

Development and the Marginalization of Traditional Knowledge and Societies in High Hills of Central Himalaya

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ABSTRACT The traditional knowledge acquired on the medicinal herbs and other plants of high altitude, reveal the broad exposure of natural resources and its utilization developed by the transhumant society, where resources are scarce, but this traditional specializations by the tribals known as "Bhotiyas" are breaking down. The impact of modernization and development on this system of cure, and the institutional attitude towards this knowledge has been quite discouraging. This paper tries to document the traditional knowledge of some important herbs in their society, and the impact of development on such knowledge systems. How infrastructural development and processes of commercialization have denied the access of these high lenders to their traditional resource base, and their knowledge has been put to commercial use in certain medicines without any acknowledgement to them.