

“Need to Strengthen Traditional Health Practices”



Center for Traditional Medicine and Research, Chennai organized a two day workshop on 31st July & 1st August on “Traditional Healing Practices & Ethno botanical collection” at Arsha Vidya Gurukulam at Anaikatti, Coimbatore.

Swami Sakshatkrutananda, the Resident Acharya, inaugurated the workshop and explained about the importance of traditions and their rich contribution to our Indian society. This traditional healing practice has been continuously nurturing the well being even to the communities in the inaccessible areas and time tested. These traditional knowledge is the greatest wealth handed over to us by our forefathers which needs to be preserved, revitalized and taken back to the community. The documentation of this knowledge is very vital for its revival, Sri Swamiji said.

CTMR secretary Dr. T. Thirunarayanan explained about the living traditions like Siddha System and the folklore and its importance in primary health care, the cost effectiveness, easy accessibility even in remote tribal villages.

Dr. D. Narasimhan, a renowned ethno botanist, explained about the richness of the Indian tradition and the need for protection for community based intellectual property and mechanisms of benefic sharing of holders of knowledge. The sessions included demonstration on varmam, child and women health, treatment of medical emergencies through simple herbs and traditional bone setting methods. 60 expert traditional Vaidhyas of different regions of Tamil Nadu and host of institutionally trained doctors took part in the celebrations.

The two day Seminar successfully helped to bridge the gap between the traditional Vaidhyas and institutionally qualified Siddha doctors. There was voluntary expression of desire to co-operate to document many of their private practice methods.

All the participants expressed their happiness and satisfaction on the boarding and lodging facilities extended at the Gurukulam during their stay and thanked Pujya Swamiji for the same. They requested the organizers for conducting such workshops every year and promised to bring more traditional healers from remote villages.

There was a tribal cultural dance programme by the Anaikatti tribals group who successfully performed their programme in the recently held World Tamil Conference.

