

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4773
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD MARCH, 2018**

RESEARCH WORK ON MEDICINAL PLANTS

4773. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any research work regarding Genetic Modification of the medicinal plants which are beneficial in curing various incurable diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the Government has considered to start research work on medicinal plants to benefit the people suffering from non-availability of proper medicines; and
- (d) 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)&(b): As per the information received from Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, recently, the DBT has initiated a project on chloroplast metabolic engineering of *Artemisia annua* plant for enhancing artemisinin (anti-malarial drug) biosynthesis and another project on biosynthesis of high-value sesquiterpene(s) such as Viridiflorol/Globulol and its overproduction in *Mentha piperita*. The work on gene transfer and expression system studies of key Santalol pathway genes in Sandalwood cell culture system has also been undertaken.

(c)&(d): Does not arise.

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