

Recent Events

RIS Roundtable on India-Indonesia Cooperation on Traditional Medicine



The Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), through its constituent units – Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM), Development and Knowledge Sharing Initiative (DAKSHIN) and the Asean India Centre (AIC) hosted a round table on ‘India-Indonesia Cooperation on Ayush and Jamu: Relevance of Sustainable Bioresource Management’ at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on January 23, 2025. This was organized in collaboration with the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and the University of Padjajaran and the University of Udayana, Bali. The event constituted of two panel discussions; the first panel focused on the ‘Institutionalization of Traditional medicine systems: India - Indonesia Cooperation for capacity-building of Jamu’ and the second panel focused on the on ‘Medicinal Plants Governance: Imperatives for Sustainable Bioresource Management’ which is a common issue for both countries. The first panel was co-chaired Vaidya Jayant Deopujari, Chairperson, National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and Ms. Monalisa Dash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India while the second panel was co-chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Mahesh Kumar Dadhich, Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) and Dr Koustubha Upadhyaya, Advisor, Ayurveda, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India. Dr Vinod Kumar, Senior Scientist, Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment, (KCSTE- JNTBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram; Dr Raman Mohan Singh, Director, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy (PCIMH), New Delhi; Prof Ravi Srinivas, Consultant, RIS, New Delhi; Dr. Chandra Shekhar Sanwal, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) and Dr Pawan Dhar, Executive Director, CVJ Centre for Synthetic Biology & Biomanufacturing, Kochi were among the Indian panelists. In addition, the Indonesian panelists were Prof. Ni Luh Watiniasih, Dean of Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences Univeristas Udayana, Bali; Dr. Lia Faridah, Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung; Prof. Dr. I Made Joni, Universitas Padjadjaran, Chair, IIBC, Bandung and Prof. Dr. Camellia Panatarani, Head of Department of Physics, Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung.

The first panel witnessed engaging discussions on infrastructure development, quality standards, sustainability, governance and international collaborations in relation to the

mainstreaming of Jamu within the public health system of Indonesia by collaboration with the Ministry of Ayush. The second panel deliberated on exploring R&D cooperation on digital sequencing information (DSI), tissue culture and use of synthetic biology on medicinal plants common to both countries to address supply of critical medicinal plants. The event concluded with the view that studies should be undertaken by the RIS on prospects of bilateral and multilateral cooperation on traditional medicine. A recommendation was also made to establish an India-Indonesia Fund to strengthen connections between the respective traditional medicine systems.