

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1645
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16/12/2022**

CULTIVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS

**1645. SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:**

Will the Minister of **AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- a) the achievement made by the Government under implementation of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) to promote cultivation of Medicinal Plants in the country;
- b) whether the Government is implementing the scheme on conservation, development and sustainable management of medicinal plants and if so, the details thereof along with the activities supported/ success achieved;
- c) whether Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu for setting up of Regional Centres to promote and support the farming of medicinal plants;
- d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State-wise;
- e) whether Government promotes cultivation of medicinal plants in these States and if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of medicinal plants and herbs produced in these States; and
- f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote the cultivation of the medicinal plants among farmers and also encourage the development of Cultivation Clusters for the same in the country?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF AYUSH
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

(a): 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. Under its 'Medicinal Plants' component, market driven cultivation of 140 prioritized medicinal plants in identified clusters/zones was supported and implemented in a mission

mode through selected State Implementing agencies throughout the country. 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, marketing infrastructure etc.

Ministry of Ayush had supported 56,305 hectare area, 220 nurseries, 354 post-harvest management units etc. under medicinal plants component of National Ayush Mission (NAM) from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21. The details of activities supported under NAM scheme for medicinal plants component is given at **Annexure - I**.

(b): Yes, Madam & Sir. National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush is implementing a scheme entitled "Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants." Under the scheme project based support is provided for following activities on medicinal plants:

- (i) Survey Inventorisation, *In-situ* Conservation through Medicinal Plants Conservation and Development Areas (MPCDA) and Resource augmentation
- (ii) *Ex-situ* Conservation / Establishment of Herbal Garden (HG), School Herbal Garden (SHG) and Home Herbal Garden (HHG)
- (iii) Support to Joint Forest Management Committees / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees / Self Help Groups for value addition activities like drying, primary processing, storage etc. of Medicinal Plants and thereby generate livelihood to these communities.
- (iv) Research & Development
- (v) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) etc.

Till date, NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has supported 1497 no. of projects throughout the country under Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants since its inception. Under the same scheme, NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has supported 82436.87 hectare area under *In-situ* / *Ex-situ* Conservation and Resource augmentation, 24,000 herbal gardens, 1175 JFMCs, 233 seminars / workshop / conferences / buyer-seller meets / trainings and 57 no. of nurseries. Beside this, NMPB has developed "e-CHARAK" app to provide a platform for trade of Medicinal Plants & to provide easy market access and developed a NMPB helpline in collaboration with CDAC Hyderabad The details of activities supported and achieved under Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants is given at **Annexure - II**.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam & Sir. Under Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants of National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush there is a provision to establish Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) in the existing government institution on project mode. The main activities of the RCFCs to coordinate

with various implementing agencies in the different states in their region, impart training to farmers / collectors of medicinal plants, development of Quality Planting material (QPM) of medicinal plants.

As per guidelines provision, total 7 Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) has been identified and set up in different regions of the country through open advertisement and selection through a committee constituted by National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush. The details of the proposals received from state of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu for setting up Regional Cum Facilitation Centre and the action taken thereon is as below:

S. No.	State	Proposal received from	Action taken
1.	Maharashtra	Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra	The proposal considered and approved for setting up of RCFC in Western Region.
		Gondwana University, Maharashtra	The proposals considered, however, not approved for setting up of RCFC.
2.	Tamil Nadu	Proposal not received	-

(e): Yes, Madam & Sir. In the past, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, under medicinal plants component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) had promoted and supported cultivation of medicinal plants from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21 throughout the country including Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. Under the same component, subsidy @30%, 50% and 75% of cultivation cost was provided for cultivation of 140 prioritized medicinal plants species to the farmers through State Implementing Agencies. Till date, Ministry of Ayush has supported 56,305 hectare area under cultivation of medicinal plants from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21 throughout the country including Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The detail is given below:

Financial year	Maharashtra (Area in hectare)	Tamil Nadu (Area in hectare)
2015-16	327	633
2016-17	0	960
2017-18	444	673
2018-19	0	765
2019-20	520	900
2020-21	0	0
TOTAL	1291	3931

(f): Under the “Central Sector Scheme on Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants”, there is a provision to support the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities (training programmes, buyer seller meets, workshops, seminars, conferences etc.) and establishment of nurseries & regional cum facilitation centres to promote the cultivation of medicinal plants among farmers.

