

## Tree Plantations of Medicinal Importance Through Social Forestry Schemes in Andhra Pradesh

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of the forest cover in the Country is depleting. This is no exception in Andhra Pradesh. Hence it is unwise to further exploit the forest wealth even for medicinal purposes. The alternative, therefore, is to domesticate the herbaceous and shrubby medicinal plants of high demand into Agriculture and to cultivate species through Social Forestry and other Afforestation schemes.

About 100 years ago, Sir D. Brandis, British Inspector General of Forests recommended raising of trees about 100 feet for fire wood and other domestic purposes, to stop the indiscriminate destruction of natural forest cover. But it took 100 years to realise the gravity of the issue and to take up the above programme on war-footing under the name

of Social Forestry. Therefore, it is not wise to postpone taking up of tree plantations of medicinal importance any further.

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