



Workshop Report on

Folk Medicine, Traditional Knowledge and IPR

Organized by

**Loka Ushadhi Chikitsa Sewa Ashram, Telijan, Dhemaji &
DPIIT-IPR Chair, Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam**

22 September 2023
Majuli, Assam

The Report

Luko Ushadhi Chikitcha Sewa Ashram, Dhemaji and DPIIT-IPR Chair, Tezpur University collaborated to organize a one day workshop on 22 September, 2023 on Folk Medicine, Traditional Knowledge and IPRs at Garamur Xaru Satra, Majuli. The workshop mainly emphasized on looking into the current prospects of folk medicine for managing chronic and lifestyle diseases and the role of IPRs for preventing its misappropriation.

A brief introduction of the theme was presented by Prof. Pritam Deb, DPIIT IPR Chair Professor, Tezpur University. The technical session begun with the address of Sri. Debakanta Kunch, President of the Luko Ushadhi Chikitcha Sewa Ashram, Dhemaji formerly known as Folk Medicine Healers Association of Assam. He provided deep insights into the origin and uniqueness of traditional healing system of the state. Drawing instances from its glorious history where the healers were regarded and patronized by the Ahom rulers of Assam, Mr. Kunch mentioned that surnames like Bezbaruah, Baidya actually represent the ancient healers from the region. He expressed concern on the depleting pool of medicinal herbs from the state due to loss of biodiversity, resulting from deforestation and development activities. He advised the fellow healers to practice caution while collecting plant parts from the forest as haphazard plucking may cause injury to the plant or the tree species, sometimes causing its extinction.

The next technical session was taken by Sri. Ajit Borboruah, a recognized healer from Jorhat district of Assam. He urged each of the participating healer of the workshop to develop a small homestead gardens to conserve the rare medicinal plant species and meet the demand for regular raw materials. He also mentioned use of various traditional practices to restore trees after extraction of useful parts. Mr. Borbaruah introduced various specialist healers to the audience who prescribe medicines for managing fractures, cancer and burn injuries.

Later part of the discussion converged towards propagating and preserving various indigenous herbs and species that have significant commercial prospect, besides being raw material for traditional medicinal practices.



Photo: (top) Sri. Debakanta Kunch, a traditional healer and the President of the Luko Ushadhi Chikitcha Sewa Ashram, Dhemaji during first technical session.



A summary of the discussion was presented by Dr. Juri B. Saikia, Research Officer, TUIPR Cell, Tezpur University. Around 100 healers participated in the programme from various districts of Assam. An exhibition of various traditional medicines was also held in the same premise. The programme ended with a vote of thanks from Dr Koushik Saikia, Research Officer, IPR Cell, Tezpur University.



Photo: (top) Participants during first technical session. (Bottom) Sri Ajit Borbaruah, a traditional healer and treasurer of Luko Ushadhi Chikitcha Sewa Ashram, Dhemaji during second technical session.

"We must remember that the process of healing traditionally involves Spiritual, Emotional and Physiological healing. Thus, the healers should first try to maintain a sound spiritual and emotional health for themselves. We must practice gratitude while taking anything from nature for the purpose of healing people or animals. Utmost care must be taken for not harming the plants or trees while collecting useful parts for preparation of the herbal formulations. If unintentional harm is caused to the plant, suitable measures must be taken to ensure its survival."



Photo(Top): Participants of the workshop. Photo (Left to Right) and Bottom: Traditional Healers with various ingredients constituting folk medicine during the Exhibition.

