

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1795
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Western Regional Research Centre of Botanical Survey of India

1795. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Regional Office of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) at Pune is a major research centre where very old species of flora and fauna of the western part of the country has been preserved;
- (b) whether the Centre is rich in various plant varieties of species found in Goa, Karnataka and Kerala;
- (c) the research facilities which are available here and the amount of annual grant or expenditure incurred during the last three years; and
- (d) whether any expansion of this Centre is also planned in near future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Western Regional Centre of Botanical Survey of India (BSI) located at Pune is a major research centre and preserves vast collections of old and recent specimens of plants collected from western parts of the country. However, the centre does not preserve any faunal specimen.

The centre has rich collections of plant varieties found in Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra. The plant varieties found in Kerala are, however, preserved at Southern Regional Centre of BSI at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

The research facilities available at BSI, Western Regional Centre, Pune are herbarium for taxonomic study, botanic garden for conservation, museum for general public awareness, library, Scanning Electron Microscopy section for study of micro morphograph, Mycological Research Laboratory, Molecular Laboratory and Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory.

The expenditure incurred in respect of the centre during last three years is as follows:

S.No.	Financial Year	Expenditure
i.	2020-21	Rs.3,35,50,000/-
ii.	2021-22	Rs.4,10,30,000/-
iii.	2022-23 (upto February 2023)	Rs.4,40,50,000/-