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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2822 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH March, 2021

NATIONAL MEDICINAL PLANTS BOARD

2822. SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE: DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR. S.: SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA: SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE: DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:

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

(a) whether the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has signed an MoU with major AYUSH and Herbal industry bodies to promote medicinal plant cultivation and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the industry bodies which have signed the MoU;

(c) whether the Government is aware of any issues raised by the Herbal Industry bodies and if so, the solution arrived at between the Union Government and Herbal Industry;

(d) whether the Herbal industry has agreed to provide the buy-back guarantee to the farmers under the NMPB supported medicinal plant cultivation and collection programmes and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the government to provide sustainable supply of quality raw material to AYUSH, Nutraceutcial and Herbal industry?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): Yes, NMPB has signed an MoU with major AYUSH and herbal industry bodies to promote medicinal plant cultivation:

- i). Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturers Organisation of India (AMMOI)
- ii). Ayurvedic Drug Manufactures Association (ADMA)
- iii). Association of Manufacturers of Ayurvedic Medicine (AMAM)
- iv). Association of Herbal and Nutraceutical Manufacturers of India (AHNMI)
- v). PHD chamber of commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)
- vi). Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)

(c): As per information received from National Biodiversity Authority, Government of India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to regulate the access to biological resources and / or associated knowledge for certain activities the user of the biological resources needs to share the benefits in fair and equitable manner with the provider of the biological resources.

(d): AYUSH industry owners / extract manufacturers / exporters etc to participate in the cultivation of medicinal plants with a buy-back agreement and pre-decided price as well as volume. They will also share the cost of cultivation on the terms agreeable to the parties viz., farmers / clusters and industry owners etc.

(e): Ministry of AYUSH is presently implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM). Under 'Medicinal Plants' component of the NAM scheme supporting market driven cultivation of prioritized medicinal plants in identified cluster/zones with in selected districts of States and implemented in a mission mode throughout the country. As per the scheme guidelines, the support is provided for:

- i). Cultivation of prioritized medicinal plants on farmer's land.
- ii). Establishment of nurseries with backward linkages for raising and supply of quality planting material.
- iii). Post-harvest management with forward linkages.
- iv). Primary processing, marketing infrastructure etc.

Under this scheme, subsidy @30%, 50% and 75% of cost of its cultivation is provided for cultivation of 140 prioritized medicinal plants on farmer's land.

The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India has also launched a "Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medicinal Plants Produce (VCSMPP)" on 22nd November, 2017 in order to encourage the Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs) in medicinal plants. The VCSMPP will enhance the availability of the certified quality medicinal plants raw material in the country and also boost their export and increase India's share in the global export of herbs.

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