

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1358

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

PROMOTION OF FLORICULTURE AND HERBAL FARMING

Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote and popularise floriculture and herbal farming in the country including in Jharkhand;
- (b) the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose in various States including in rural areas of Jharkhand and Bihar during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether recently an Agricultural Fair and Exhibition was organized in Delhi in order to promote floriculture and herbal farming; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North - Eastern States (TMNE) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM), the Government is promoting and popularising floriculture and herbal farming in the country including Jharkhand. The State wise details of funds allocated and utilized for floriculture and medicinal plants under TMNE and NHM scheme during each of the last three years is given at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively. No funds have been released for floriculture and medicinal plants during 2009-10.

Besides, National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), in the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) has been implementing a Contractual Farming Scheme since the year 2002-03. The details of the projects sanctioned and funds released to Bihar and Jharkhand are given in Annexure-III.

The Department of AYUSH has launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "National Mission on Medicinal Plants" from 2008-09, under which financial assistance is given for cultivation of medicinal plants in the identified clusters. During 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 108.94 lakh was released to Bihar. The Action Plan of Bihar and Jharkhand for the year 2009- 10 has been approved for Rs.1466.15 lakh and Rs.615.83 lakh respectively.

(c)&(d): ASSOCHAM, New Delhi had organized a Herbal International Summit-cum-Exhibition on Medicinal & Aromatic Plants & Expo at Pragati Maidan on 20th & 21st June, 2009. An interactive meet was organized apart from organizing events to showcase the continental, regional and local competence and for promotion of business of herbals, spices and finished products.