The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has supported 233 projects under Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities to aware the local masses about the medicinal plants, 18 projects under marketing of medicinal plants, 57 projects for establishment of nurseries to raise the Quality Planting Material since its inception.

In addition, the National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush through its Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) is also providing financial and technical assistance to farmers/other stakeholders for development of Quality Planting Material of medicinal plants and herbs in different States. As per Scheme guidelines provision, NMPB has set up 7 Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) in project mode to promote various medicinal plants activities in different phyto-geographical regions / areas of the country.

Besides this, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India had promoted cultivation of Medicinal Plants throughout the country under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the National Ayush Mission (NAM.) from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21. Ministry of Ayush had also supported 235 workshops / buyer-seller meet / exposure visits under IEC activities and training for 19061 farmers in the country from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21 under the medicinal plants component of National Ayush Mission scheme. There was also a provision for creation of clusters of farmers having minimum 2 hectare of land for cultivation of medicinal plants within a radius of 15 km.

Details of activities supported under Medicinal Plants Component of “National Ayush Mission” (NAM) Scheme, Ministry of Ayush from the F.Y. 2015-16 to 2020-21

(Amount in lakhs)

S. No.	Activities supported	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	TOTAL
1	Cultivation of Medicinal Plants (Area in hectare)	8722	12109	10366	9958	6794	8356	56305
2	Maintenance of cultivation	2031	164	163	176	130	10	2673
3	Establishment of Nursery	32	39	38	38	50	23	220
4	Post-harvest Management	62	48	66	52	99	27	354
5	Processing Unit	1	2	3	1	16	2	25
6	Rural / District Collection Centres / Retail outlet	0	11	9	17	2	3	42
7	Seed germplasm centres	0	3	5	0	1	1	10
8	Demonstration plot	0	2	2	2	6	3	15

Achievements under Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants:

Sr. No.	Activities supported	No. of project supported	Achievements
1.	Survey Inventorisation, <i>In-situ</i> / <i>Ex-situ</i> Conservation and Resource augmentation	506	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area covered – 82436.87 hectare • Total no. of MPCDA – 105
2.	Herbal Garden (HG) supported National /State level importance, School Herbal Gardens (SHGs) & Home Herbal Gardens (HHGs).	223	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total No. of HG/ SHGs/ HHGs - 21293 • Total no. of campaigns – 07 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Amla campaigns ii. Moringa campaigns iii. 20-20 campaigns iv. 365 days campaigns v. Giloe campaigns vi. Ayush Apke dwar vii. NMPB has launched Ashwagandha campaign.
3.	Establishment of nurseries	57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the planting material of medicinal plants.
4.	Support to Joint Forest Management Committees / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees / Self Help Groups.	51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported 1,175 number of JFMC / Van Panchayat / BMCs for value addition of medicinal plants raw material and generation of livelihood to these communities.
5.	Research & Development	402	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project supported on various aspects of medicinal plants such as the Bioactivity guided fractionation, Development of agro techniques, standardization of nursery techniques and cultivation practices, Documentation and development of geo tag digital library, Finding out substitute, Genotype Identification, genetic improvement, genome study and germplasm collection & conservation, Intercropping, In-vitro propagation studies, micro-propagation, chemical & molecular profiling, phyto-chemicals evaluation, Post-harvest Management techniques etc. • IPR/ Patent - NMPB so far identified 05 unique projects which are novel in nature and patentable. The filings of IPR are under process.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Total 175 research publication has been published in national as well as international journals under R&D supported projects during past 10 years. ii. Agro techniques have been published covering 104 medicinal plant.
6.	Information, Education and Communication (IEC) etc.	233	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total no. of Seminars / workshop / conferences / buyer-seller meets / trainings – 216 • Total no. of NRDRs / RRDRs – 05 • Schemes for Voluntary Certifications has been supported – 01 • Projects on publication – 11 • Publications – Professor Ayushman comic book – 3 series • International journal on medicinal plants
7.	Marketing & IT	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “e-CHARAK” app - To provide a platform for trade of Medicinal Plants & to provide easy market access. • Study on Assessment of Demand Supply of Medicinal Plants in India • NMPB Helpline - NMPB has developed a helpline in collaboration with CDAC Hyderabad
9.	Regional Cum Facilitation Centres	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed 74,08,852 QPM of medicinal plants
	Total No. of projects	1497	