

Indian Society of Pharmacognosy, Gujarat state Branch Nature Education Camp (Field Tour)

(November 17-19, 2009)

Report

Nature education camp was organized by Shri B. M. Shah College of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Modasa. Delegates consisting thirteen faculties and twenty six PG Students from ten different Pharmacy Colleges and Institutes of Gujarat State were participated in this camp. All delegates were gathered at Idar (Sabarkantha) bus stand on November 17, 2009, Tuesday at 09:30 am. Journey was started at 11:30 am. for field tour by Taxi and reach at *Vireswar* temple. There were medicinally important plants surrounding it eg. *Abrus precatorious* (Fabaceae), *Acaranthes asperga* (Amaranthaceae), *Acasia catechu* (Leguminoceae), *Acasia nilotica* (Fabaceae), *Adhatoda vasica* (Acanthaceae), *Aegle marmelos* (Rutaceae) *Cassia fistula* (Caesalpiniaceae), *Cassia italic* (Caesalpiniaceae), *Centella asiatica* (Umbelliferae), *Centratherum anthelminticum* (Asteraceae), *Commiphora wightii* (Burseraceae), *Cordial wallichii* (Boraginaceae), *Curculigo orchicides* (Hypoxidaceae), *Curcuma longa* (Zingiberaceae), *Datura metel* (Solanaceae), *Dendrocalamus strictus* (Poaceae), *Eclipta alba* (Asteraceae), *Emblica officinalis* (Euphorbiaceae), *Evolvulus alsinoides* (Convolvulaceae), *Ficus benghalensis* (Moraceae), *Ficus racemosa* (Moraceae) and *Ficus religiosa* (Moraceae). After lunch, we had visited historical place *Sarneshwar* temple, adjoined to *Abhapur*, forest nursery having varieties of natural plants. Delegates were reported at *Polo* camp site sharply at 5:00 p.m. and get registered. Mr. M. J. Parmar (DFO, Sabarkantha), Mr. Pandava (RFO, Dholvani Range) and Mr. N. S. Desai (ACF, Himatnagar) had welcomed us warmly. Mr. M. J. Parmar had addressed delegates bout conservation of the natural heritage, wild life, tribes and forest. Comfortable accommodation for stay was made available by the department of forest. In the evening after delicious dinner we had gathered in open ground under the sky and had camp fire. Mr. R. K. Patel, retired DFO, had explained the importance of plants growing in forest, its medicinal and potential utility, ecological balance, life of tribes, wild life and role of younger generation in maintenance and preservation of forest. They had also refreshed our knowledge about star gazing.

Next day (November 18, 2009, Wednesday) early in the morning, Mr. Balubhai Bara introduced us with different species of birds and their voices. Delegates had finished normal formalities; bath and breakfast. Mr. Bara showed the way in the deep forest throughout 11.5 Km tracking in forest and introduced us number of medicinal plants like *Asparagus racemosus* (Liliaceae), *Boerhavia diffusa* (Nyctaginaceae), *Boswellia serata* (Burseraceae), *Butea monosperma* (Fabaceae), *Caesalpinia crista* (Fabaceae), *Calotropis gigantia* (Asclepiadaceae), *Cantheranthus roseus* (Apocynaceae), *Carica papaya* (Caricaceae), *Carisa carandas* (Apocynaceae), *Cassia auriculata* (Caesalpiniaceae), *Gloriosa superba* (Liliaceae), *Helicteres isora* (Sterculiaceae), *Jatropha curcas* (Euphorbiaceae) and *Lawsonia inermis* (Lythraceae). Palnts which were not identified were collected and identified with the help of forest flora under guidance of Dr. M. S. Jangid, senior lecturer of Botany, Sir P. T. Science College, Modasa, who was with us. That consist *Aloe barbadensis* (Liliaceae), *Alstonia scholaris* (Apocynaceae), *Andrographis paniculata* (Simarubaceae), *Macuna pruriens* (Caesalpiniaceae), *Madhuca indica* (Sapotaceae), *Mangifera indica* (Anacardiaceae), *Maytenus emarginata* (Celastraceae), *Mimusops elengi* (Sapotaceae),

Moringa oleifera (Moringaceae), *Musa sepianum* (Musaceae), *Ocimum basilicum* (Labiataeae), *Ocimum sanctum* (Labiataeae), *Pedaliium murex* (Pedaliaceae), *Piper betel* (Piperaceae), *Pongamia pinnata* (Leguminoceae), *Psoralea corylifolia* (Leguminoceae), *Pterocarpus marsupium* (Leguminoceae), *Randia dumentorum* (Rubiaceae), *Rauwolfia serpentine* (Apocynaceae), *Ricinus communis* (Euphorbiaceae), *Salvadora oieoides* (Salvadoraceae), *Salvadora persica* (Salvadoraceae), *Santalum album* (Santaliaceae), *Sapindus laurifolius* (Sapindaceae), *Sapindus trifoliatus* (Sapindaceae), *Saraca asoca* (Fabaceae), *Solanum surattense* (Solanaceae), *Sterculia urens* (Sterculiaceae), *Syzygium cumini* (Myrtaceae), *Tamarindus indica* (Leguminoceae), *Terminalia arjuna* (Combretaceae), *Terminalia bellirica* (Combretaceae), *Terminalia chebula* (Combretaceae), *Tinospora cordifolia* (Menispermaceae), *Tylospora indica* (Asclepidaceae), *Vitex negundo* (Verbenaceae), *Withania somnifera* (Solanaceae), *Wrightia tomentosa* (Apocynaceae) and *Zingiber officinale* (Zingiberaceae). We had visited Jain temples of Abhapur (Polo), Polo was an ancient kingdom. Mr. Bara had shown us giant variety of spider. We had visited Medicinal garden at Antarsumba Ashram, Sabarkantha having 258 identified plant species including herb, shrub and trees growing in the Vijaynagar forest on the third and final day (November 19, 2009, Thursday) of camp.



Group Photo- Nature Education Camp, Polo Camp, Dholvani, Dist. Sabarkantha.