

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2910
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
SUBSIDY TO MEDICINAL PLANTS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received regarding delay in providing subsidy by the National Medicinal Plant Board for 'safed musali' and other medicinal plants;
- (b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made by the Government on the basis of these complaints;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to review the existing programmes so as to ensure provision of subsidy without any delay; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) Yes, Sir, some representations have been received regarding non-receipt of subsidy for cultivation of safed musali.
- (b)to(d) Considering the reports regarding declining prices of safed musli in the market, the Board has decided that projects under Contractual Farming Scheme involving cultivation of 'Safed Musli' as single crop should be discouraged. However, grant of subsidy for cultivation of Safed Musli can be considered if proposed as mixed crop along with other identified plants. This has been done with a view to avoiding a glut in the market and to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers. The Board has also setup a Technical Committee to review the pattern of implementation of Contractual Farming Scheme and other related aspects for sanction of projects and disbursal of subsidy.