

CURRENT AFFAIRS NOTES 05-09-2023

Visakhapatnam Port's International Cruise Terminal inaugurated today

International Cruise Terminal at Visakhapatnam Port inaugurated today in the presence of Minister of Tourism (State), Shri Shripad Naik , Minister of Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal ,VPA chairperson Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS along with several other distinguished dignitaries.



The International Cruise Terminal, now open for operations, will serve as a pivotal gateway for both domestic and international cruise tourism along the eastern coast of India. This world-class facility promises to offer a transformative experience to tourists while fostering economic growth and benefiting local communities.

This visionary project was initiated in response to a proposal from the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways. The Ministry of Tourism approved part funding for the development of the Cruise-Cum Cargo Terminal at the channel berth in the outer harbour of Visakhapatnam Port by the Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) under the Scheme of Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development during the financial year 2018-19.

The total approved project cost, as provided by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT), amounted to ₹77 crores. Of this, the Ministry of Tourism committed 50 percent of funding, equivalent to ₹38.50 crores, with the remaining expenditure being met by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) from their internal resources.

It is noteworthy that out of the approved Ministry of Tourism funding of ₹38.50 crores, an impressive sum of ₹29.91 crores, constituting 77.6 percent of the approved funding, has already been released and fully utilized by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT).

The Cruise Terminal Building spans an area of 4,580.46 sq. meters, encompassing both the ground floor and first floor.

The Cruise Terminal Building is equipped with essential facilities, including lounges, customs, immigration, quarantine counters, baggage handling facilities, scanning, concourse, restaurant, entertainment, shopping, health, and business exhibitions, money exchange outlets, CCTV coverage, and ample parking space.

Features of Cruise Terminal:

- A berth measuring 180 meters in length.
- Four mooring dolphins, two on each side, extending the total length to 300 meters.
- A terminal building covering 2,000 sq. meters, replete with all essential amenities.
- Adequate parking space for seven buses, 70 cars, and 40 two-wheelers.
- Excellent road connectivity to facilitate easy access.

The International Cruise Terminal will operate as a Cruise Terminal during the months of November to March, catering to the needs of passengers from around the world. During the remaining months of April to October, the berth will be utilized for Coastal Cargo operations.

This monumental project signifies India's commitment to fostering tourism growth, infrastructure development, and environmental consciousness. It stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts between the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, contributing significantly to India's tourism potential and economic prosperity.

The Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched during 2020-21. The main objective of the Scheme is to enhance competency level of the target groups to make them employable both in self-employment and wage-employment for their socio-economic development.

The target group under this scheme are SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers etc. The age criterion of scheme between 18-45 years and income criteria is no income limit for SCs, SafaiKaramcharis Including wastepicker and DNT. The annual family income should be below Rs.3 lakh for OBCs and the EBCs (Economically Backward Classes) annual family income below Rs.1 lakh.



Types of Trainings, duration and average cost per candidate

- Up-skilling/Reskilling (35 to 60 hours/ 5 days to 35 days):-Rs.3000/- to Rs.8000/-
- Short Term Training (300 hours/3 months) :-Rs.22,000/-
- Entrepreneurship Development Programme (90 hours/15 days):Rs.7000/-

- Long Term Training (650 hours/7 months) :- Rs.45,000/-

The cost of training is as per common norms issued by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; Government of India and it varies as per duration of the course. Up-skilling for Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers is for 35 hours/5 days with average cost of Rs.3000/- per candidate.

The Cost of the training to trainees is free of cost. The stipend under this scheme of Rs.1,500/- per month to SCs and Safai Karamcharis and Rs.1,000/- per month to OBCs/EBCs/DNTs for non-residential Short Term and Long Term training courses and the Wage compensation Rs.2500/- per candidate is given to SCs/OBCs/EBCs/DNTs candidates for Upskilling/Reskilling programme. Wage compensation Rs.500/- per candidate is given to Safai Karamcharis candidates for Upskilling programme.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches 3-year partnership with Meta, Education to Entrepreneurship: Empowering a generation of students, educators and entrepreneurs

‘Education to Entrepreneurship’ to take Digital Skilling to grassroots, seamlessly connect students, youth, workforce & micro-entrepreneurs, with futuristic technologies – Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

India’s democracy, demography, and diversity to be connected with technology to make technology equalizer for entire society – Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched a 3-year partnership “Education to Entrepreneurship: Empowering a generation of students, educators and entrepreneurs” between Ministry of Education, Ministry Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Meta in New Delhi today. 3 Letters of Intent (LoI) were exchanged between Meta and NIESBUD, AICTE and CBSE. Minister of State for Education Smt. Annpurna Devi and Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar also graced the occasion.



