

## PROSPECTS OF MEDICINAL PLANT CULTIVATION IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

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*Arunachal Pradesh the erstwhile NEFA (North East Frontier Agency) popularly known as India's lands of rising sun is situated at the north east extremity of the Country. The land is hilly with deep valleys and steep slopes, where land sliding during rainy seasons is very common. Shifting cultivation (Jhumkheti) is another practice by local inhabitants which chiefly has influence on the destruction of medicinal wealth of the state and the state is said to be a rich source of medicinal plant wealth. Therefore, it is urgently needed to take cultivation of medicinal plants through social forestry programme, medicinal plants garden and to encourage the local inhabitants for their conservation and cultivation in different parts of the State. Accordingly some plants of high medicinal value are suggested to undertake for large scale cultivation through social forestry programme during*

*cultivation of timber trees and the plants of other uses. Some of the very important medicinal plants for undertaking in this programme are Cinnamomum tamala (Tejapatra), C. zeylanica (Tvak), Taxus baccata (Talisa), Valeriana wallichii (Tagara), Coptis teeta (Mamira).*

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