

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:619
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
PROTECTION OF INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether experts in Indian systems of medicines have said that Indian system of medicines need to be protected from exploitation by others;
- (b) if so, whether any concrete formula in this regard has been worked out by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): The Government is aware that the medicinal use of our plants has been patented by other countries claiming as innovations. The Government is, therefore, establishing Traditional Knowledge Digital Library covering 35,000 Ayurvedic formulations, in the first phase. This will prevent patenting of medicinal use already in public domain. The Traditional Knowledge Digital Library for Ayurveda is expected to be completed this year. Traditional Knowledge Digital Library for Siddha and Unani will be taken up later.