

said places and if no action has so far been taken in this regard the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Ayurvedic University in Idduki, Kerala**

1539. SHRI PALA K. M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of availability of medicinal plants and herbs etc. in abundance in the forests district of Idukki in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up an Ayurvedic University in Idukki;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A team for survey of Medicinal Plants from Regional Research Institute, Trivandrum under the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha has surveyed the forest areas of Idduki district and found many Medicinal Plants available in this area. The Ministry of Environment & Forest have also informed that the South Circle of Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore has also been exploring the hills of Idduki district and found a large number of plants of Medicinal Importance in this area. Some of the important medicinal

plants found in this area are: Pippali (*Piper longum*); Tamala (*Cinnamomum tamala*); Shalaparni (*Desmodium gangeticum*); Prashniparni (*Ura-ria picta*); Bilwa (*Aggla*) marmelos; Agnimantha (*Clepodendrum phlo-midis*); Ashoka (*Saraca ashoka*); Ketaki (*Pandamus roxbughianum*); Kantakari (*Solanum xanthocarpum*); Musta (*Cyper rotundus*); Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*); Shatavari (*Asparagus recemosus*); Arjuna (*Terminalia arjuna*); Shyonaka (*Oroxylum*) (*indicum*); Gambhari (*Melina arborea*); Langali (*Gloriosa superba*); Vidari (*Pueraria tuberosa*); (Mricha (*Piper nigrum*); Kutaja (*Hollarhena antidysenterica*); Sveda kutaja (*Wrightia tinctoria*); Nirgundi (*Vitex nengundo*); etc.

(c) to (e) Presently there is no proposal to start any Ayurvedic University in Idduki, Kerala or elsewhere by this Ministry as there is no provision in the plan Budget for the purpose.

[*Translation*]

**Bill to Control Blood Banks**

1540. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring forward a Bill to control blood banks in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI-MATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration in the Union Government to bring forward a Bill to control blood banks in the country.

The Drugs and Cosmetics Act/ Rules provide a legal framework for regulating the blood banks.