

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4291  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010  
REGISTERING OF BIO-ASSETS  
Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether bio-assets in bio-diversity registers maintained in most of the districts and the States are not being registered despite bio-diversity law passed in 2002;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether several pharmaceutical companies are using traditional remedies for earning heavy profits in the absence of formal documentation of these remedies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the concrete steps being taken by the Government to address the issue?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) After holding wider consultations with the experts and officials of the State Biodiversity Boards, format of the model People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) has been finalized and communicated to the State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) to facilitate and promote the preparation of PBRs by the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). So far, 350 PBRs have been completed.

(c)to(e) Studies carried out by the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) team in the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) during 2000, 2003 and 2005, have indicated that the patents granted at the international patents offices based on Indian traditional knowledge are increasing. To prevent the grant of such wrong patents, the CSIR in collaboration with the Department of Ayush, is developing TKDL on the codified knowledge on Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Yoga. So far, approximately 2.19 lakh formulations have been transcribed in five international languages under TKDL. Access to TKDL databases is provided to international patent officers to enable their patent examiners for establishing prior art, in case of patent applications based on Indian Systems of Medicine. Based on the TKDL evidence, intention to grant patent on two patent applications has been set aside and twelve patent applications have been withdrawn at the European Patent Office.