

FACTORS INFLUENCING CONSERVATION OF INDIGENOUS TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE (ITKs) AMONG TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

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ABSTRACT

The term Indigenous Technical Knowledge is used as “Local Knowledge” and “Traditional Knowledge” interchangeably. It is the dynamic knowledge or body of wisdom of the local people Brahma (2004). Indigenous Technical knowledge is the specific or the special knowledge of the ethno or the rural communities which is transmitted from one generation to the other by various means. Blending the traditional knowledge with the recent scientific advances paves way for incremental development in the field of Agriculture and the allied sciences. Indigenous technical knowledge is the local traditional knowledge that people have gained through inheritance in the form of creativity, innovation and skill. The tribals are especially having a set of trained practices of this ITK which helps them in their day to day life. ITK refers to knowledge about the local environment by the people and the communities.

This manuscript is to study the relationship between the social profile characteristics and the participation of the tribals in documentation and conservation of the ITKs among the tribal communities in the Western Ghats. The four important variables namely educational status, Farming experience, decision making behaviour, Progressiveness paved the influence towards participation of the tribals on documentation and conservation of the ITKs.

KEYWORDS: Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITK), Participation, Tribals

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