

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 104
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2017**

MEDICINAL PLANTS

**104. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:
PROF. SAUGATA ROY:
SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify and document all medicinal/aromatic plants in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to formulate a national policy of medicinal and aromatic plants in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government for preservation, identification, documentation, cultivation and commercial use of such plants along with the funds approved, allocated and utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that in many backward regions the tribals use these herbs as indigenous medicines for their treatment; and
- (e) if so, whether the Government proposes to open Medical Research Training Centres in these backward areas 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, the Botanical Survey of India (BSI), an organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change mandated for survey of plant diversity of the country, its documentation at National, Regional, State and Ecosystem level and it has been carrying out survey and documentation of all plant resources of the country including medicinal/aromatic plants.

Contd.....

As per BSI, it is estimated that more than 8000 species of medicinal/aromatic plants are found in the country.

(b): Yes, National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH has initiated the work related to formulation of a National Policy of Medicinal Plants. In this regard, the NMPB in collaboration with Federation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Stakeholders (FEDMAPS), New Delhi had organized an 'International Symposium on Drafting a National Policy of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants of India' on 19-20 January, 2017 at New Delhi. The outcome of said symposium was received as a draft structure of 'National Policy Document of Medicinal Plants' and to further examine the draft structure of 'National Policy Document of Medicinal Plants', the NMPB had also organized one day review meeting on 22nd November 2017.

(c): For conservation / preservation, identification and documentation, cultivation and commercial use of medicinal plants in the country, presently the Ministry of AYUSH is implementing the following schemes:

(i) Central Sector Scheme on "Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants" under which project based support is provided for survey, inventorization, in-situ / ex-situ conservation, establishment of herbal gardens, linkage with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and Research & Development etc.

(ii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) under which the "Medicinal Plants" component is aimed at supporting large scale cultivation of medicinal plants on private land and the financial assistance in this regard is provided as subsidy to farmers throughout the country. Prior to NAM, the cultivation of medicinal plants has been supported under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "National Mission on Medicinal Plants" of NMPB implemented between 2008-09 to 2014-15.

The funds allocated and expenditure incurred under the above schemes during each of the last three years is at **Annexure**.

In addition, different research councils of Ministry of AYUSH viz. Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Science (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) and Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) are also involved in conservation / preservation, identification and documentation of medicinal plants. These research councils are maintaining the germplasm of important medicinal plants in Herbal Gardens and carrying out identification and documentation and preservation of herbarium of medicinal plants.

(d) & (e): Yes, the Government is aware that in many backward regions the tribals use herbs as indigenous medicines for their treatment and the research councils of Ministry of AYUSH are documenting ethno-medical claims from these areas.

However, there is no such proposal under Ministry of AYUSH to open Medical Research Training Centres.

Annexure

The funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Central Sector Scheme on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” and Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme of “National Mission on Medicinal Plants” of NMPB during last three years.

(Rs. In lakh)

Name of the Scheme	Year	Funds Allocated	Expenditure Incurred
Central Sector Scheme on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants”	2014-15	6421.00	5811.26
	2015-16	6309.00	5294.98
	2016-17	6426.00	4931.84
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM)	2014-15*	4566.93	4566.93
	2015-16	4593.56	2779.83
	2016-17	7012.66	4287.09

* The funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of “National Mission on Medicinal Plants”