

formation and data on medicinal and aromatic plants from within the country and from network centre.

(c) The main aims/objectives and activities of the Asian and Pacific Information Network on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (APINMAP) are:

I. Aims & Objectives:

1. To promote exchange of information and resource sharing services among the member countries, in the field of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.
2. Provide linkages/services other regional and international networks in the field.
3. Assist member countries establish specialised information management systems.
4. Ensure proper dissemination & usage of information.

II. Activities:

1. Maintain bibliographic data-base on medicinal and aromatic plants and provide, on and as per request, information in the field.
2. Serve as a referral centre for research institutes, researchers, information centres, libraries etc. in the field.
3. Maintain data-base packages on specific topics for target users.
4. Develop data-base for various users, viz. planners, scientists, potential entrepreneurs etc.
5. Provide facilities for online ac-

cess to commercial database to users.

520

Extinct Species of Plants

4189. SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that illegal deforestation is destroying many valuable herbs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of the plants which have become extinct due to deforestation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUFRAY): (a) to (c). No assessment has been made regarding loss of herbal plants as a result of deforestation.

Educationally Backward Districts of Orissa

4190. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the educationally most backward district of Orissa;
- (b) the details of facilities required and reasons for the backwardness;
- (c) any special programme taken during the last three years to remove the backwardness; and
- (d) if not, such special programme has been made, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) On the basis of literacy, Kora-