

STRC NEWSLETTER

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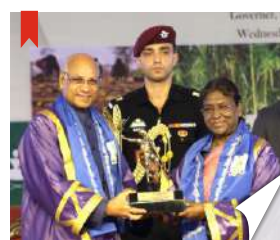
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A tribal lady selling wild vegetables in Dhanora, Gadchiroli

Technology | Enterprise | Development



Science & Technology Resource Centre Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

A centre of excellence for sustainable value creation, conceived and funded by Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission (RGSTC), Mumbai, Govt. of Maharashtra.

STRC is a registered society, 'Science & Technology Resource Centre Foundation Gadchiroli', under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (XXI of 1860).

From the CPO's Desk >>>

Responsible Tourism can be the Potential Game Changer in Boosting Rural Economy of Gadchiroli

Gadchiroli region with its vast stretches of forests, rich bio-diversity, natural landscapes, water-bodies, temples and tribal culture, has the potential to boost its rural economy significantly by creating opportunities in responsible tourism. When implemented effectively, Responsible tourism can positively trigger local economy as it thrusts on sustainability, conservation, and community involvement.

Influx of tourists, from this region or across the country brings in a lot of revenue from travel, accommodation, local food and crafts, rich cultural experience and a host of other hospitality avenues which directly contributes to income of the local communities.

Growing scope of tourism will enhance demand for local guides, travel agencies, traditional artisans, accommodation facilities in natural settings and hospitality staffs leading to creation of employment opportunities for the local workforce, reducing unemployment rates and boosting local economy. Responsible tourism often emphasizes the preservation of local culture, indigenous knowledge and traditions. This can lead to an increased interest in traditional arts, crafts, and customs, providing artisans, traditional healers and cultural practitioners with a market for their products and services.

Responsible tourism encourages conservation of natural resources and biodiversity. Preserving the unique flora and fauna of Gadchiroli can attract eco-tourists who are willing to pay a premium for sustainable and environmentally-friendly experiences. Higher footfalls of tourists can lead to investments in local infrastructure such as roads, transportation, and sanitation facilities. Improved infrastructure benefits both tourists and local residents, enhancing the overall quality of life.

Responsible tourism encourages active participation and empowerment of local communities in decision-making processes. This helps ensure that tourism benefits are distributed equitably and that local residents have a say in shaping tourism development. Relying solely on traditional economic activities like agriculture and forestry can lead to vulnerability. Eco-Tourism offers an opportunity for economic diversification for the local communities, reducing their dependency on a single industry, enhancing economic resilience and minimizing migration.

Assessing the potential Gadchiroli has with regard to the vast scope in responsible tourism, tourism related human resource and infrastructure development and hospitality services; it's essential that Govt, local communities, private sector and NGOs must align their priorities in developing exclusive packaged tourism corridors around nature and forests, rivers and reservoirs, temples and tribal culture i.e. Vainganga basin and Somnur Sangan, Chaprala and Alapalli Forests etc. through careful planning and management. Bringing right expertise on board would help create a cadre of skilled human resources in hospitality, guiding, and other tourism-related services contributing to human capital development.



Shri Ashis Gharai

Chief Program Officer & Head, Science & Technology resource Centre, Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

Conceived and funded by Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission (RGSTC), Mumbai, Government of Maharashtra, Science & Technology Resource Centre (STRC) is an autonomous institute established in concurrence with Gondwana University, Gadchiroli. STRC is entrusted with generating livelihood opportunities by deploying appropriate science and technology, particularly for the under-served tribal communities of the Gadchiroli region since 2014. As a centre of excellence for sustainable value creation, STRC is leveraging local resources, relevant knowledge and appropriate technologies for human capacity development. STRC acts as a catalyst to science and technology based development of the region and as a bridge between knowledge activities of the University and enhanced livelihoods in the neighborhood.

Unleashing the Potential of Science and Technology based Development through Small Grant Research Programmes for Gadchiroli and Chandrapur Region

Preserving natural resources, conserving biodiversity, safeguarding traditional knowledge, and honouring tribal cultures are not just noble aspirations, but essential components of sustainable development. Gadchiroli and Chandrapur region is blessed with abundant natural wealth and a rich cultural heritage, holds immense potential for scientific exploration and innovative solutions. In this pursuit, Science and Resource Technology Center (STRC) has taken the lead by initiating the STRC Assistance for S & T Application Scheme, which serves as a catalyst for short-term small grants (maximum up to 6 months and 1.0 Lakh) scientific research projects. Following are key aspects of the scheme;



Swapnil Girade

Scientific Officer,
Science & Technology Resource Centre,
Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

Empowering Faculties, Independent Researchers, NGOs, PhD Scholars, and Students

The Research schemes serve as a stepping stone for academics, researchers, and students to embark on a journey for innovative studies and make meaningful contributions to society. It empowers researchers to explore new ideas, conduct experiments, and present their findings, nurturing a culture of research-driven development.

