

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2939  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>TH</sup> March, 2021**

**PRODUCTION OF HERBS IN TRIBAL AREAS**

**2939. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:**

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

(a) whether his Ministry and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) are jointly emphasising the cultivation/ production of herbs in tribal dominated rural areas across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**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 RIJU)**

(a) to (c): TRIFED has executed MOU with National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of AYUSH for establishment of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras specially for Medicinal plants, creation of Van Dhan SHGs clusters for undertaking primary value addition of the MFPs and medicinal plants available in the areas, setting up of primary processing facility, infrastructure support for medicinal MAPs, streamlining its supply chain and establishment of herbal gardens, etc.

In order to provide 12 month activity to the Van Dhan beneficiaries, TRIFED has included income generating activities such as, “Floriculture, Agriculture, Medicinal and Aromatic plants etc” for these Van Dhan Kendras, for which arrangements have been made with various Departments and Ministries like MSME, MoRD, ICAR, CSIR, IIT, Delhi, etc., including National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) for leveraging their schemes for the benefit of the Van Dhan beneficiaries.

TRIFED has been implementing MSP for MFP scheme and Van Dhan Yojana (VDY) across the country. VDY is a composite program, meant for forest-based tribes, which aims to take the ‘MSP for MFP program’ to the next level through establishing tribal enterprises, generating livelihoods leading to income enhancement. It is a program for gathering, value addition, processing, packaging, branding & retail-marketing of forest products through tribal entrepreneurs in the form of tribal owned SHGs. The idea is to optimize the tribal income, locally, only through their existing skillsets and using non-timber forest produces. This is done through establishment of common-use-facilities & infrastructures for value addition, to be called Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs).

Under Van Dhan Yojana, TRIFED has so far sanctioned 1770 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs), associated with 5.27 Lakhs beneficiaries in 22 States & 1 Union Territory for promotion of tribal entrepreneurship and livelihood generations.

The State-wise number of Van Dhan Kendras sanctioned and beneficiaries details under Van Dhan Yojana are given below:

Sl. No.	State	Number of VDVks	Number of beneficiaries
1	Andhra Pradesh	263	78818
2	Assam	128	38530
3	Bihar	8	1630
4	Chhattisgarh	139	41700
5	Goa	10	3000
6	Gujarat	116	34424
7	Ladakh (UT)	10	3000
8	Jharkhand	39	11601
9	Karnataka	19	5700
10	Kerala	13	3900
11	Madhya Pradesh	86	25800
12	Maharashtra	264	79350
13	Manipur	100	30194
14	Mizoram	159	46168
15	Nagaland	92	27600
16	Odisha	156	45578
17	Rajasthan	27	8190
18	Sikkim	80	23800
19	Tamil Nadu	7	2100
20	Telangana	17	5100
21	Tripura	27	7429
22	Uttar Pradesh	5	1238
23	Uttarakhand	5	1505
Total		1770	526355

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