

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3670
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
MEDICINAL PLANTS
PRENEET KAUR

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of pure and genuine raw material obtained from medicinal plants in the country;
- (b) whether Government have undertaken any study of demand and supply of medicinal plants in the country and the outcome of such study; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) Medicinal plants are mostly collected from the wild and the collection practices as well as the trading mechanism thereafter is not organized. This leads to variation in quality and supply of raw material.

(b) &(c) Government have assigned a study `Assessment of Demand of Medicinal Plants` to Centre for Research, Planning and Action (CERPA), New Delhi for 162 extensively used medicinal plants. The report of the study is being finalized.

The Medicinal Plants Board is promoting a coordinated approach to the supply of genuine raw material for plants in high demand. This demand has been assessed on the basis of reports prepared inter-alia by:

Task Force on Conservation & Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants of Planning Commission, Committee on Cultivation including conservation of Medicinal Plants set up by the Medicinal Plants Board.