

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA
ADMITTED UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1945
ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER 2024**

‘Significant Medicinal Wealth and Biodiversity’

1945. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the significant medicinal wealth and biodiversity of the Gandhamardan Mountain in Narsinghnath, Bargarh district and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has plan to establish a Central Research Institute (CRI) and Regional Research Institute (RRI) focused on medicinal plants in this region to preserve its unique biodiversity and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering setting up a specialized hospital/college of naturopathy and AYUSH Yoga Center at Narsinghnath to promote traditional medicine and health care;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by the Government to declare the Gandhamardan Mountain a national protected area to safeguard its natural and medicinal resources; and
- (e) whether there is any collaborations with Ayurvedic medicine industries to utilize and promote the medicinal resources of this region for healthcare and research purposes and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH

(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) Yes Sir, the Government is aware of the significant medicinal wealth and biodiversity of the Gandhamardan Mountain in Narsinghnath, Bargarh district. As per information received from State Medicinal Plants Board, Odisha, there are 220 medicinal plants in Gandhamardan Mountain and the Bargarh Forest Division and Odisha Bio-diversity Board have recorded 150 species having traditional medicinal uses.

(b) The Government has no such plan, however, Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), Bhubaneswar, a peripheral unit under Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India is engaged in Medico-Ethno-Botanical Studies of Gandhamardan Hills in Odisha.

(c) No Sir.

(d) The Government of Odisha have declared the Gandhamardan Hills located under Bolangir and Bargarh Forest Divisions as a Biological Heritage Site (BHS) on 20.03.2023 for conserving and protecting the biodiversity including medicinal plants occurring in the area, more effectively.

(e) No Sir.