Speaking at the event, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said that the initiative launched today is in furtherance to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s vision of making India a skill capital of the world and empowering our Amrit Peedhi.

He further said that ‘Education to Entrepreneurship’ partnership is a game-changer, which will take Digital Skilling to the grassroots. This will build capacities of our talent pool, seamlessly connect



students, youth, workforce & micro-entrepreneurs, with futuristic technologies and transform our Amrit Peedhi into new-age problem solvers and entrepreneurs.

He stated that India's democracy, demography, and diversity are to be connected with technology conversion so that technology becomes the equalizer for the entire society. Guided by the tenets of NEP, META's partnerships with NIESBUD, CBSE & AICTE will catalyse infinite possibilities for equipping our population with critical digital skills and empowering micro entrepreneurs and small businesses, he added.

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, in his address, highlighted the Government's focus on preparing our youth and workforce in these rapidly transforming times, to be equipped with the skills to succeed and play important roles in the evolving landscape of technology and the global economy. Digital skills, while representing skilling and entrepreneurship in the innovation ecosystem, more importantly represents a bridge between lakhs of small rural, micro and self-employed entrepreneurs, enabling them to expand, grow and succeed, he added.

In a video message Meta President, Global Affairs, Sir Nick Clegg, thanked Shri Dharmendra Pradhan for his support in bringing the partnership together between the two most important sectors of the workforce, education and skilling. India's talent base and rapid digital adoption make it the perfect place for us to invest in emerging technologies, he added. He looked forward to Meta's contribution in empowering India's students, young people and entrepreneurs, with significant focus on skill development for Indian startups and businesses, having worked closely with India during its G20 Presidency in areas such as education, job creation, skill development and user safety.

Under the partnership with NIESBUD, 5 lakh entrepreneurs will get access to digital marketing skills by Meta over the next 3 years. Budding and existing entrepreneurs will be trained in digital marketing skills using Meta platforms in 7 regional languages to begin with. Three short films were also showcased highlighting the details about the partnerships.

"Empowering Green Innovation: Aloe Ecell's Eco-Friendly Primary Batteries Garner Support from TDB"

"Pioneering 'Mission LiFE': TDB-DST Partners with Aloe Ecell for Ecofriendly Primary Battery Innovation"

In consonance with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary initiative, 'Mission LiFE' (Lifestyle for Environment), the Technology Development Board (TDB) is proud to announce its collaboration with M/s Aloe Ecell Pvt. Ltd., an innovative startup rooted in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. This strategic alliance shines as a beacon of progress, seamlessly echoing the Prime Minister's call for sustainable practices and indigenous creativity.



TDB, unwavering in its commitment to support innovative solutions that resonate with 'Mission LiFE,' extends its assistance to Aloe Ecell's project, "Commercialization of Eco-friendly-1.5V AA size Aloe Vera-based batteries." With a project valuation of Rs. 2.98 crores, TDB's substantial contribution of Rs. 1.91 crores as a soft loan amplifies the project's potential to drive eco-friendly innovation to new heights.

The start-up's ingenious approach entails the creation of an eco-friendly 1.5V AA size battery, which may help in departure from conventional counterparts laden with heavy metals and toxic chemicals. Leveraging the inherent properties of Aloe Vera, Aloe Ecell has formulated an electrolyte that not only matches the performance of established market standards but also champions environmental responsibility. The company will create facilities for commercial production of primary batteries in Bundi, Rajasthan.

The core objective of the project harmonizes seamlessly with 'Mission LiFE's' ethos – to introduce lifestyle choices in harmony with ecological well-being. By spearheading the cause of eco-friendly primary batteries, Aloe ECell may contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment while addressing longstanding concerns tied to the toxic composition in conventional batteries.

The remarkable journey of Aloe ECell has already earned accolades, including the National Startup Award in the Energy Sector 2020 by Startup India under DPIIT, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, and the Global Winners 2019 award by Schneider Electric.

‘Green Hydrogen Pilots in India’ Conference to be held in the run-up to G20 Summit

In the run-up to [the 18th G20 Summit](#), a day-long conference on "Green Hydrogen Pilots in India" is being held in New Delhi, on 5th September, 2023. The conference will showcase various Green Hydrogen Pilots being implemented by both public and private sector companies of India. The conference will also present pioneering innovative pilots and progress in green hydrogen technology.