Exploring the Untapped Potential

Small research grants offer an opportunity to delve into niche areas, shedding light on the intricacies of the region's ecology, biodiversity, and traditional practices. By encouraging scientific exploration, these schemes can uncover hidden gems of knowledge that may have practical applications in areas such as forest and livelihood management, aquaculture, and bamboo-based livelihood initiatives.

Generating Scope for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

This scheme also presents with a great scope for generating IPRs under individual projects. Whether it's a Low-Cost Tool, a technology, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or a unique and significant finding as an outcome of a research, there is ample opportunities for generating IPRs.

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Precursor to Development and Larger Projects

These short-term studies often act as proof-of-concepts, validating the viability of larger projects aimed at sustainable development in the region. Positive findings from these initial studies encourage policymakers, donors, and other stakeholders to invest in comprehensive projects that can bring lasting positive change to the communities in Gadchiroli and Chandrapur.

This scheme has the potential to act as a catalyst for unlocking the region's potential through science and technology-based short-term studies. By empowering various stakeholders and supporting projects, STRC paves the way for larger development initiatives and a brighter, more sustainable future for the people of the region. As more such programs are planned, the pathway to science and technology-based regional development becomes clearer and more promising.

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Edible Wild Vegetables as Potential Source of Nutritious Food for the Forest Dependent Tribes in Gadchiroli

Forest dependent tribal communities for generations have shared a symbiotic relationship with nature. The symbiotic relationship between forests and forest-dependent tribal communities is a crucial aspect of sustainable living and conservation. Forest-dependent tribal communities have traditionally relied on forests for various resources such as food, water, medicine, shelter, and fuel. They practice sustainable harvesting techniques, ensuring the regeneration of resources for future generations and their knowledge of the forest and its biodiversity allows them to utilize resources in a manner that minimizes environmental impact.

Amongst multiple eco-system services of the forests, the symbiotic co-existence offers is source of food and nutrition and one such important source of food for the forest dependent tribal communities in the Gadchiroli region is wild vegetables. Wild vegetables are found in forested patches, untamed hilly terrains, farmland margins, arid plains, and wastelands across Gadchiroli especially during monsoon and grow spontaneously without cultivation or special attention. The wide varieties of wild vegetables available in this region, offers dietary variations as well as nutritional benefits, as they rich in proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals as well as other vital biochemicals, well known for their nutritional worth. Local tribal consume these vegetables as food and also for additional income by selling them at local markets or make-shift road-side stalls.

Selected Wild Edible Vegetables (Whole Plant / Plant Parts) of Gadchiroli during Monsoon

S. N.	Wild Vegetables (Botanical Name)	Local Name	Edible Plant Parts
1.	<i>Allmania nodiflora</i> (L) R.	Dhan Bhaji	Leaf
2.	<i>Alternanthera paronychioides</i> St. Hil. Voy.	Patur Bhaji	Leaf
3.	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> (L) Hook.	Khaparkhuti	Leaf
4.	<i>Cassia tora</i> Sensu Baker	Tarota	Leaf
5.	<i>Glinus oppositifolius</i> (L) A. DC.	Kadu Bhaji	Leaf
6.	<i>Oxalis psittacorum</i> (Willd.)	Haratfari	Leaf
7.	<i>Smilax zeylanica</i> L	Sherdire	Tendrils



Special Report >>>

Hon'ble President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu's Gracious Presence at Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, graced and addressed the 10th convocation of Gondwana University, Gadchiroli on Wednesday, 5th July 2023. The President also laid the Foundation Stone of the proposed Administrative Building at University's Adapali Campus.

Shri Ramesh Bais, Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor of Universities, Maharashtra State, and Shri Eknath Sinde, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra State, accompanied the President on the occasion. Eminent central / state leaders and dignitaries; Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister, Road Transport & Highways, Government of India, Shri Hansraj Ahir, Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Backward Classes, Government of India, Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra State, Shri Sudhir Mungantiwar, Hon'ble Minister, Forests, Cultural Affairs & Fish Business, Government of Maharashtra, Dr. Vijaykumar Gavit, Hon'ble Minister, Tribal Development, Government of Maharashtra, Shri Chandrakant Dada Patil, Hon'ble Minister, Higher & Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra, amongst other were present at the event.