List of traditional healers present in the workshop

SL No	Name	Sex	Name of Dev. Block	Specialization in Healing
1	Dr. Debakanta Konch	M	Dhemaji	সকলোধৰণৰ বেমাৰ
2	Mulan Buragohain	M	Dhemaji	সকলোধৰণৰ বেমাৰ
3	Monuj Buragohain	M	Dhemaji	নিউমোনিয়া, জপ্তিছ, এলাৰ্জি, চাইনাচাইটিছ, গেছ
4	Joykanta Doley	M	Jonai	কেঞ্চাৰ, সন্তান জন্ম নোহোৱা, কেঁচুমুৰীয়া
5	Lambudhar Borpatra Gohain	M	Sissiborgaon	সকলোধৰণৰ বেমাৰ
6	Biten Konch	M	Dhemaji	নিউমোনিয়া, জপ্তিছ, কেঁচুমুৰীয়া
7	Dipen Gogoi	M	Jonai	নিউমোনিয়া
8	Joshna Bora	F	Dhemaji	কেঞ্চাৰ, নিউমোনিয়া, বায়ু গেছ
9	Ram Prasad Mala	M	Sissiborgaon	কেঞ্চাৰ, নিউমোনিয়া, বায়ু গেছ
10	Bijoy Doley	M	Dhemaji	কেঞ্চাৰ, নিউমোনিয়া, বায়ু গেছ
11	Jiba Kanta Morang	M	Sissiborgaon	নিউমোনিয়া
12	Ajit Chutia	M	Dhemaji	নিউমোনিয়া
13	Bhale Bharali	M	Dhemaji	কাহ
14	Deepshikha Chamuah	F	Dhemaji	জপ্তিছ, নিউমোনিয়া
15	Mani Bora	M	Dhemaji	মোৰ বিষ
16	Santi Deka	F	Dhemaji	নিউমোনিয়া
17	Manabi Deka Boruah	F	Dhemaji	মেলিৰিয়া, এলাৰ্জিৰ
18	Suvan Hazarika	M	Dhemaji	কাহ
19	Amulya Dihingia	M	Dhemaji	টকৈৰে খোৱা
20	Payal Dihingia	F	Dhemaji	জপ্তিছ
21	Mihidhar Doley	M	Jonai	টনচিল, চাইনাচাইটিছ, দাত বিষ
22	Jiban Medak	M	Jonai	জৰ
23	Dhanbar Moran	M	Jonai	বিষ
24	Prova Paw	F	Jonai	ডায়েৰীয়া
25	Bichitra Pegu	M	Jonai	ডায়েবেটিছ, চাইনাচাইটিছ
26	Dipen Pegu	M	Jonai	লিভাৰ, জপ্তিছ, ধাতু, চাইনাচাইটিছ
27	Subhash Dihingia	M	Ghilamara	জপ্তিছ
28	Tulshi Gogoi	M	Ghilamara	মেলিৰিয়া, নিউমোনিয়া
29	Ambeswar Chetia	M	Ghilamara	হাপানী, কেঁচুমুৰীয়া
30	Hemanta Boruah	M	Ghilamara	কেঁচুমুৰীয়া, নিউমোনিয়া
31	Sailen Kumar Dutta	M	Ghilamara	জপ্তিছ, নিউমোনিয়া
32	Bhaikan Bora	M	Dhakuakhana	বিষ
33	Deokan Gogoi	M	Ghilamara	জৰ
34	Kekharam Dutta	M	Dhakuakhana	বিষ
35	Tutumoni Gogoi	F	Ghilamara	মহিলাৰ বেমাৰ
36	Pallabita Boruah	F	Ghilamara	মহিলাৰ বেমাৰ
37	Umesh Hazarika	M	Majuli	কেঞ্চাৰ, কেঁচুমুৰীয়া

