

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2603  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020)**

**NEW VARIETY OF POPPY PLANT**

**2603. SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:**

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री  
**be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Scientists working in Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow have developed a disease resistant variety of poppy plant having by-produce like straws and seeds that has been patented in America;**
- (b) if so, the details of its utilization along with the specific features of the new plant;**
- (c) whether the benefits coming through the American Patent are preserved for this plant; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री; विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री; तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री  
(डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन)

- (a) Yes Sir. CSIR - Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow has developed a disease resistant variety of poppy and Patent Grant date is March 18, 2003 vide US Patent No.: US6, 534,696 B1.**
- (b) Rakshit is resistant to downy mildew (disease rating 1.2 on 0-9 scale), and tolerant to both damping off and collar rot diseases as compared to all the released varieties (Sanchita, Vivek, Shubhra, Jawahar-16, Shyama & Shweta Broad) which are susceptible or**

**highly susceptible to all the above mentioned diseases. Leaf margins of the new variety Rakshit are medium fringed as compared to medium broad leaf margins of Sanchita, Vivek, Jawahar-16, Shyama & Shweta Broad. The variety Rakshit also recorded significantly high seed and straw yield (12.59 and 9.55 q/ha, respectively as compared to 9.09 and 7.89 q/ha in Shubhra).**

- (c) Benefits of the patent have been secured for a period of 20 years from the date of filing (29.03.2000).**
- (d) The variety is being used in breeding programs for the development of more high yielding varieties of opium poppy resistant to important diseases.**

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