

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5004

ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011

NATIONAL MISSION ON MEDICINAL PLANTS

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

- (a) the estimated number of medicinal and aromatic plants in the country alongwith India's share in the world herbal trade;
- (b) whether the Government is implementing National Mission on Medicinal Plants across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the activities undertaken thereunder, State/UT-wise including Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) the achievements made under the said mission, particularly in terms of catering to the needs of Ayurvedic and herbal drug industry;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up herbal medicine processing centres across the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a): There are 7267 botanical names recorded in various Indian systems of medicines including folk medicines as per the database on Indian Medicinal Plants developed and maintained by the Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore. After sorting out synonyms it may be estimated that in the country there are 6198 medicinally important plant species, which includes aromatic plants. According to figures obtained from the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council (PHARMEXCIL), India's share of global herbal export is 5.22% for the year 2009. Source – UN Comtrade (as available at 6 digit level).

(b) to (d): Yes. The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "National Mission on Medicinal Plants" since 2008-09. The scheme aims at supporting market driven cultivation of prioritized medicinal plants and is being implemented in a mission mode for cultivation of identified medicinal plants in clusters through Growers, farmers, cultivators, Growers Associations, Federations, Self Help Groups, Corporates and Growers Co-operatives with backward and forward linkages. For the implementation of the scheme, financial assistances have been provided by the National Medicinal Plants Board to 26 states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal for implementation of annual action plans of the respective States under the Scheme, mainly supporting activities like establishing nurseries, subsidy for cultivation of medicinal plants, post harvest management etc. Details of financial assistance provided to each State / UT during the last three years along with the activities sanctioned is given in Annexure-I. The cultivation of medicinal plants over 52,367.55 hectares was supported in last three years under the National Mission on Medicinal Plants to augment the production of raw material for Ayurvedic and herbal drug industry. The NMPB has also approved Action Plans of 19 states for the current financial year for undertaking these activities. The area of Rajgarh has not been covered by the State Mission of Madhya Pradesh so far.

(e) & (f): Scheme for development of AYUSH Clusters is being implemented during the XIth five year plan with the aim to develop AYUSH industry clusters on PPP mode through a cluster based approach. Support from Department of AYUSH is provided by way of grant to Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs), formed by group of entrepreneurs from the AYUSH sector. Total nine (9) clusters have so far been approved in eight (8) states as per details in Annexure-II. Moreover, there is provision for supporting processing & value addition and post harvest management of medicinal plants in the different regions of the country in identified clusters / zones under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Medicinal Plants.