38	Dibyajyoti Das	M	Majuli	কিডনি পাথৰ, কেঁচুমূৰীয়া, মিগি ৰোগ
39	Narayan Dutta	M	Majuli	হাপানী, কেচুমূৰীয়া, এজমা
40	Arun Chandra Borah	M	Majuli	মোৰ বিষ
41	Rudra Saikia	M	Majuli	হাপানী, কেচুমূৰীয়া
42	Cheniram Das	M	Majuli	কেচুমূৰীয়া, ধাতু
43	Shubh Das	M	Majuli	মাহেকীয়া, পিত্ত ৰোগ
44	Ajit Haldar	M	Majuli	ডায়েৰীৰা
45	Amrit Prava Das	F	Majuli	ডায়েবেটিছ
46	Puspa kataki	F	Majuli	মোৰ বিষ
47	Saniram Das	M	Majuli	কুকুৰে কামোৰা
48	Bhularam Das	F	Majuli	নিউমোনিয়া
49	Nirmal Hazarika	M	Majuli	কেচুমূৰীয়া
50	Dilip Boruah	F	Majuli	কেচুমূৰীয়া
51	Dulen Boruah	M	Majuli	ধাতু
52	Sasidhar Das	M	Majuli	নিউমোনিয়া
53	Nirumai Das	F	Majuli	মোৰ বিষ, জৰ
54	Usha Dihingia	F	Dhemaji	জন্দিচ
55	Bhodia Gogoi	M	Dibrugarh	ডায়েৰীৰা
56	Bhula Dihingia	M	Dibrugarh	ডায়েবেটিছ
57	Tilak Khanikar	M	Dibrugarh	মোৰ বিষ, জৰ
58	Atul Komch	M	Dibrugarh	জন্দিচ
59	Jayram Kachari	M	Dhemaji	হাৰ ভঙা, কেঁচুমূৰীয়া
60	Hemalata Sonowal	F	Dhemaji	নিউমোনিয়া, ককাল বিষ, বসন্ত
61	Pakhili Sonowal	F	Dhemaji	চুৰাকামোৰনি, বগাস্বাৰ হোৱা
62	Makan Sonowal	F	Dhemaji	পিত্ত, ধাতু, এন্দুৰীয়া
63	Junmoni Saikia	F	Dhemaji	জন্দিচ
64	Babita Dihingia	F	Dhemaji	কাহ
65	Namita Arandhara	F	Dhemaji	গেছ
66	Banashree Borgohain	F	Dhemaji	বিষ
67	Puneswari Morang	F	Dhemaji	জৰ
68	Lucky Dutta	F	Dhemaji	বিষ
69	Barakha Sonowal	F	Dhemaji	মহিলাৰ বেমাৰ
70	Chayanika Borgohain	F	Dhemaji	মহিলাৰ বেমাৰ
71	Sanjib Das	M	Majuli	কেচুমূৰীয়া
72	Dinamoni Das	F	Majuli	গেছ, জন্দিচ
73	Prabin Kumar Bharali	M	Majuli	নিউমোনিয়া
74	Sanjay Barman	M	Majuli	জন্দিচ
75	Dipa Saikia Rajbhor	F	Majuli	কেচুমূৰীয়া
76	Lakhi Doloi	F	Majuli	ধাতু
77	Jibakanta Morang	M	Majuli	নিউমোনিয়া
78	Kamaleswar Sonowal	M	Majuli	মোৰ বিষ, জৰ
79	Raj Borah Saikia	M	Majuli	জন্দিচ
80	Tankeswar Bharali	M	Majuli	ডায়েৰীৰা
81	Kunja Pegu	F	Majuli	ডায়েবেটিছ
82	Chittaranjan Pegu	M	Majuli	মোৰ বিষ

83	Busta Pegu	M	Majuli	কুকুৰে কামোৰা
84	Tutumani Pegu	F	Majuli	নিউমোনিয়া
85	Pradip Chandra Saha	M	Lonka, Hojai	গেছ, জন্দিচ
86	Dipak Kumar	M	Lonka, Hojai	এলাৰ্জি
87	Ajit Borbaruah	M	Jorhat	ডায়েবেটিছ, নিউমোনিয়া, গেছ, ডায়েৰীয়া, মোৰ বিষ, জৰ etc
88	Bipul Bora	M	Jorhat	কেচুমুৰীয়া
89	Ananda Kalita	M	Jorhat	গেছ, জন্দিচ
90	Binu Nath Das	M	Jorhat	নিউমোনিয়া
91	Nabin Das	M	Jorhat	জন্দিচ
92	Jonardhan Jyoti Bora	M	Jorhat	এলাৰ্জি
93	Paresh Dutta	M	Jorhat	টনচিল
94	Ripu Bora	M	Jorhat	নিউমোনিয়া, জৰ, কাহ

The Brochure:

