

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3020**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2018

**MEDICINAL HERBS IN FOREST AREAS**

†3020. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bio silk, ved amvala, karanj, saal seed, tamarind, mahua, etc. found in the forest areas of Jharkhand are abundant with medical herbs and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the indigenous enterprises related to these are the basis of self-employment and self-reliance of the tribal people; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide employment to the tribal youth by providing training, incentives, augmentation and marketing network of the indigenous talent and traditional enterprises related to these products and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI JASWANTSINH BHABHOR)

- (a) Yes, Madam. There is abundance of medicinal herbs in the forest areas of Jharkhand and National Medicinal Plants Board under the Ministry of AYUSH, under its 'Central Sector Scheme on Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants' has provided project based support for resource augmentation of medicinal plants of herbs, shrubs, trees category viz. Amla, Arjun, Arni, Asoka, Bahera, Chatwan, Chironji, Ghritkumari, Harar, Kalihari, Kalmegh, Karanj, Malkangni, Salai, Satawar, Shyonak, etc.
- (b) Activities relating to collection, processing and marketing of forest produce form a significant part of self-employment and self-reliance of tribal people living in these areas.
- (c) TRIFED, as part of its marketing development activities for minor forest produce is engaged in skill up gradation and capacity building of MFP gatherers with the objective of improving their income by way of organizing training on non-destructive harvesting, primary processing, value addition and marketing of selected MFPs like Mahua Flower, Lac, Donna Pattal, Hill Grass, Tamarind, Amla, Honey, Gum Karaya, Bamboo. The training process includes imparting training to beneficiaries about scientific collection, harvesting, storage, grading techniques etc. so that beneficiaries are able to harvest higher quantities and better quality items on sustainable basis in an eco-friendly manner, conversion of the produce into marketable products and providing them with simple tool kits to undertake production also wherever required. Inputs are also provided for developing marketing linkages.

During the period from 2006-07 to 2017-18, training has been imparted to 6201 MFP Gatherers in the state of Jharkhand for livelihood generation.

\*\*\*\*\*