

International Conference on

Plant Physiology & Pathology

June 09-10, 2016 Dallas, USA



Shubhash Deokule

Savitribai Phule Pune University, India

New horizon in plant science

We have a 3000 year old story in our country: Charaka the ancient physician was asked by his teachers to get him a plant that was quiet useless, he returned empty-handed saying that there was no such plant. It is, therefore, in our own interest to conserve our plant as also animal as well as micro organism wealth. There is growing realization throughout the world about the urgent need to conserve the biological diversity.

We need to conserve plant species because of human – dependence on them for many different uses and indeed for our survival. Plants provide our basic food crops, building materials and medicines as well as oils, lubricants, rubber and other latexes, resins, waxes, perfumes, dyes and fibers. There are over 84.3 million tribals, belonging to diverse ethnic groups. As per the classification made by anthropologists on linguistic basis there are 550 communities of 227 ethnic groups are inhabited in various parts of India. The tribal people of India mostly live in the forests, hills, plateaus and naturally isolated regions. They are playing most important role in conservation.

21st century is the century of Biology powered and propelled by scientific knowledge and technological expertise. There are four technologies viz. Herbal technology, Biotechnology, Nano-Technology and Information technology (Bioinformatics) are going to be the most powerful elements that are crucial for prosperity and welfare for the people of nations.

Herbal technologies involving value added plant products which can be called as herbal technology. This includes Herbal drugs and pharmaceuticals, Nutraceuticals, Functional foods, Designer foods or health foods and Health drinks, Cosmeceuticals, Bio-control agents and Bio-pesticides.

There is a clear-cut Bioprospecting Linkage and Leads observed in between Biodiversity & Indigenous Knowledge / Traditional Knowledge, Conservation, Sustainable use, Benefit sharing, Bioinformatics, Biotechnology, Information technology, Herbal technology, Bioprospecting, IPR, Drug development, Pharmaceuticals, Agro chemistry, cosmetics, proteins, enzymes, new crop varieties, GMOs, GM foods, design etc.

We are talking about the sustainable development but, on the other side there are many threats to global biodiversity viz. over exploitation due to population explosion, Deforestation, Mined areas, Road constructions, Dam construction, Industrialization, Over cultivation, Over grazing, Weir system of irrigation, Introduction of new species and Environmental Pollution. There are some of the natural disasters like Drought, Sand dunes, Ravines, River bank, Water lodged, Marshy areas, Soil pH and Tsunami. There is urgent need to work together at global level to save our mother nature.

Biography

Shubhash Deokule has completed his PhD in 1989 from Pune University. At present, he is the senior most Professor in the Department of Botany and HOD from 2010-2013. He has great contribution in the study of Indian medicinal plants, guided about 30 Doctoral and 22 MPhil students. He has published a total of 175 research articles along with 12 books. He is associated with many national and international academic bodies and also appointed as Member, Board of Directors for Asian Society of Pharmacognosy. He has received many prestigious awards at national and international level with gold medals. His area of research interest is mainly in Pharmacognosy, Ethno-Botany, Ethno-Pharmacognosy, Ethno-Pharmacology, Medicinal Plant Tissue culture and Biodiversity.

deokule@unipune.ac.in