The conference is being hosted by [NTPC Ltd.](#), India's leading integrated power producer.

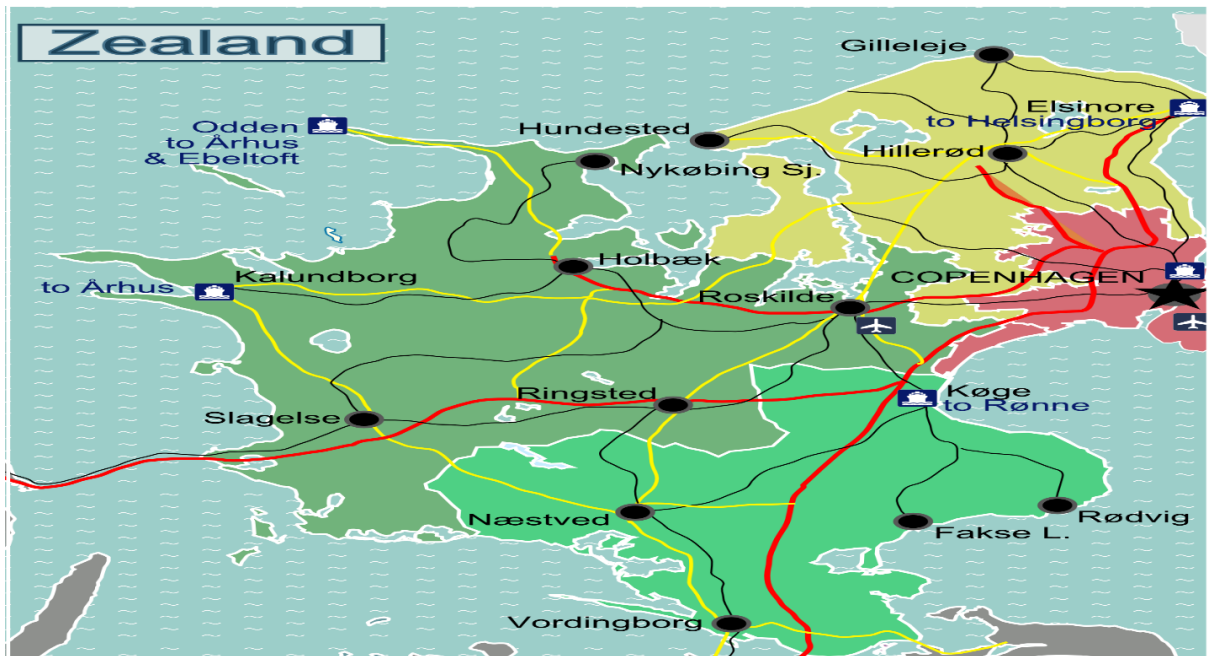


Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R. K. Singh will attend the opening session of the conference and deliver the keynote address.

Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Shri Bhupinder S. Bhalla; CMD, NTPC, Shri Gurdeep Singh; and CEO, NTPC Green Energy Ltd., Shri Mohit Bhargava will also address the opening session.

The discussions during the event will help in assimilation of information and encourage sharing of achievements and challenges faced by the early movers. In addition, the pilot projects will help address technological challenges, develop local supply chains, and optimise techno-economic feasibility in the future.

Zealandia



Geoscientists recently discovered a continent known as Zealandia that had been hiding in plain sight for almost 375 years.

It is a long, narrow microcontinent that is mostly submerged in the South Pacific Ocean.

Location: It is located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, primarily to the east of Australia and to the south of New Caledonia. It encompasses the region that includes New Zealand and New Caledonia.

Formation:

Zealandia or Te Riu-a-Māui in the Māori language was formally one of the constituent continents of the ancient supercontinent called Gondwana, which also included Western Antarctica and Eastern Australia over 500 million years ago.

It began to "pull away" from Gondwana roughly 105 million years ago.

As Zealandia started pulling away, it began to sink beneath the waves, with over 94 per cent remaining underwater for millennia.

It is approximately 1.89 million square miles (4.9 million square km) in size, about half the size of Australia.

The vast majority of this new continent lies beneath 6,560 feet (2km) of water.

The part of Zealandia that is above water forms the foundation of New Zealand's north and south islands as well as the island of New Caledonia.

Tectonic Plate Boundaries: Zealandia is situated along the boundary of several tectonic plates, including the Australian Plate, Pacific Plate, and Indo-Australian Plate.

The existence of Zealandia was first recorded in 1642 by Dutch businessman and sailor Abel Tasman, who was on a mission to find the "great Southern Continent," or Terra Australis.

GUJARAT DECLARATION

The WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2023 in Gujarat, India, concluded with the "Gujarat Declaration", a document that reaffirms the global commitments to indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine (TCIM).



In Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, the Ministry of Ayush co-hosted the First Global Summit on Traditional Medicine 2023. The summit was a platform for experts and stakeholders to exchange views and experiences on how to integrate traditional medicine into global health strategies and policies. The summit aimed to promote the August recognition, regulation and research of traditional medicine as a valuable resource for health and well-being.

Summit concluded with the "Gujarat Declaration", The declaration recognizes the value and potential of TCIM for health and well-being, and calls for increased collaboration, research, and



regulation of indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine (TCIM) practices and products.

The declaration also urges the protection and promotion of the rights and interests of indigenous peoples and local communities, who are the custodians of TCIM knowledge and resources.

Key points from the declaration

Scientific Rigor

The declaration underscores the importance of applying rigorous scientific methods in the field of traditional medicine. This scientific approach is necessary to gain a deeper understanding of traditional medicine practices, assess their effectiveness, and determine when and how to apply them.

It emphasizes the need to take into account the holistic, context-specific, complex, and personalized nature of traditional medicine when considering its role in health and well-being.

India's Role

India's hosting of the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat, is recognized as a significant contribution to advancing traditional medicine globally. This centre is seen as instrumental in enhancing WHO's capacity to assist member states and stakeholders in implementing the action agenda established during the summit.

India's commitment to traditional medicine is acknowledged as a valuable asset in promoting the use of traditional medicine worldwide.

Action Points

The action points of the summit are formulated based on the evidence, discussions, and outcomes of the event. These action points cover a wide array of topics, including:

Strategies and policies that promote the well-being of individuals and the planet.

The importance of researching to gather evidence supporting traditional medicine practices.

The goal of achieve universal health coverage and make healthcare accessible to all.

Strengthening primary healthcare systems and integrating traditional medicine into these systems.

Utilizing data and information systems for monitoring and assessing traditional medicine practices.

Exploring the use of digital health technologies, especially artificial intelligence, in the context of traditional medicine.

Strategies for preserving biodiversity and ensuring sustainable use of natural resources in traditional medicine.

Upholding human rights, promoting equity, and adhering to ethical principles in traditional medicine research and practice.

Commitment to Traditional Medicine

The Union Minister of Ayush highlights the declaration as a demonstration of India's commitment to promoting traditional medicine systems. The emphasis is on collaborative efforts and sustainable practices to secure a healthier future for generations by integrating traditional medicine into modern healthcare.

Harnessing Traditional Medicine



WHO Director-General views the declaration as a means to unlock the potential of traditional medicine by applying scientific principles. It underscores the importance of integrating traditional medicine into national healthcare systems and harnessing its power for the benefit of public health.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and SDGs

The declaration aims to scale up traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine (TCIM) interventions that are evidence-based to support universal health coverage (UHC) and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It recognizes the necessity of collaboration among regions, disciplines, and stakeholders to maximize the contributions of TCIM to global health.

Research and Standardization

The declaration encourages the **integration of evidence-based TCIM practices into national health policies and systems**. It calls for expediting the production, regulation, and formal utilization of scientifically proven TCIM products and practices.

The standardized documentation and data collection using the WHO International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) are promoted to ensure consistency and reliability.

Digital Health and AI

The summit highlights the potential of digital health technologies, especially artificial intelligence (AI), in advancing digital health resources related to TCIM for the betterment of people's health and well-being. This underscores the importance of embracing technological advancements in the traditional medicine field.

Biodiversity and Indigenous Rights

The declaration recommends actions to protect, restore, and sustainably manage biodiversity while ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits from biodiversity resources. It stresses the recognition, respect, and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples as outlined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Ethical Practices

Ethical principles and processes should be an integral part of TCIM research and practice. This emphasizes the importance of conducting TCIM research and applying traditional medicine in a manner that respects ethical standards and principles.

Indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and Traditional, Complementary, and Integrative Medicine (TCIM)

About

TCIM are interconnected aspects of healthcare that have profound implications for both traditional and modern medical practices.

Indigenous knowledge refers to the traditional knowledge and practices passed down through generations within specific cultural or ethnic groups. This knowledge encompasses various aspects of life, including medicine, agriculture, and environmental management.

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life forms on Earth, including plants, animals, and microorganisms. Biodiversity is closely linked to indigenous knowledge because many indigenous communities have developed extensive knowledge about local ecosystems and the use of diverse plant and animal species for medicinal and nutritional purposes.



TCIM encompasses a wide range of healthcare practices and systems, including traditional medicines like Ayurveda, traditional Chinese medicine, herbal remedies, acupuncture, and more. Integrative medicine combines elements of TCIM with conventional Western medicine to provide a holistic approach to healthcare.

Features

Holistic Approach

Holistic healthcare, as embraced by indigenous knowledge and TCIM, recognizes that a person's health is influenced by multiple interconnected factors, including physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects. It emphasizes the importance of balance and harmony within the individual and their environment.

Holistic approaches often involve practices such as meditation, prayer, or rituals to address mental and spiritual well-being, alongside physical remedies.

Local Adaptation

Indigenous knowledge is intimately tied to specific geographical regions and ecosystems. It reflects the deep understanding that indigenous communities have developed over generations about their local environment, climate, and resources.

The adaptation of healthcare practices to local conditions ensures that remedies are suited to the prevalent diseases, available plants and herbs, and cultural preferences of a given region.

Natural Remedies

Indigenous knowledge and TCIM place a strong emphasis on using natural resources, such as medicinal plants, herbs, minerals, and animal products, for healing purposes.

Natural remedies are often preferred due to their perceived safety and minimal side effects compared to synthetic drugs. However, they also require responsible harvesting and conservation efforts to protect biodiversity.

Cultural Significance

These practices are deeply embedded in the cultural heritage of indigenous communities. They often involve rituals, ceremonies, and storytelling that are passed down through generations.

TCIM and indigenous knowledge systems are not merely healthcare practices but integral components of cultural identity, strengthening the connection between individuals and their heritage.

Significance

Conservation of Biodiversity

Indigenous knowledge systems often include practices that promote the sustainable use of natural resources. This helps protect biodiversity by preventing over-harvesting of plants, animals, and other resources.

Indigenous communities have a deep understanding of local ecosystems and often act as stewards of their environments, helping to maintain the delicate balance of biodiversity.

Cultural Preservation



Indigenous knowledge and TCIM are intrinsically linked to the cultural heritage of communities. They represent the accumulated wisdom and practices passed down through generations.

By preserving these traditions, indigenous knowledge and TCIM play a pivotal role in maintaining the cultural identity of indigenous communities. They contribute to a sense of continuity and pride in cultural heritage.

Access to Healthcare

In many remote and underserved regions, modern healthcare facilities may be scarce or inaccessible. TCIM provides a valuable alternative, offering accessible and affordable healthcare options to communities that may otherwise have limited access to medical services.

TCIM's focus on natural remedies often makes it more accessible to communities with limited financial resources.

Holistic Health

The holistic approach of TCIM recognizes the interconnectedness of various aspects of health, including physical, mental, emotional, and environmental factors.

As modern medicine increasingly acknowledges the importance of these holistic factors in overall health, TCIM offers a complementary and integrated approach to healthcare that aligns with evolving healthcare paradigms.

Steps Taken by India

Documentation and Research

Knowledge Preservation: India has made efforts to document and preserve traditional knowledge systems such as Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani. This involves cataloguing the wealth of information on medicinal plants, treatment methods, and healthcare practices.

Scientific Validation: Research institutions and universities conduct scientific studies to validate the safety and efficacy of TCIM practices. This scientific approach helps bridge the gap between traditional knowledge and modern healthcare standards.

Regulation and Standardization

Ministry of AYUSH: The establishment of the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy) demonstrates India's commitment to regulating and standardizing TCIM practices. This ministry oversees the promotion, development, and regulation of traditional medicine systems.

Quality Control: Regulatory bodies under the Ministry of AYUSH work to ensure that TCIM products and practices meet quality and safety standards. This helps build trust in these systems among both practitioners and patients.

Integration with Modern Medicine

National Healthcare System Integration: India has integrated TCIM into its national healthcare system. This integration allows patients to access TCIM treatments alongside conventional Western medicine, providing a more comprehensive healthcare approach.



Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration: Collaborative efforts between TCIM practitioners and modern healthcare professionals facilitate knowledge exchange and enable patients to benefit from a wider range of healthcare options.

Education and Training

Qualified Workforce: India recognizes the importance of having well-trained practitioners in TCIM. Educational programs and institutions have been established to provide rigorous training, ensuring that practitioners have the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver safe and effective healthcare.

Research and Innovation: These educational institutions also contribute to research and innovation in TCIM, helping to advance the field and adapt traditional practices to contemporary healthcare needs.

Challenges

Lack of Standardization

Diverse Practices: TCIM encompasses a wide range of practices and traditions, each with its unique methods and remedies. Standardizing these practices to ensure consistent quality and safety can be complex.

Quality Control: Ensuring the quality and efficacy of TCIM products and treatments is challenging without standardized guidelines and protocols.

Intellectual Property Rights

Biopiracy Concerns: Indigenous communities often hold valuable knowledge about the use of local flora and fauna for medicinal purposes. Protecting this knowledge from exploitation and unauthorized commercialization (biopiracy) is a significant concern.

Benefit Sharing: Establishing fair mechanisms for sharing benefits with indigenous communities when their traditional knowledge leads to commercial products or drugs is an ongoing challenge.

Acceptance and Recognition

Cultural Bias: Cultural biases and prejudices may lead to scepticism or dismissal of TCIM by some members of the healthcare community, hindering its acceptance and recognition.

Lack of Awareness: Many people may not be aware of the potential benefits of TCIM or may lack access to reliable information about these practices.

Sustainability

Overharvesting: The unsustainable harvesting of medicinal plants and other natural resources for TCIM can lead to environmental degradation and the depletion of biodiversity.

Climate Change: Climate change can alter the distribution of medicinal plants and impact the effectiveness of traditional remedies, posing challenges to the sustainability of TCIM practices.

Way Forward

Collaboration

Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration involving traditional practitioners, scientists, and healthcare professionals. This collaboration can facilitate knowledge exchange, validation of practices, and the development of evidence-based treatments.



Create platforms for dialogue and information sharing between traditional healers and modern medical practitioners to promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

Sustainable Practices

Promote sustainable harvesting and cultivation of medicinal plants and other natural resources used in TCIM. This includes implementing responsible harvesting techniques and supporting community-based conservation efforts.

Encourage the adoption of organic and environmentally friendly cultivation methods to minimize the ecological impact of TCIM practices.

Education and Awareness

Develop educational programs and campaigns aimed at raising public awareness about TCIM and indigenous knowledge. These initiatives should emphasize the benefits, safety, and cultural significance of these practices.

Provide training and capacity-building opportunities for healthcare professionals, researchers, and traditional practitioners to enhance their understanding of TCIM and its integration with modern healthcare.

Protection of Indigenous Rights

Strengthen legal frameworks to protect the intellectual property rights of indigenous communities. This includes developing mechanisms for prior informed consent, benefit sharing, and preventing biopiracy.

Empower indigenous communities to participate in decision-making processes related to the commercialization of their knowledge and ensure they receive fair compensation for their contributions.

Research and Validation

Continue funding and supporting research initiatives aimed at scientifically validating TCIM practices and products. This research should follow rigorous scientific standards and include clinical trials and studies.

Collaborate with traditional practitioners to document and analyze their knowledge, practices, and treatment outcomes, incorporating both traditional wisdom and modern scientific methodologies.

GRIHA



Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment



The Indian Army's new Thal Sena Bhawan (TSB) is coming up with GRIHA-IV (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) norms.

GRIHA is an acronym for Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment. GRIHA is a Sanskrit word meaning – 'Abode'.

It is a rating tool that helps people assess the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks.

It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a 'green building'.

The rating system, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, will seek to strike a balance between the established practices and emerging concepts, both national and international.

It is developed by TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute).

This tool has been adopted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Criteria:

It assesses a building out of 34 criteria and awards points on a scale of 100.

In order to qualify for GRIHA certification, a project must achieve at least 50 points.

Certain criteria / sub-criteria are mandatory and have to be complied with for the project to be at all eligible for rating.

Project scoring

50-60 points are certified as a 1-star GRIHA rated building,

61-70 is a 2-star GRIHA rated building,

71-80 is a 3-star GRIHA rating building,

81-90 is a 4-star GRIHA rated building

91-100 is a 5-star GRIHA rated building