

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 700
ANSWERED ON 26/07/2024**

“Promotion of Cultivation of Medicinal Plants”

700. Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni:

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has stopped promoting cultivation of medicinal plants from 2020-21 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are enough medicinal plants in the country to meet the domestic requirements as well as for exports in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the National Medicinal Plants Board’s Central Sector Scheme on Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants does not cover cultivation prioritized medicinal plants on farmers’ land, their primary processing, marketing infrastructure and other components and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government consider the mandate of the above scheme to promote and grow medicinal plants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) No, Sir. National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India is implementing Central Sector Scheme on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” wherein following activities are supported:
- (i) Information Education & Communication (IEC) activities like Training / Workshops / Seminars/ Conferences etc. for promotion of cultivation of medicinal plants.
 - (ii) Establishment of nurseries to raise the planting material for cultivation of medicinal plants.
 - (iii) Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated Component).
 - (iv) *In-situ* conservation / *Ex-situ* conservation.
 - (v) Livelihood linkages with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) / Self Help Groups (SHGs).

- (vi) Research & Development.
- (vii) Promotion, marketing and trade of medicinal plants produce.

However, in the past, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India had implemented Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) to promote the cultivation of medicinal plants from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21. As per the scheme guidelines, the support was 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 forwarding linkages.
- (iv) Primary processing.
- (v) Marketing infrastructure etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. NMPB supports demand and supply study from time to time and had conducted an extensive survey and compiled a book entitled “Medicinal Plants in India: An Assessment of their Demand and Supply” during the year 2017, The classical Indian healthcare systems, however, as per the study continue to be largely dependent upon wild collected herbal raw material with nearly 85% of the species diversity and more than 70% of the volumes of herbal raw drugs consumed being sourced from the wild. The annual demand of herbs / medicinal plants in the country was estimated about 5,12,000 Metric Tones in 2014-15. Further, as per this study, about 1178 medicinal Plant species recorded in practices of trade, out of which 242 species are traded in high volume with an estimate of more than 100 MT per annum. The details are available at: [https://nmpb.nic.in/sites/default/files/Projects/Medicinal Plants in India An Assessment of their Demand and Supply.pdf](https://nmpb.nic.in/sites/default/files/Projects/Medicinal%20Plants%20in%20India%20An%20Assessment%20of%20their%20Demand%20and%20Supply.pdf)

Further, as per the second advance estimate of financial year 2023-24 (Statistics Division, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) an area of 7,42,000 hectare has been covered under cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants with production of 6,45,000 MT.

Data for Export of medicinal plants is not maintained at NMPB, however, the trade of medicinal plants as recorded under Ch-12 of HS-Code 1211 is given below:

Values in US \$ Million				
S.No	HS Code	Commodity	2023-24	2024-2025(Apr-Apr)
1.	1211	PLNTS AND PRTS OF PLNTS INCLD SEDS AND FRUTS USD FOR PRFUMRY PHRMACY/INSCTCIDL OR SMLR PUR FRSH /DRID, CHLD / FROZ W /N CUT CRSHD	486.84	92.19

Source:- <https://tradestat.commerce.gov.in/eidb/ecom.asp>

(c) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the National Medicinal Plants Board's Central Sector Scheme (CSS) on Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants does not cover cultivation prioritized medicinal plants on farmers' land, their primary processing, marketing infrastructure and other components. However, the 'Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants' – Integrated Component has been added during the financial year 2023-24 in the Central Sector Scheme on "Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants" under which there is a provision for financial assistance for following activities:

- Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material to raise the planting material of medicinal plants for cultivation.
- Information Education Communication (IEC) activities to aware the farmers.
- Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing to increase the marketability of the medicinal plants, adding value to the produce, increasing profitability and reducing losses.
- Quality Testing and Certification of raw material.

Till date, National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush has approved 04 projects under Integrated Component to the Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Mizoram and Uttarakhand for an amount of Rs. 442.50 lakh. The detail is given at **Annexure – I**.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. The mandate of the Central Sector scheme of NMPB to promote and grow of medicinal plants are fulfilled through IEC activities such as Awareness Building Program, Exposure Visits, Education and Capacity Building of Stakeholders. During the last five year, NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has approved 127 numbers of projects for various IEC activities to aware the array of stakeholders including farmers about different aspects of medicinal plants like conservation, cultivation, post-harvest management and marketing with the approved budget of Rs. 1143.54 lakh. Under the same scheme, NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has approved 82 no. of projects for establishment of nurseries to raise the planting material for cultivation of medicinal plants with the approved budget of Rs. 1972.31 lakh from the financial year 2019-20 to 2023-24. The detail is given at **Annexure-II**.

The detail of projects approved under ‘forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants’ – Integrated Component of Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for conservation, development and sustainable management of medicinal plants from the financial year 2023-24 to till date.

S.No.	State	Amount approved (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	120.00
2	Jammu & Kashmir	82.50
3	Mizoram	120.00
4	Uttarakhand	120.00
	Total	442.50

The details of projects approved under Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for conservation, development and sustainable management of medicinal plants to different organizations throughout country for IEC activities and Establishment of nurseries from the financial year 2019-20 to 2023-24.

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	State	No. of Projects approved under CSS (2019-20 to 2023-24)			
		IEC activities	Amount Approved	Nurseries	Amount Approved
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	34.00	2	100.15
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	14.20	1	18.90
3	Assam	8	141.14	5	373.55
4	Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	1	18.90
5	Delhi	14	126.34	9	149.75
6	Goa	0	0.00	2	7.35
7	Gujarat	1	17.00	3	47.25
8	Haryana	3	9.00	2	37.80
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	22.58	4	117.48
10	Jammu & Kashmir	5	42.00	1	18.38
11	Jharkhand	3	11.80	0	0.00
12	Karnataka	6	109.90	3	38.7375
13	Kerala	5	30.50	4	40.30
14	Ladakh	2	10.00	0	0.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	7	70.40	2	88.10
16	Maharashtra	9	76.92	7	176.60
17	Manipur	2	17.20	2	118.90
18	Meghalaya	1	5.00	0	0.00
19	Mizoram	1	5.00	4	50.30
20	Nagaland	0	0.00	1	3.125
21	Odisha	9	28.25	5	69.675
22	Puducherry	0	0.00	1	5.00
23	Punjab	7	94.00	3	109.45
24	Rajasthan	3	11.00	1	18.90
25	Sikkim	0	0.00	1	18.90
26	Tamil Nadu	17	79.80	1	18.90
27	Telangana	1	10.00	7	83.55
28	Uttar Pradesh	9	92.51	3	74.05
29	Uttarakhand	5	40.00	3	29.9625
30	West Bengal	5	45.00	4	138.35
Total		127	1143.54	82	1972.31