

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1773
ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2026

**ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEDICINAL PLANT CLUSTERS IN
TAMIL NADU**

1773. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the implementation of programmes for conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants under the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB);
- (b) the details of assistance provided to farmers in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to establish additional medicinal plant clusters in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the steps taken to promote value addition, processing and exports of medicinal plants?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH

(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) Yes.

The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants. Implementation of various programme including conservation programme under the above said scheme have been evaluated by Third Party Evaluation Agency during the financial year 2025-26. As per the findings of the Evaluation Agency, the Conservation projects have successfully protected and restored rare and threatened species through in-situ and ex-situ measures, while also improving local biodiversity and providing income to forest communities.

Besides this, NMPB had implemented the Medicinal Plants Component under the National Ayush Mission (NAM) Scheme from F.Y. 2015-16 to 2020-21, wherein, cultivation

of medicinal plants was promoted in a mission mode. A mid-term evaluation of the NAM Scheme, including the Medicinal Plants Component, was conducted by an independent third-party agency during F.Y. 2018-19. The evaluation findings indicated that the cultivation activities had been implemented successfully.

(b) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during XII Plan w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew and cocoa. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH scheme.

Under MIDH scheme, financial assistance is provided to the farmers/beneficiaries for cultivation of short duration medicinal plants i.e. non-perennial in nature and non-tree species. Details of cost norms alongwith the pattern of assistance is given at **Annexure – I**.

During the period 2018–2025, the NMPB–RCFC (Southern Region) extended support to 08 farmer clusters across Tamil Nadu for the production of over Rs. 3.15 lakh high-quality planting materials (QPMs) representing 25 medicinal plant species. These planting materials were effectively cultivated in the farmers’ fields and subsequently distributed to additional beneficiaries throughout State. The Regional-cum-Facilitation Centre -Southern Region (RCFC SR) supports this activity in the State for production of QPMs of suitable medicinal plants by having farmers’ clusters of the State as partners and expand medicinal plants cultivation in the State.

As per the information received from department of horticulture and plantation crops, Tamil Nadu, the Medicinal Plants cultivation has been promoted in 680 hectares with in the financial expenditure of Rs. 2.65 crore during the F.Y. 2024-25 under State Horticulture Development Scheme. The detail of Assistance given for the crops is placed at **Annexure-II**.

(c) No, presently, there is no scheme in NMPB for cultivation of Medicinal Plants. However, NMPB is implementing Central Sector Scheme (CSS) on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” throughout the country. The scheme is aimed at providing project based support for the different activities. The Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated Component) is one of the component of CSS scheme wherein following activities are being supported:

- Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material to raise the planting material of medicinal plants for cultivation.
- Information Education Communication (IEC) activities to aware the farmers.

- Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing to increase the marketability of the medicinal plants, adding value to the produce, increasing profitability and reducing losses.
- Quality Testing and Certification of raw material.

However, NMPB has approved a proposal entitled as “Forward and Backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated component)” to the Tamil Nadu Agriculture university for establishment of nurseries to raise the planting material for distribution to the farmers and infrastructure for post harvest management during the F.Y. 2024-25.

(d) The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush is implementing “Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” throughout the country. Under the scheme, the project-based support is provided for following activities:

- i. Livelihood linkages with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) for value addition and livelihood generation in forest areas / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) / Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- ii. IEC activities like Training / workshops / Seminars/ Conferences etc.
- iii. Research & Development.
- iv. Promotion of marketing and trade of medicinal plants produce.
- v. Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants.

Annexure- I**Detail of subsidy amount of MIDH scheme of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare:**

Name of the Component	Cost Norms	Pattern of Assistance
Medicinal Plants (Mulethi, Shatavari, Kalihari, ShwetMusali, Guggule, Manjishtha, Kutki, Atees, Jatamansi, Ashwagandha, Brahmi, Tulsi, Vidarikand, Pippali, Chirata, Pushkarmool)	Rs. 1.50 Lakh/ha	Assistance @ 40% in general areas for an area upto 2 hectare on pro rata basis for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 2 instalments of 60:40 In the case of NE & Himalayan States, Scheduled areas including TSP (Tribal Sub Plan) areas, vibrant villages, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, assistance will be @ 50% for an area upto 2 ha. on pro rata basis.

Annexure- II

Detail of assistance given to the medicinal crops by Department of Horticulture and plantation crops, Tamil Nadu:

Sr. No.	Name of Medicinal Plant for which assistance was given	Common Name	Amount per hectare (in Rs.)
1.	<i>Coleus barbatus</i>	Coleus	24,000
2.	<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Gloriosa	1,00,000
3.	<i>Cassia angustifolia</i>	Senna	12,500
4.	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Periwinkle	13,000
5.	<i>Annona muricata</i>	Soursop	18,000