One day workshop on

Folk Medicine, Traditional Knowledge, and IPRs

22nd September 2023

organized by

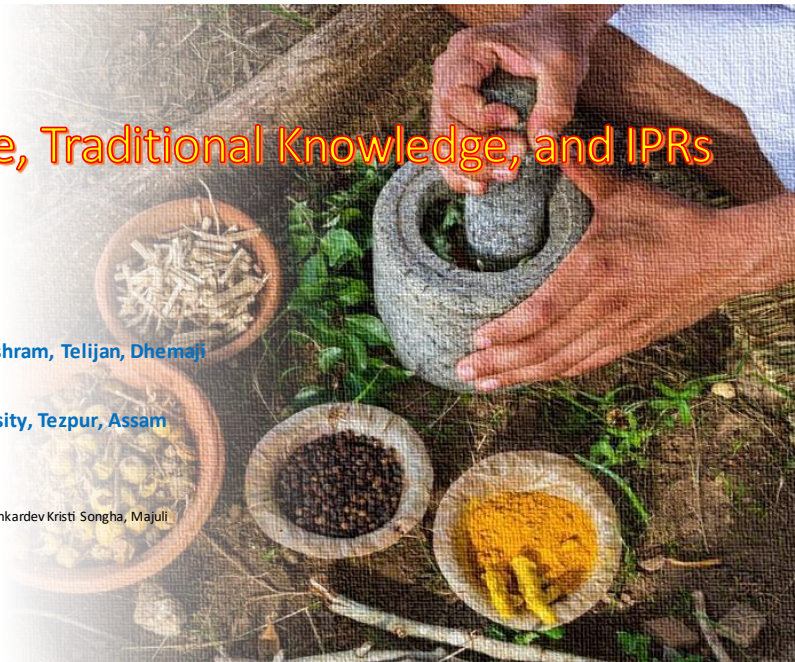
Loka Ushadhi Chikitsa Sewa Ashram, Telijan, Dhemaji

And

DPIIT-IPR Chair, Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam

Venue: Sri Sri Garamur Xoru Satra Srimanta Sankardev Kristi Songha, Majuli

Time: 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM



The Background.....

Traditional and indigenous knowledge has been used for centuries by indigenous and local communities under customs and traditions. Ethnomedicine or folk medicine broadly relates to the traditional medical practices concerned with the cultural interpretation of health, diseases, and illness that address the healthcare process and healing practices. The tradition of using indigenous knowledge for the treatment of common ailments has been neglected for long due to the availability of medical facilities and modern lifestyle. Often, the elders are the keepers of ethnomedicinal knowledge and they passed it down to their next generation through oral traditions. Folk medicine practices are now in great demand in the developing world for primary health care, not because they are inexpensive but also for better cultural acceptance due to compatibility with the human body and minimal side effect. Due to the increased demand, there are instances of piracy. This workshop is an attempt to introspect into the rich ethnomedicinal heritage of various tribal communities of the state, strengthen the systems associated with raw material supply and device ways to prevent piracy.



Schedule of the programme:

- 10.00 AM--10.30 AM----Registration and High-Tea
- 10.30 AM --- 11.00 AM----Introduction of the Theme
- 11.00 AM --- 12.00 PM----Folk Medicine and Traditional Knowledge
- 12.00 PM---1.00 PM-----Current Health Challenges and Folk Medicine
- 1.00 PM---2.00 PM-----Traditional Knowledge, Biopiracy and IPR remedies
- 2.00 PM ---2.30 PM-----Discussion and conclusions
- 2.30 PM onwards-----Exhibition and Lunch

Glimpses of the Exhibition of Traditional Medicine during the workshop



Coverage in local newspaper

Eastern Chronicle

MENU

Governor visits Dhemaj; takes stock of development works

DISPUR Governor Gopinath Baruah visited Dhemaj on Tuesday to inspect the progress of various development projects. He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner and other officials. The Governor reviewed the work done in the area of infrastructure, health, and education. He expressed satisfaction with the progress and urged the local authorities to continue their efforts for the betterment of the region.

Kokrajhar B.P. OS Joydeep Roy resigns from post

DISPUR Joydeep Roy, B.P. OS, Kokrajhar, has resigned from his post. The resignation was accepted by the District Collector. Roy had been serving in the post since his appointment. The reasons for his resignation were not disclosed.

Eminent social worker, artist, and former ward commissioner Prabhat Patowari passes away

DISPUR Prabhat Patowari, an eminent social worker, artist, and former ward commissioner, passed away on Tuesday. He was 75 years old. Patowari was a well-known figure in the community for his contributions to social work and art. He had served as a ward commissioner for several years. His death is a significant loss to the community.

