

Research on Ayurveda and herbal medicines

325. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) the details of research activities in Ayurveda which includes literary and conceptual study, clinical and therapeutic research, drug development including drug standardization during the last three years;

(b) whether the use of ayurvedic herbal medicinal products can cause lead toxicity and cause conditions like epilepticus, encephalopathy, sensory neural deafness etc.; and

(c) where do the States of Gujarat and Jharkhand stand in research on Ayurveda and herbal medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India has setup Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) for undertaking, coordinating, formulating, developing and promoting research on scientific lines in Ayurveda. The activities are carried out through 30 institute/centres/units under CCRAS located all over India and also through collaborative studies with various universities, hospitals and institutes. The research activities of the council include medicinal plant research (Medico-ethno botanical survey, pharmacognosy and tissue culture), Drug Standardization, Pharmacological Research, Clinical Research, Literary Research and Documentation, and other outreach activities.

(b) No such observation has been reported in the clinical trials yet.

(c) One research institute viz. Regional Ayurveda Research Institute for Skin Disorders, is functioning in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. However, the scope of the research undertaken by the institutes of CCRAS is spread over the entire country and is not confined to the States of Gujarat or Jharkhand as it is in the public domain for the benefit of all the citizens of the country.

Low cost airports under Regional Connectivity Scheme

326. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to build more low cost airports in the country by hiring more experts from various fields for the successful implementation

of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) in the next two years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how many cities will be connected through RCS in the coming days, particularly in Maharashtra State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Ministry of Civil Aviation in the National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016, has made provision for promotion of regional Connectivity by way of revival of un-served and under-served airports/airstrips. The Government has approved the proposal for revival of 50 unserved/under-served airports/airstrips of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India, Civil Enclaves and CPSUs at an estimated cost of ₹4500 crores. However, the revival of airstrips/airports is demand driven, depending upon the firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions as airports will be developed without insisting on its financial viability. State Governments can explore possibilities of developing these airports through Public Private Partnership (PPP) also.

(b) In 1st round of bidding under RCS (UDAN) RCS airports connected/likely to be connected through scheme are: Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Nanded Ozar (Nasik) and Solapur. Evaluation of proposal under 2nd round of RCS-UDAN is under process for award of network to selected airline operators to operate RCS flights from the cities in Maharashtra.

Complaints against low-cost airlines

327. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints against low-cost airlines by the air passengers in the country during past three years, airline-wise and year-wise;

(b) the action taken on those low-cost airlines;

(c) whether there are growing incidents of mistreatment of air passengers by Indigo Airlines in recent years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Travel by air is a contractual agreement between the passenger and the airline. As a regulator, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)