

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2097
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/08/2023**

“SPECIAL PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE HERBAL CULTIVATION”

2097. DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of **AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to bring any special programme to promote herbal cultivation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether this could be possible in future?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF AYUSH
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

(a) & (b) No, Sir. However, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India had implemented Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) to promote the cultivation of medicinal plants from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21. Under its ‘Medicinal Plants’ component, market driven cultivation of 140 prioritized medicinal plants in identified clusters/zones was supported and implemented in a mission mode through selected State Implementing Agencies throughout the country. As per the scheme guidelines, the support was provided for:

- (i) Cultivation of prioritized medicinal plants on farmer’s land.
- (ii) Establishment of nurseries with backward linkages for raising and supply of quality planting material.
- (iii) Post-harvest management with forwarding linkages.
- (iv) Primary processing, marketing infrastructure etc.

Presently, National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India is implementing Central Sector Scheme on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” wherein following activities are supported:

- (i) In-situ conservation / Ex-situ conservation.
- (ii) Livelihood linkages with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) / Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- (iii) IEC activities like Training / workshops / Seminars/ Conferences etc.
- (iv) Research & Development.
- (v) Promotion, marketing and trade of medicinal plants produce.
- (vi) Establishment of nurseries to raise the planting material.
- (vii) Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated component).

(c) Recently, NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has included an Integrated Component i.e. 'Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants' in current Central Sector Scheme on "Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants". Under the Integrated Component, there is a provision for financial assistance for following activities:

- (i) Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material for Medicinal Plants
- (ii) Information Education Communication (IEC) activities
- (iii) Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing
- (iv) Quality Testing and Certification.
