

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3574
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
POPULARISATION OF AYURVEDIC SYSTEM
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL;CHANDRAKANT BHOURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to promote Ayurvedic/Indian system of Medicine in the country;
- (b) if so, the fund allotted for promotion of Ayurvedic system of Medicine during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether any separate authority is being set up to promote manufacture of Ayurvedic Medicines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the on-going schemes launched for this purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): In order to promote and propagate the Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy including Ayurveda, the Government in 1995 established an independent Department of ISM&H in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Department of ISM&H has already implemented schemes for the development and cultivation of medicinal plants, preparation of agro-techniques, upgradation of undergraduate/postgraduate institutions, standardisation of drugs, encouraging intra-mural and extra-mural research and dissemination of information through information, education and communication (IEC).

(b): The funds allocated for promotion of Ayurvedic system of medicine during the last three years for Plan and Non-Plan are as under:

Year Funds allotted (Rs. in crores)

1998-99	43.31
1999-2000	49.57
2000-2001	53.60

In addition, Ayurvedic institutions have been assisted under schemes for upgradation of PG colleges, IEC activities, conferences/workshop and International Exchange Programme.

(c)to(e): The Government has taken the following steps for promotion of manufacture of Ayurvedic medicine:

- (i) Medicinal Plants Board has been set up as an apex body to coordinate all activities relating to development and to augment availability of medicinal plants used in ISM&H drugs.
- (ii) Laboratory facilities are sought to be expanded to help industry to get their products tested and analysed which will enhance the acceptability and credibility of their products.
- (iii) The industry has been facilitated to participate in international events which will help them to create a market for their products.
- (iv) Labelling provisions under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 have been relaxed as per the requirement of importing countries.
- (v) Good manufacturing practices have been notified.
- (vi) Assistance to laboratories for evolving pharmacopoeial standards.
- (vii) Scheme for assisting State Pharmacy and Drugs Testing Laboratory.