineet Soni** (FBS, FMA, FAPS, FLS, FICPC), Head of Department of Botany, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur

**Prof. Savita Chahar**, Head, Department of Botany, Govt. Meera Girls College, Udaipur.

**Dr. R. L. Shrimal**, Coordinator of Vidya Bhawan Prakriti Sadhana Kendra, VBS, Udaipur

**Dr. Harshada Joshi**, Course Director, Department of Biotechnology, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur

### Members of Organising Committee

Dr. T. P. Sharma  
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Dr. Anju Jain  
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Workshop on

Workshop on "*Indigenous /Traditional Knowledge and the Sustainable  
Utilisation of Traditional Food and Medicinal Plants:  
Propagation, Protection, and Conservation*"

**14<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

### Registration Form (Offline)

Name of Participant: .....

Designation : .....

Name of institution: .....

Mobile No.: .....

Email ID : .....

**For Online Registration: <https://forms.gle/Uo9KMg8AZ1qTzDsi9>**

### Registration Fee:

Particulars	On or before 11 Oct.	On Spot
Student/Research Scholar	100	150
Academician/ NGO official	150	200
Industry official	500	1000

### Online payment through :

Account Name: Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute

Account Number: 694301701728

Bank: ICICI Bank, Fatehpura Branch

IFS Code: ICIC0006943



**After deposition of fee please send receipt on [vbrihodbotany@gmail.com](mailto:vbrihodbotany@gmail.com)**