

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI,
SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.18
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST DECEMBER, 2015
TAPPING FULL POTENTIAL OF COUNTRY'S HERBAL REMEDIES**

***18. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:**

Will the Minister of **AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that this year's Nobel Prize in medicine has focused international attention on traditional medicine;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that we are still not able to tap the full potential of our herbal remedies;
- (c) what are the reasons due to which we have not been able to apply scientific techniques to test efficacy of our ancient scriptures and develop medicines; and
- (d) what efforts Ayush Ministry is making to develop herb-based medicines through institutionalised programmes?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND
HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)**

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 18* FOR 01ST DECEMBER, 2015**

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) Multi-dimensional Research and Development activities have been taken up by the scientific institutions of the country to tap the potential of the herbal remedies including Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha systems. Considerable progress has been made in this regard in the form of development of new formulations, scientific publications and award of patents. So far, 26 patents have been granted to Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani Research Councils and 56 patents have been granted to the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) for herbal formulations and compositions. Many herbal remedies have also been developed by CSIR to address issues relating to tuberculosis, gastrointestinal side effects, prostate megaly, improving memory, diabetes, improving immune system, acute phase inflammatory response etc..

Research Councils are engaged in validation studies and safety & efficacy evaluation of the remedies described in the authoritative books. In these studies, integrated protocols involving both traditional and modern scientific parameters are used to evaluate the efficacy of medicinal formulations of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani systems.

(d) Government of India has set up Research Councils for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy with a network of 80 field units spread across the country to undertake research and development and other scientific activities inter-alia in the area of herbal medicines. A central sector scheme of Extra-Mural Research has also been implemented to promote and support scientific exploration of AYUSH interventions and remedies in various medical and other R&D institutions.