During her presidential address, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, appreciated Gondwana University's effort in providing new opportunities to tribal and underprivileged students of the region and underlined introduction of unique courses of experiential learning such as Bamboo Craft and Forest Management. She also expressed her hope that more and more girl students will be inspired to excel in academics and associated fields.



What's Making News >>>



STRC's participation at the 'Vidarbh Parikshetra ke Deshak Chikitsak : Vidya Pradarshan' A Seminar, Exhibition cum Consultation Workshop

Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Wardha and Tribal Research & Training Institute, Pune jointly organized a seminar, exhibition cum consultation workshop 'Vidarbh Parikshetra ke Deshak Chikitsak: Vidya Pradarshan' during 15th - 16th July 2023 at Shyamprasad Mukharji Bhavan, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Wardha. The grand event was inaugurated by Dr. Satish Gogulwar, Founder, Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi (AAA).

Science & Technology Resource Centre (STRC), Gondwana University Gadchiroli was invited to participate at the prestigious event along with a team of Traditional Healers associated with the STRC Vaidya Chikitsalay.



Exposure Visit of Young Medicos from Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik

An academic exposure program, for a young group of students from Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik, was hosted by Gondwana University Gadchiroli from 19th June 2023 to 3rd July 2023. This two-week exposure program was organized as part of their learning goal (Health Education & Research Methodology) in clinical research.

During the period, amongst host of events and field exposures organized by Gondwana University

Gadchiroli, the students visited STRC Vaidya Chikitsalaya to gain first-hand knowledge about the indigenous medicinal knowledge and traditional healing practices adopted by local folk healers. The group of students were also exposed to the 'Herbal Cluster' in Porla, Gadchiroli. At the end of the 14-day exposure, students unanimously shared their enriching experience and were felicitated with STRC developed Bamboo Flag Badges by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Gondwana University Gadchiroli.



'Faculty Development Program- Tribal Pride Journey'; An Initiative of Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy, Pune

A group of Principals and Senior Faculties from various colleges across Maharashtra as part of the Tribal Pride Journey under the Faculty Development Program, visited Gondwana University Gadchiroli on 21st July 2023. During the day-long event at the University, a visit to Science and Technology Resource Centre (STRC) was organized. Visiting faculties were briefed about STRC's efforts in science and technology centric development of the region. Model Production Unit of STRC was a special attraction for the visiting faculties as they appreciated the quality and variety of bamboo products developed by local artisans.





गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान संसाधन केंद्र

वैद्य चिकित्सालय

पारंपारिक उपचारांना प्रोत्साहन देणारा अभिनव उपक्रम

पारंपारिक उपचार पद्धतींना प्रोत्साहन देणे, पारंपारिक वैदुंना ओळख निर्माण करून देणे व स्वदेशी औषधी ज्ञानाचा / उपचारांचा लाभ अनेक लोकांना घेता येईल या दृष्टीकोनातून विज्ञान व तंत्रज्ञान संसाधन केंद्र, गोंडवाना विद्यापीठ, गडचिरोली यांच्या सहकार्याने “वैद्य चिकित्सालय” गोंडवाना विद्यापीठाच्या परिसरात सुरु करण्यात आले आहे.

वैद्य चिकित्सालयाची वैशिष्ट्ये



पारंपारिक / आयुर्वेदिक / प्राचीन औषधोपचार पद्धतीद्वारे अनेक रोगाचे निदान



रोग विषयतज्ञ / पारंपारिक वैद्यराज यांच्या मार्गदर्शनाखाली आयुर्वेदिक उपचार



बी.पी. / शुगर / बद्धकोष्ठता / सांधेदुखी / लठ्ठपणा / अशक्तपणा / पाठदुखी / गुडघेदुखी / मायग्रेन / गॅस / ऑसिडिटी / दमा / थायरॉइड / फॅटी लिव्हर / किडनी समस्या / त्वचेची समस्या या सारख्या अनेक आजारांवर नैसर्गिक / आयुर्वेदिक उपचार

वैद्य चिकित्सालयाची वेळ

सुरुवातीस प्रायोगिक तत्वावर आठवड्यातून प्रत्येक बुधवार व शुक्रवारला सकाळी ११ ते दुपारी ०२ वाजेपर्यंत चालू असेल.

टिप्पणी: सदर चिकित्सा उपक्रम वैद्य व उपचार घेणाऱ्या दोघांतील बाब असणार आहे, त्यात STRC-GUG यांचा काहीही थेट हस्तक्षेप राहणार नाही.

