

POINTS FOR ADMA SYMPOSIUM

- Ayurveda Industry is badly in danger with the European countries issuing a new directive as the practice of the traditional ethnic medicines. Ayurveda has been degraded under the sub heading of herbal medicines. There was no attempt made by the Ayurvedic sector of India to follow up the negotiation and representation initiated in the beginning under the guidance of the former secretary ISM, Mrs.Sailaja Chandra and the representation lay dormant in the Indian Embassy!
- The most important gain through this global recognition is the considerable increase in the export potential of the Ayurvedic medicines. India uses more than 600 varieties of herbal and a number of non-herbal mineral and animal products for its drug manufacture. India with its rich diversity is perhaps the richest nation with herbal medicine wealth. It is estimated that if properly tackled, we can cater to the herbal need of the entire world!
- The global estimated turnover of exports of herbal/medicines is more than Rs. 50,000 crores. Of this India's share is very negligible only 400 cores. We have to see this is comparison with China's share of above 2000 cores!
- It is estimated that the world trade in medicine plants and related products by 2050 will be us \$5 trillion and our vision should be to have at least 5% of this share the global export of medicinal plants.
- In the view of this current developments in the global arena, instead of a considerable increase in India share it is going to come down to 1/4th i.e. just Rs. 100 crores where as China is marching ahead with a 20% growth rate. If the current directive in the EU for the practice of CAM is enforced, almost 90% of the Ay, medicines will require separate export license and the license to prescribe or practice it as a medicine. It will cost you a lot of money and the Indians Ay industry may not be able to afford it.
- Attempts are to be made with joint strength to improve the situation and aid propaganda should be made world over for the promotion of Ayurvedic medicines and their curative power.. We have to go a long way ahead for this to ensure the purity, quality and standardized herbs preservation techniques.
- The lack of standardization is the field of production and practice. No standard formulae, no standard criteria for the genuinity of raw drugs, no uniformity in the percentage of ingredients, no facility to analyse the chemistry of drug- not even standard monographs and manufacturing process to follow!!

- The divided nature of the sector made it easy for the modern medicine sector, which is definitely organized, to over power stealing 98% of the total health fund allocation sand eventually Ayurveda was degraded and neglected as a second class medical profession with no equality in any opportunities.
- If the Ayurvedic people had a single voice and a proper unified effort to fight against the discrimination shown to the science, the scene would have been much better and the Government also could have something for the promotion of Ayruveda, there would have been more R&D works towards standard code of precise of medicine

Suggestions

1. Ayurvedic drugs

- a. There should be a specific criteria laid down for the choice of ingredients, uniform standard for the composition, manufacturing methods with standard timing for each process, standard conditions for manufacture and so on. The implementation of GMP is an effective foot forward towards this goal but this has to be strictly implemented with a mutual co-operation between the Government and the NGOs of manufacturers.
- b. Establishment of separate Ayurvedic drug controller and its regulatory body and department.
- c. Export licensing process for Ayurvedic/herbal pharmaceuticals; drugs suppliers and physicians should be evolved. They should be subjected for a strict quality control and drug safety rules.
- d. There has to be sustained attempts for the scientific validation regarding the standardization of toxicity, shelf life of the product, the potency and concentration, diversification and purity of all the products. If our medicines are to cross the seas, we have to think and step ahead, for a strict uniformity in all aspects of composition, appearance, taste and action for all classical drugs irrespective The of the brand name.
- e. Lack of quality control measures is another crucial factor that keeps away the west from recognizing our medicinal products. We have to have a rigid criterion for the quality of raw drugs used and for the product in terms of right combination of drugs, the purity & safety against microbial contamination and hygienic manufacturing premises.
- f. The raw drug trade, which is presently, totally in the hands of private sector has to be brought to public sector. A corporation

should be established for the procurement and trade of medicinal plant on the model of the FCI. It should cover various aspects of procurement of the genuine drug, collection, distribution, export and the researches also.

- g. The drugs sold in the market may be toxic to health, may be contaminated, not ripe or mature to ensure the full properties or even completely adulterated or substituted. The proposed corporation of Indian Medicinal Herbs should bring the trade of medical plants under a single roof and reasonable pricing and assured quality should be provided. Each manufacturer should ensure that every batch of the entire product range is certified for this quality assurance similar bodies and labs in the model of PLIM, Ghaziabad can be set up by state governments or even organizations and the industry should strictly adhere to the quality check for every product, every batch and certification should be exhibited on the pack for proof.

2. Cultivation production of herbs

- a. Many herbs are under endangered species. A clear list of drugs should be published for exportable and non-exportable license.
- b. A joint effort from the department of ISM & H in collaboration with the department of Forestry, Agriculture and Rural development may be made so that sufficient herbs are available for export.
- c. Village level herbal cooperative societies should be developed so that the farmers and tribals can be trained in identification, cultivation, and conservation and marketing of valuable Ayurvedic drugs. This small scale cultivation of herbs should be encouraged by the Government and NGOs whose wives and unemployed youth should be urged to utilize their courtyards & fields for cultivating medicinal plants with their aids
- d. Cultivation can be started by Central and State Government and leading NGOs procuring free land. Depending on the geographical peculiarity of each state and each province, the drug is to be chosen and mass cultivation can be done. Government should lease the land for this purpose and allot subsidized manures.

3. Patenting

- a. Under the new WTO & TRIPS regimes care should be taken that all Ayurvedic traditional wealth is preserved and patented by the Govt of India itself or a legal process should be evolved that

no patents can be taken for traditional Ayurvedic prescriptions in any country.

- b. No pharmaceutical industry should be allowed to market and patent a drug as Ayurvedic proprietary drug unless it is proved effective as per Ayurvedic principles.
- c. All Ayurvedic drug manufacturers should be compelled to have proper R&D lab.

The pharmacies not having R&D should send their samples to Govt. established labs and after approval only can market the product. For the purpose, Govt. may establish self financed R&D labs being financed by pharmaceutical industries.