

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2477
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
MANUFACTURING UNITS OF AYURVEDIC MEDICINES
Munda Shri Arjun

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

- (a) the total number of species of medicinal and herbal plants available in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set-up manufacturing units of ayurvedic medicines in view of availability of medicinal plants in the country including in Jharkhand;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) There is no specific information in this regard. However, India is estimated to have around 6000 species of medicinal plants. Of these, around 2000 species are documented in Indian Systems of Medicine, namely, Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha. Also around 4000 species are estimated to be used by rural communities in local health practices. The all India Ethno-biology Survey carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) in 1995 estimated that over 7,500 plant species are used by 4,635 ethnic communities for human and veterinary health care across the country.

(b) & (c): There is no such proposal. However, Government has approved a Central Sector Scheme for Development of AYUSH Industry Clusters with the objectives of filling in the critical gaps in the sector especially related to standardization, quality assurance, improved productivity, marketing, infrastructure and capacity building through a cluster based approach. The scheme aims at providing financial assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 10 crores to each cluster of Ayush industries for setting up common facilities as well as for quality testing laboratory.

Government has approved setting up 10 clusters during the 11th Plan. So far,6 (six) clusters i.e. CARE Keralam Ltd., Thrissur (Kerala), Herbal Health Research Consortium, Amritsar (Punjab), Konkan Ayur Pharma Ltd., Sangameshwar (Maharashtra), Traditional AYUSH Cluster of Tamil Nadu, Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Ayurpark Healthcare Ltd., Bangalore (Karnataka) and Maharashtra Ayurveda Cluster, Pune (Maharashtra) have been approved.

(d) Does not arise