

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) is promoting cultivation/farming of medicinal/herbal plants on farmer's land throughout the country and in this regard provides financial assistance as subsidy to farmers.

Under NAM Scheme, there is a component on 'Medicinal Plants' which is primarily aimed at supporting cultivation/farming of medicinal/herbal plants on farmer's land with backward linkages through establishment of nurseries for supply of quality planting material, and forward linkages for post-harvest management. Presently, 140 medicinal plants species have been prioritized for supporting cultivation throughout the country for which the subsidy is provided in following pattern:—

- (i) 75% subsidy for cultivation of medicinal plants which are highly endangered.
- (ii) 50% subsidy for cultivation of medicinal plants where sources of supply are critically declining.
- (iii) 30% subsidy for cultivation of other medicinal plants species which need support.

The cultivation programme is being implemented through the identified implementing agency of concerned State (generally State Agriculture/Horticulture Departments) and the financial assistance is provided as per the State Annual Action Plan approved for concerned State. As per scheme guidelines, the financial assistance to North Eastern and hilly State of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir is provided in the ratio of 90:10, where as in other States it is shared in the ratio of 60:40 between Central and State Government.

Ayurvedic institutes functioning in Bihar and Jharkhand

†1284. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Ayurvedic institutes accorded approval in Bihar and Jharkhand;
- (b) how many out of them are operational at present;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to make all the institutes operational in a full-fledged manner; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, phase-wise?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Five Ayurvedic colleges in Bihar and one Ayurvedic college in Jharkhand have been accorded approval. All are operational at present.

(c) and (d) The question do not arise.

Patents relating to Ayurvedic medicines

1285. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come across cases where traditional Indian medical science has been patented by foreign companies abroad, if so, details thereof;

(b) the details of patents filed by Indian based companies and individuals based on ancient Ayurvedic knowledge; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to safeguard the ancient knowledge of Ayurveda from being commercialised by foreign corporations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes. Details of number of patent applications filed/published/granted as per provisions of the Patents Act on herbal/plants/Ayurvedic formulations, from 01.01.2005, are as under:—

| Patent Applications Filed | | Patents Granted | |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Domestic | Foreign | Domestic | Foreign |
| 1000 | 129 | 185 | 23 |

(c) In order to safeguard the Indian traditional knowledge and traditional medicines etc. the Government of India has initiated the following steps:—

(i) Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) has been established with the objective of preventing misappropriation of traditional Indian medicinal knowledge of Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Yoga. The TKDL has been prepared in five languages, namely English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish in patent compatible format to make available the existing knowledge, which is already in public domain to the patent examiners, so that such patent applications, which are related to traditional knowledge are rejected at the examination stage itself.