

>

Title: Need to provide funds for cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants in the country.

DR. RATNA DE (HOOGHLY): It is astonishing that we have 6,198 medicinally important plant species including aromatic plants. It is a fact that the National Medicinal Plants Board is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme on Medicinal Plants since 2008-09. As a professional, though not in this specific field, I welcome it. I would request the Hon'ble Minister to ensure sufficient funds for enriching our medicinal and aromatic plants further to use it in a better fashion and make some innovative methods to assist various stakeholders e.g. West Bengal in commercial cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants.