

**Cultivation of medicinal plants in Tamil Nadu hills**

648. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that State of Tamil Nadu has extensive ranges of hills and mountains including Jarradhu hills, Kollinalai hills, Agathiai Malai etc. which are ideal for growing different types of medicinal plants;

(b) whether Government will provide any special focus/attention to bring more hectares under National AYUSH Mission (NAM) to grow more medicinal plants;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, the Government is aware of the fact that State of Tamil Nadu has extensive ranges of hills and mountains including Javadhu hills, Kollimalai hills, Agathiai Malai etc. which are ideal for growing different types of medicinal plants and the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH under its "Central Sector Scheme on Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants" has provided support for conservation and resource augmentation of medicinal plants species viz. *Abrus precatorius*, *Acacia leucophloea*, *Acacia planifrons*, *Adhatoda vasica*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Canarium strictum*, *Capparis sepiana*, *Carissa carandas*, *Cinnamomum wightii*, *Cissus quadrangularis*, *Decalepis hamitonii*, *Dioscorea pentaphylla*, *Dysoxylum malabaricum*, *Eugenia jambolana*, *Feronia limonia*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *F. glomerata*, *F. racemosa*, *Garcinia gummi-gutta*, *Gloriosa superba*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Hemidesmus indicus*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Murraya koenigii*, *Myristica dactyloides*, *Nothapodytes foetida*, *Ormocarpum sennoides*, *Persea macrantha*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Pithecellobium duke*, *Pongamia pinnata*, *Santalum album*, *Terminalia bellerica*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Vateria indica*, *Wrightia tinctoria* etc. in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Presently, the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "National AYUSH Mission (NAM)" is providing support for cultivation of those medicinal plants as proposed in the State Annual Action Plan by the concerned state. During 2015-16 to 2017-18, under the NAM scheme, the

Ministry of AYUSH has provided assistance for cultivation of medicinal plants in 31343 hectare area throughout the Country including state of Tamil Nadu.

In the state of Tamil Nadu, under NAM scheme, the assistance has been provided for cultivation of medicinal plants species viz. *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Coleus forskohlii*, *Gloriosa superba*, *Garcinia indica*, *Solanum xanthocarpum*, *Piper longum* covering 2266 ha. area.

The Government is also providing special attention to bring more hectares under National AYUSH Mission to grow more medicinal plants.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Control of creation of new shell companies**

649. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shell companies removed during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of action taken against these shell companies; and

(c) the details of initiative taken to control creation of new shell companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The term 'Shell Company' is not defined under the Companies Act, 2013 (The 'Act'). However, Section 248(1)(c) of the Act, provides for removal of name of company from the register of companies, if it is not carrying on any business or operation for a period of 2(two) immediately preceding financial years and has not made any application within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under Section 455 of the Act. Based on the above mentioned provision, names of 2,26,166 companies were struck off from the register of companies. The details of Companies States/Union Territories (UTs)-wise struck off/removed u/s 248 of the Act, from the register of companies are given in the Statement (*See* below). Further, the Central Government has ordered investigation into the true ownership of 68 number of companies under section 216 read with section 210(I)(c) of the Act, which have deposited and withdrawn fund in an exception manner from the bank accounts during demonetization period.

(c) The Government has set up a Task Force to look into the matter of 'Shell' Companies. The Task Force has identified typical attributes of a 'Shell' company which