

TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY, KOLKATA (INDIA)

'Traditional Medicines and Globalization — The Future of Ancient Systems of Medicine,' is the focal theme for the Twelfth International Congress of Ethnopharmacology, to be held in Kolkata (India), from 17 to 19 February, 2012.

The event, intended for 'Globalizing Local Knowledge — Localizing Global Technologies', is being organized by the School of Natural Product Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata (India). The School is dedicated to the promotion of the knowledge of natural products, and the dissemination of information through its educational programs, research activities, and sharing of its experience of scientific validation of natural products, to improve healthcare. The school works on the quality, efficacy, and safety of natural products.

This is the first major congress of International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE), in India, and it will mainly focus on the revitalization of traditional medicine in all aspects, particularly Asian systems of medicine such as Ayurveda. The congress will address crucial, contemporary, and cutting edge research issues of natural products, and the revitalization necessary for their globalization. A series of state-of-the-art plenary lectures by internationally renowned scientists will be accompanied by plenary sessions focused on selected key areas.

It will cover the following topics: The history/ethnopharmacology interface of traditional medicines; ethnopharmacology, and bio-cultural diversity; biodiversity and conservations; system biology and synergy in natural products; traditional medicine, and biomedicine — common or conflicting interests? natural products from marine sources; ethno-veterinary medicine; trends in the evaluation of traditional medicine; evaluation of traditional nutraceuticals and medicines — evidence-based healthcare claims; phytochemical, pharmacological, and clinical studies on natural products; traditional medicine and neglected diseases; traditional medicine-inspired drug discovery and development; ethnopharmacological perspectives — from

traditional to modern pharmaceuticals; polypharmacology of herbal medicine; global trade in, and commercialization of, Ayurveda and other ancient systems of medicine; promotion and development of natural products with international cooperation; traditional medicines and the worldwide web; and the future of traditional medicine — multidisciplinary approaches in health sciences. Symposia and workshops will be organized on these topics.

There will be a Pre-conference Workshop on, 'Publishing your Research in Impact Journals,' in the format of active learning via direct discussions with eminent editors of different peer-reviewed international and national journals. The workshop will highlight important issues related to publishing research work in indexed journals with significant impact factors.

The congress will offer a focused networking opportunity to industry, academicians, scientists, pharmacists, and all involved in natural product research with key opinion leaders. It will also provide an ideal platform to participants for interaction, debate, and dissemination of ideas with stalwarts in this area of research, distinguished professionals, eminent scientists, and technologists, on the confluence of the modern techniques, and integrated approaches for revitalization of the ancient systems of medicine.

Organizers have appealed to all working in this area, particularly researchers, raw material traders, pharmaceutical companies, dietary and food product manufacturers, representatives of conventional and traditional healthcare systems, regulatory authorities, standard-setting organizations, contract laboratories and research organizations, NGOs, academicians, scientists, students, and healthcare professionals. Organizers expect a participation of over 1000 delegates from more than 30 countries throughout the world.

Participants are requested to submit scientific abstracts for oral or poster presentations on the main topics of the conference by 15 November, 2011, through the official website www.ise-snpsju.org. The official Language of the conference is English.

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