

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2700
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
SETTING UP OF MEDICINAL PLANTS BOARD
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.;Virupakshappa Shri K.

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

- (a) the number of States who have constituted National Medicinal Plants Board to ensure protection & promotion of Medicinal Plants;
- (b) whether the work of such Board has been reviewed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether subsidy amount of Rs.3 crores was taken back which was due to Karnataka Farmers;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) None of the States have constituted National Medicinal Plants Board. However, the National Medicinal Plants Board has been set up by Central Government vide Resolution notified on 24th November, 2000. The National Medicinal Plants Board has facilitated setting up of state level Boards in 35 States/UTs called the 'State Medicinal Plants Boards (SMPBs)' to coordinate matters relating to development of medicinal plants and to implement and monitor the schemes.

(b) & (c) Performance of these Boards is periodically reviewed by organizing national and regional level workshops and meetings of SMPBs. The last national workshop was held at New Delhi on 18th, 19th April, 2007. The working of SMPBs is also reviewed by senior officers while on tours to the States. So far the performance of these State/UT Boards has not been up to desired level for want of required infrastructure, officers, staff and funds from State/UT governments.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. However, some projects sanctioned under Contractual Farming Scheme of National Medicinal Plants Board in the State of Karnataka had to be cancelled for non compliance by the beneficiaries with guidelines of the scheme. Matter has already been taken up with State government of Karnataka to strengthen the Board for better implementation and monitoring of the scheme.