PATAYAT SAHU

A TRUE MEDICINAL PLANT ENTHUSIAST



Patayat Sahu, a renowned Traditional Healer and "Prakriti Bandhu" awarded, aged about 65 years is a permanent resident of Nandol village of Kalahandi district of Odisha. His educational qualification is Inter Mediate of Science. He is currently the Secretary of "Ashwini Kumar" Kalahandi Vaidya Sangha, a Registered Organization under Indian Societies Act, 1860 and twice "Prakriti Mitra" Awarded at Nandol of Kalahandi district having more than 700 members from 13 Blocks (Junagarh, Golamunda, Dharmagrh, Pokasara, Jaypatana, Kalampur, Bhawanipatana, Kesinga, T. Rampur, Langigarh, M. Rampur, Narla and Karlamunda).

Patayat Sahu's house is well visible from a distance due to its lush green cover. He has developed a medicinal plant garden with around 2 Acre of land out of his own effort. This Medicinal Plant Garden comprises of around 2000 species of Medicinal Plants available in India and has more than 3500 Nos of Medicinal Plants. Besides he has also planted 39 Species of Medicinal Plants already declared Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) in Odisha out of 41 species. The only 2 species those were left out by him are Pani amba (*Cerbera odollam*) and Sisumara (*Xylocarpus granatum*) which are found only in mangrove forests in Odisha. According to him it has took him more than 40 years for the development of this garden

and he has been adding new species of plants over the years. He told that most of the Medicinal Plants were collected by the Members of Vaidya Sangha from the forests of Bolangir, Rayagada and Kalahandi districts of Odisha. He also narrated that he had collected more than 500 species from different parts of India during his exposure visits to different parts facilitated by the State Medicinal Plants Board, Odisha.



Patayat Sahu – During Floristic survey in Mandargiri MPCDA, Angul, Odisha with SMPB staff and Forest officials

He has inherited Indian Traditional Medicinal Knowledge from his Grandfather, who was a Traditional healer, since his childhood. He is specialized in treatment of diseases like Malaria, Epilepsy, Piles, Uterus related diseases and all types of Back ache problems. He has been treating more than 40 patients per month on an average at his home. He charges no consultation fees neither he charges any fee if he treats patients with Medicinal Herbs directly. He charges nominal fees if he treats patients with traditional processed Medicines. He has also documented the usage of various medicinal plants in form of Books, but due to unavailability of funds, the books are yet to be published.