

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 8
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2018**

SPECIAL SCHEME FOR MEDICINAL HERBS

8. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether any special scheme has been launched for the production and processing of medicinal herbs in the country and, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to connect the farmers with related research; and
- (c) whether skill development is being carried out in this sector and, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, presently, the Ministry of AYUSH is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) under which there is a component on 'Medicinal Plants' which primarily aimed at supporting cultivation of medicinal plants on farmer's land with backward linkages through establishment of nurseries for supply of quality planting material and forward linkages for post-harvest management, processing, marketing infrastructure etc. The cultivation of medicinal plants is supported by providing subsidy @ 30%, 50% and 75% of cost of cultivation to farmers through the identified implementing agency of concerned states throughout the country.

(b): Yes, the NMPB, Ministry of AYUSH has developed Agro-techniques of 104 medicinal plants species through different research institutions of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and other premier research organizations in the country which are published in three volumes. To disseminate Agro-techniques of these medicinal plants for the benefit of farmers, the NMPB from time to time organize awareness, training programmes/ workshops/ conference/ Arogya fairs etc. in different parts of the country and also distributes pamphlets, books on agro-technology during these events.

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In addition, different Institutes under ICAR are also engaged in creating awareness about the technologies through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). Benefits of successful experiments conducted by the research institutions reach the farmers at the grassroot level through scientists-farmers interaction also which take place in the institutes or at the farmers' fields. The farmers are also apprised by CSIR about the new research through trainings, awareness camps and interactive meets and guides on cultivation, processing and marketing aspects of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (MAPs) to group of farmers on regular basis.

(c): The NMPB, Ministry of AYUSH through Directorate of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research (DMAPR), Anand, Gujarat has developed a Training Module and Facilitation Guide to technically train the resource persons / farmers about Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs) for medicinal plants. In this regard, total 50 Master Trainers have been trained by DMAPR to impart training for the skill development of farmers.