

- Min of Defence
- C-17 Globemaster III Inducted into the IAF
- Ministry of Finance
- Change in Linn Value of Crude Palm Oil, RBD Palm Oil, Others - Palm Oil, Crude Palmolein,
- Min of Health and Family Welfare
- National Symposium on 'Development and Nurturing of Emerging Interface Between Medical Science and Biotechnology' held
- Min of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- NSIC Pays A Dividend Cheque of Rs. 12.47 Crore
  - Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Meets
- Min of Personnel Public Grievances & Pensions
- Geologists' Examination 2012
  - Acc Appointment
  - President calls upon Public Authorities to be Proactive and put Information in the Public Domain
- Min of Petroleum & Natural Gas
- Diesel Under-Recovery rises sharply to Rs 12.12/litre for the Fortnight commencing 1.09.2013
  - There is no proposal to put time schedule restrictions on Petrol Pump Operations: Petroleum Ministry

Previous Date

safety net. In forestry, NTFPs appeared to have the potential for poverty reduction and sustainable livelihood. Kaushal and Melkani (2008) made a strong case for achieving all 8 MDGs through Non Timber Forest Products. There is a high level of actual use of NTFPs by the rural poor. Forest products contribute between 20-40% of total income of households in forest areas and that poor households tend to be disproportionately dependent on forest resources, especially fuel wood and fodder. In respect of household income the estimates in Indian conditions has been estimated to vary between 10-54%. There are varying estimates (100 m to 500 m persons) of dependence of communities on NTFP for cash income and self-consumption. Needless to say that the community dependence on NTFP is very large particularly amongst forest fringe dwellers who derive bulk of their livelihood support from NTFPs.

For the successful implementation of Joint Forest Management, flow of benefits through production of NTFPs offers the best incentives to the participating communities on sustained basis. In order to sustain the interest of the participating communities in forest conservation, sustainable NTFP management therefore assumes key role. However, the current NTFP management practices are ecologically and socially unsustainable. The forest dwellers are by and large conservation oriented but due to unscrupulous elements such as middle men and traders are pushing them to resort to unsustainable and destructive harvesting. Large pharmaceutical industries are also abetting the process of destruction of this important element of forest biodiversity. Due to inadequate realization for the ecological, economic and social values of NTFPs there is lack of policy and institutional intervention at national level for the conservation and sustainable management of these resources. The facts in the following section confirm this assessment.

### Reconciling Conservation and Development

In a wake of logging ban it was generally understood that NTFP extraction would be less harmful to forest ecosystem than timber harvesting and that it will provide incentives to communities to conserve. However, in the past decade or so there have numerous example of destructive and unsustainable extraction of NTFP resources in wild. In Bastar district of Chhattisgarh state which is predominantly a tribal area rich in forests and biodiversity, Rauwolfia serpentina, source of an important alkaloid 'reserpine' used in moderating blood pressure was removed by truck loads in 1960's. Today this important medicinal plant has disappeared altogether. Curcuma caesia, in Amarkantak forests (origin of Narmada river) Litsea chinensis in Madhya Pradesh Machilus macarantha trees in tropical wet evergreen forests of Coorg and Malnad