

OMAP 2016 at IIT Mandi

Scientists-Industry-Farmers of H.P. meet at IIT Mandi to discuss Opportunities in Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

A focused meeting on the “Opportunities in Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (OMAP-2016) in H.P” was held at IIT Mandi on 30th July 2016. The meeting successfully brought together 74 participants including farmers, scientists, research scholars and industrialists of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr. Bikram Singh, Principal Scientist CSIR-IHBT Palampur, was the chief guest cum key note speaker who presented the “Prospects for Medicinal & Aromatic Plants in H.P”. Farmers interacted directly with the industrialists and the scientists for opportunities.

IIT Mandi has committed to provide the platform to bridge all stakeholders as well as work closely with the farmers of H.P. in addition to establishing a full-fledged Botanical and Medicinal & Aromatic Plants gardens. The experts from IHBT Palampur and Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry have deliberated on organizing and providing focused training to the farmers. Industries agreed to provide planting material as well as assured buy back to the farmers. To extend further help to the farmers, Himalayan Phytochemical and Growers Association (HIMPA) has enthusiastically agreed to facilitate memberships to the participants and will focus on publishing success stories from the farmers etc.

Distinguished speakers from local industries were Mr. Surinder Mohan (Natural Biotech Products, Mandi), Mr. Jitender Sodhi (Ayush Herbs Pvt. Ltd, Kangra). Dr. Bimal Sharma (Kahana Aromatics Kullu) provided advice to farmers. The other speakers from academics were Dr Meenu Sood (Dr. Y.S.Parmar Univ. of Hort. & Forestry Solan) Dr. S.S.Samant (G.B.Pant Inst. of Him. Environ. and Sus. Devt. Kullu), Dr. Sameer Sapra (Shoolini University, Solan), Dr. Shyam Masakapalli (IIT Mandi), Ms. Manushree (IIT Mandi), Dr. C. Parmar (Fruitpedia), Dr. D.R. Nag (Consultant Joginder Nagar), Ms. Ritu Sharma (IIT Mandi). The farmer’s experiences were shared by Mr. Satish Thakur (HIMPA and Kajal Aromatics, Mandi).

The event was organized by Dr. Shyam Masakapalli (IIT Mandi) and Mr. Surinder Mohan President (HIMPA, Rotary Club Mandi) and was sponsored by IIT Mandi, Natural Biotech Products, CSIR-IHBT Palampur, Himalayan Phytochemical and Growers Association (HIMPA) and Rotary Club Mandi.

Farmers and other delegates participating in different sessions of OMAP 2016



Group discussion between farmers, Industrialists, scientists during OMAP 2016



Felicitation of the Chief Guest OMAP 2016 (Left to right – Dr. Shyam Masakapalli (IIT Mandi), Dr. Bikram Singh (CSIR-IHBT Palampur, Chief Guest), Mr. Surinder Mohan (HIMPA, Rotary Clubs, Natural Biotech Products, H.P) Dr. Prem Felix Siril (Dean SRIC, IIT Mandi)



OMAP 2016 delegates group photo at IIT Mandi