

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.705  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**RESEARCH TO DEVELOP MEDICINES FROM NATURAL EXTRACTS**

**705. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is conducting any activity to encourage research in phytotherapy to develop medicines from natural extracts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Ministry is engaging in any activity to encourage research on traditional medicine, cow urine etc. to be published in peer-reviewed journals;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,  
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY  
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)**

(a): Yes, the Central Councils of Research under the Ministry namely, Central Council for Research in Ayurveda (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) & Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) conduct such type of research, though the name phytotherapy is not used in some such instances. In addition, the National Institute of Traditional Medicine (NITM), Belagavi which is a unit of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), under Department of Health Research is evaluating selected traditional practices for their safety and efficacy, part of which is various plants extracts.

- (b): Details are attached at [Annexure](#)
- (c): Not Applicable

Contd.....

(d): Yes.

(e): Cow urine (Pasu moothiram) is used by Central Council for Research in Siddha(CCRS) an autonomous Council under Ministry of AYUSH, in the purification methods and various processing techniques of raw drugs for the preparations of Siddha medicines. Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences(CCRAS) an autonomous Council under Ministry of AYUSH is engaged with the research activities for some formulations, which involves cow urine as a part of drug preparation. The Council has also conducted a scientific study (safety/ toxicity and biological activity) on Panchgavya Ghrita an Ayurvedic formulation in which Cow urine is one of the ingredients. These research outcomes are being published in peer-reviewed journals.

(f): Not Applicable.

.....

Details of Research Activities

**CCRAS:** The Council has undertaken the development of new coded formulations based on leads from classical texts and local health traditions. The 13 such coded formulations are at different phases of drug development.

**CCRUM:** The Council has undertaken various activities on phytotherapy viz., authentication of medicinal plants, development of quality standards, isolation of phyto-constituents, toxicological & pharmacological studies of single plants as well as compound formulations.

**CCRS:** Activities in this regard include: -

1. Anti-hyperlipidemic activity of D5 choornam.
2. Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Chembu (copper) in 'Chembu containing Plants' – A Scientific validation of Siddha claim.
3. Nephroprotective Effect of *Sphaeranthus amarathoides* Burm. f. (Sivakaranthai) against Gentamycin induced nephrotoxicity in Rats.
4. Isolation of chemical marker from selected plants used in Reproductive and Child Health.
5. Analysis of inorganic composition of selected plants used in Siddha system.
6. Pre-clinical safety and efficacy of Nuna kadugu (internal medicine) and Nuna thailam (external medicine) in venpadai (Vitiligo)
7. Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Lead in 'Lead containing Plants' – A Scientific validation of Siddha claim.
8. Scientific validation of *Serankottai* (*Semecarpus anacardium*) before and after purification in Siddha system of medicine
9. Sarakku vaippu of a poly herbal formulation with Abini-like properties by Siddha methodology of Konganarar

**ICMR:** The preliminary evaluations of various extracts from *Alophylus cobbe* L., *Achyranthes coynei* Santapau, *Glycine max* L., *Piper nigrum*, *Nothapodytes nimmoniana*, *Achyranthes aspera*, *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn, *Holoptelea integrifolia* Roxb., *Vinca pusilla* Murr., *Chloroxylon swietenia* DC, *Piper trichostachyon*, *Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) R.Br., *Saraca asoca*, *Theobroma cocoa*, *Andrographis paniculata*, *Withania somnifera* Dun., *Sauropus androgynus* etc. have been carried out.