Kamrup district for school aquatic club

DISPUR The Kamrup district has decided to set up an aquatic club for school children. The club will be established in a suitable location to provide a safe and healthy environment for the children to learn swimming and water sports. This initiative is part of the district's efforts to promote physical education and sports among the youth.

Workshop on folk medicine and IPR held at Meghli

DISPUR A workshop on folk medicine and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was held at Meghli. The workshop was organized by the District Collector and attended by various stakeholders. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness about the importance of folk medicine and the need to protect it through IPR. The participants discussed various aspects of folk medicine and the challenges it faces in the modern world.

USIAM listed among top 20 Founding Members of INHE

DISPUR The United Students' Association of India (USIAM) has been listed among the top 20 founding members of the Indian National Health Education (INHE). This recognition is a testament to the association's long-standing commitment to health education and its contributions to the field. The INHE is a leading organization in the field of health education, and its members are highly respected in the industry.

NTPC Bongaigaon proud recipient of PRCI Award 2023

DISPUR NTPC Bongaigaon has been awarded the PRCI Award 2023. The award is given to recognize the company's achievements in the field of power generation and its commitment to safety and environmental protection. NTPC Bongaigaon has consistently demonstrated excellence in its operations and has been a leader in the industry. The award is a well-deserved recognition of the company's hard work and dedication.

ITG develops eco-friendly method to mitigate dual environmental hazards

DISPUR The Indian Technology Group (ITG) has developed an eco-friendly method to mitigate dual environmental hazards. The method involves the use of natural materials and processes to reduce the impact of hazardous waste on the environment. This innovative approach is a significant step towards sustainable waste management and environmental protection. The ITG is committed to developing solutions that are both effective and environmentally friendly.

Samir on sports injury, nutrition and doping held

DISPUR A seminar on sports injury, nutrition, and doping was held. The seminar was organized by the District Collector and attended by various stakeholders. The aim of the seminar was to provide information and guidance on sports injury prevention, nutrition, and doping. The participants discussed various aspects of sports and the importance of maintaining a healthy and safe environment for athletes.

Eastern Chronicle 27 September 2023



Niyomiya Barta ,24th September 2023

About Tezpur University:

Tezpur University was established by an Act of Parliament in 1994 and is outcome of the historic Assam Accord signed by the Government of India, Government of Assam and the All Assam Students' Union in 1985. The University is nestled in a 262-acre campus at Tezpur in middle Assam with 3800 students, 290 faculty and 300 non-teaching staff. The university is currently offering 72 programmes through 22 departments and 12 centres under four schools of studies. It has been securing recognition from various government and non-governmental organisation at national as well as international levels including the “Best University” award by the Visitor (President of India) in 2016, 5th Position in the National Institutional Ranking Framework of Ministry of Human resource Development, Government of India, 2016, 100th rank in the Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings 2018, and 146th amongst the BRICS nations as stated in the QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) BRICS University Rankings 2019. In pursuit of the holistic development of the students, the University has created state-of-the art facilities -academic as well as co-curricular– on its campus. Apart from the in camps activities, the students are encouraged to make meaningful contributions to the development of the society at large.



About TUIPR Cell:

The Tezpur University Intellectual Property Rights Cell (TUIPR Cell) came into existence in Tezpur University in 2009. In the year 2010, the University was awarded the prestigious MHRD IPR Chair that started functioning under the umbrella of the TUIPR Cell. Later in the year 2020, DPIIT-IPR Chair was awarded to the University.

Besides assisting the TU fraternity for IPR related matters, the Cell has been conducting various workshops, training and outreach programmes on regular basis. The aim behind all the conducted programmes is to introduce intellectual property (IP) consciousness to a wide spectrum of audience representing different strata of the society. IPR has been introduced in the University curriculum to develop a sense of respect among students for the intellectual property and equip them with knowledge of various IPR tools. In order to make research activities rewarding and self-sustaining, the TUIPR Cell has been taking a number of initiatives to promote protection of IPs resulting from the research activities undertaken in the University. The Cell has come in collaboration and agreement with government agencies for receiving support for filing of patent applications and also is in agreement with a reputed IP attorney firm to handle certain critical issues related to the filing procedure. Currently, the Cell is focusing on creating a conducive environment for the industries to feel confident while seeking solutions to their problems with the innovators of the University, thereby paving way for successful technology transfer and commercialization.