

Barkatullah University Bhopal

Institutional Distinctiveness

Spread in 380 acres of land of BU is committed to achieve greenery across the entire campus. More than 100 varieties of rare plants having aesthetic and medicinal properties can be seen in the lush green campus of BU. To sustain and maintain the green cover Plantation drive is carried out at periodic intervals. The University is making all attempts to make the campus plastic free. Furthermore, there are 15 earthen ponds in the campus for retaining rain water for about three to nine months. In the same continuation a model of roof top harvesting system has been installed in the department of Zoology and Applied Aquaculture. Conservation of endangered flora and fauna like *Flucortia Indica* and *Gmlina Arborea* is attempted by the university. For reducing water footprints attempt is made to print the documents on both side of the paper. All the important circulars and information are made available on e mail to reduce paper wastage. Recently, on the initiative of Alumni of Microbiology department at a pilot scale a vermicomposting unit of two tons capacity has been started. Biodegradable waste is collected from the household and disposed here for vermicomposting.

Recently, WHO (World Health Organization) estimated that 80 percent of people worldwide rely on herbal medicines for some aspect of their primary health care needs. According to WHO, around 21,000 plant species have the potential for being used as medicinal plants.

As per data available over three-quarters of the world population relies mainly on plants and plant extracts for their health care needs. More than 30% of the entire plant species, at one time or other was used for medicinal purposes. It has been estimated, that in developed countries such as United States, plant drugs constitute as much as 25% of the total drugs, while in fast developing countries such as India and China, the contribution is as much as 80%. Thus, the economic importance of medicinal plants is much more to countries such as India than to rest of the world. These countries provide two third of the plants used in modern system of medicine and the health care system of rural population depend on indigenous systems of medicine.

Medicinal Plants in BU Campus:

BU Campus is very rich in its floral and faunal biodiversity. About 80 species of trees and more than 75 species of seasonal and perennial herbs have been documented from the campus. Most of them are of medicinal importance and need proper documentation and protection in the campus.

CHARAK VANAUSHADHI UDYAN

In order to fulfil these objectives a repository has been established in the campus named after *Charak*, a famous ancient sage who is known for his wisdom of ancient health systems. The repository has been planted with 26 species of medicinal plants which have been well documented and used for various diseases. An area of about 5 acres has been designated for this purpose. More species are to be planted in this *Udyan* in next phase.

This repository will be used for research and studies in the area. This will be demonstrated under the State Biodiversity Board activity and also can be nominated in the British Botanical garden. This activity will earn Laurels for the University.

