

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3686  
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012  
RESEARCH ON MEDICINAL PLANTS  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any ad-hoc mission for carrying out research on medicinal plants throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to check exploitation by foreigners who are visiting India in the name of research study and importing medicinal plants at a huge cost in the name of foreign origin; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) is implementing two centrally sponsored schemes entitled "National Mission on Medicinal Plants" and "Conservation, development and sustainable management of medicinal plants". ICAR has initiated research projects on different aspects of Noni, Bael, Jamun etc. funded by National Medicinal Plant Board at Central Agricultural Research Institute, Portblair; Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner and Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow. The Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) under CSIR also undertakes research on medicinal & aromatic plants at Lucknow.

(c) & (d): The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act (2002). The Act covers conservation, use of biological resources and provides a framework for access to biological resources. The Act covers foreigners, non-resident Indians, body corporate, association or organization that is either not incorporated in India or incorporated in India with non-Indian participation in its share capital or management. These individuals or entities require the approval of the National Biodiversity Authority when they use biological resources and associated knowledge occurring in India for commercial or research purposes or for the purpose of bio-survey or bio-utilisation.