

ESTABLISHMENT OF A HERBAL GARDEN AT ST. GREGORIOS COLLEGE, KOTTARAKKARA (2016-2017)

Objectives of the project:

- To establish a herbal garden containing scientifically ordered and maintained collections of plants.
- To introduce the home herbal garden concept to students
- To educate students and local community in identifying different types of herbs and their uses including growing them in a garden
- To create knowledge and awareness of the importance of medicinal and herbal plants
- Sustainable use of medicinal plants
- To make the students understand their role in conservation of the plants.
- Supply of quality medicinal plants.

Project execution and activities undertaken:

Approximately 150 medicinal plants i.e. *Acorus calamus*, *Asparagus racemosus*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Sida cordifolia*, *Stevia rebaudiana*, *Vitex negundo* etc. (Herb, shrub, tree, and climber) have been planted in the medicinal plant garden.

- Rare medicinal plants like *Baliospermum montanum*, *Baccaurea courtallensis*, *Curculigo orchoides*, *Rauvolfia serpentina*, *Kaempferia galanga*, *Strobilanthes ciliates*, *Trichopus zeylanicus*, *Withania somnifera*, *Madhuca longifolia*, and *Plumbago zeylanica* are conserved in the garden and procured from forest areas.
- Awareness programs were conducted in collaboration with the Botany department of the college. 45 students from the Botany Department of the college has participated in the programs. The students were made aware of the importance of conservation and biodiversity management. They were involved in all the maintenance activity of the garden

Outcomes of the project:

- Conservation of rare and endemic species of Kottarakara
- Awareness activities and knowledge generation on medicinal plants among students



Medicinal plant garden at St. Gorgeous College



Plantation activities done by students



Awareness programs for students



Plantation activities done by students