

1	2	3	4
20	Madhya Pradesh	941	932
21	Maharashtra	946	913
22	Manipur	974	957
23	Meghalaya	986	973
24	Mizoram	969	964
25	Nagaland	993	964
26	Orissa	967	953
27	Pondicherry	963	967
28	Punjab	875	798
29	Rajasthan	916	909
30	Sikkim	965	963
31	Tamil Nadu	948	942
32	Tripura	967	966
33	Uttar Pradesh	927	916
34	Uttaranchal	949	908
35	West Bengal	967	960

**Preservation of Life-Saving Herbs**

†\*331. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several species of life-saving herbs and roots found across the country, including Madhya Pradesh, are on the verge of extinction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) whether Government has prepared any scheme to preserve these herbs and roots; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) According to the Botanical Survey of India, it is feared that 1236 species out of 18794 vascular plants including a number of medicinal plants are on the verge of extinction due to various anthropogenic activities. The medicinal and aromatic plants, like other group of plants and animals, are threatened largely due to degradation of forests owing to various anthropogenic factors. The threatened medicinal plants are: *Aconitum balfouri*, *A. chasmanthum*, *A. deinorrhizum*, *A. falconeri* var *latilobum*, *A. ferox*, *A. heterophyllum*, *Acorus gramineus*, *Allium stracheyi*, *Angelica glauca*, *Anogeissus sericea* var. *numularia*, *Aquillaria mallaccensis*, *Aristolochia bracteolata*, *A. indica*, *Arnebia benthamii*, *Atropa acuminata*, *Berberis affinis*, *B. apiculata*, *B. aristata*, *Bergenia stracheyi*, *Capparis pachyphylla*, *Carum villosum*, *Colchicum luteum*, *Coptis teeta*, *Coscinium fenestratum*, *Dactylorhiza hatagireia*, *Dioscorea delotoidea*, *Elaeocarpus prunifolius*, *Ephedra gerardiana*, *Gentiana kurooa*, *Gloriosa superba*, *Hedychium spicatum*, *Hyoscyamus niger*, *Hydnocarpus macrocarpa*, *Iphigenia indica*, *I. pallida*, *I. stellata*, *Kolanchoe roseus*, *Madhuca insignis*, *Nardostachys grandiflora*, *Panax pseudoginseng*, *Picrorhiza kurrooa*, *Podophyllum hexandrum*, *Pterocarpus santalinus*, *Rauvolfia serpentina*, *Rheum emodi*, *Saussurea bracteata*, *S. costus*, *S. gnaphalodes*, *Swertia chirayita*, *Taxus wallichiana*, *Taxocarpus kurzii*, *Urginea indica* and *Urginea maritime*.

Under section 38 of Biological Diversity Act 2002, Central Government in consultation with concerned State Government notify any species, which is on the verge of extinction or likely to become extinct in near future as a threatened species and prohibit or regulate collection thereof for any purpose and take appropriate steps to rehabilitate and preserve those species. Under the said provision of the Act, Government of India has notified the plants which are on the verge of extinction in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Mizoram, Orissa, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Goa and Madhya Pradesh. These plants also include medicinal plants. In Madhya Pradesh three plant species, which are on the verge of extinction, have been notified as threatened by Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India.

(c) and (d) National Medicinal Plants Board has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme for development and cultivation of medicinal plants since the year 2000-01. This scheme was revised and renamed as "Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants" in the year 2008-09 and the revised scheme is being implemented. Under these schemes, assistance have been given to establish 168 herbal gardens and 1303 school herbal gardens in different parts of the country. Further, 34 Medicinal Plants Conservation Areas covering 4355 hectares are being established in different states under the scheme. Moreover, 87 Medicinal Plants Conservation Areas have been established by Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore, in nine states. Department of Biotechnology has also facilitated setting up of four Gene Banks at Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow, National Bureau of Plants Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi, Tropical Botanic Garden & Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram and Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Jammu. A germplasm repository for medicinal plants used in Ayurveda was also supported at Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal. More than 5,000 accessions of important medicinal & aromatic plants species are being maintained as live material in field gene banks, in the form of seed, in vitro material and DNA. For long-term conservation, the accessions are stored under cryogenic conditions. Many threatened species are also conserved in Botanical Gardens.

In addition to above, a new "Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Medicinal Plants" with a total outlay of Rs. 630 crores is being implemented since 2008-09 by the National Medicinal Plants Board. 25 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have been assisted for establishing medicinal plants nurseries, cultivation etc.

#### **Promotion of Ethanol for blending with petrol**

\*332. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: