

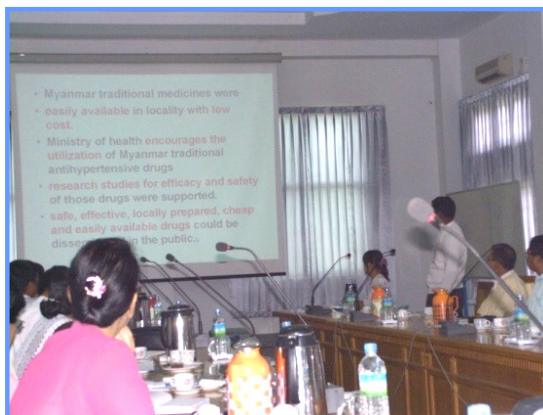
## Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar)

Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar) has been established near *Ani Sa Khan* Airport of Pyin Oo Lwin township since March 2001. Under the guidance of the Ministry of Health, it is actively involved in research studies on identification of novel medicinal plants for treatment of six major diseases, namely tuberculosis, malaria, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, diarrhea and dysentery diseases. Medicinal plants of rare species are collected from states and regions and grown in the herbal gardens of the department. Up to now, 518 species of medicinal plants are grown and maintained.

Ten research units and eight supporting units are currently functioning in the department. Research areas covered by these units included: reproductive health studies, monitoring of therapeutic efficacy of anti-malarials, operational research on performance of various categories of health staff, assessment of efficacy and side effects of medicinal plants for treatment of diabetes mellitus, hypertension and diarrhea,



seasonal prevalence of malaria vectors and health services utilization status by minor ethnic groups. The studies aim to identify the solutions for problems encountered in implementation of various health activities in the country, particularly in Upper Myanmar.



Research studies are generally formulated and conducted in collaboration with health staff of other departments under the Ministry of Health as well as with renowned international health institutions. Research findings are disseminated to the concerned national programmes of the department of health. Research seminars,