

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI,  
SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)**

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.138  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022**

**SETTING UP OF SIDDHA MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE AT  
KOLLIMALAI HILLS, TAMIL NADU**

**138 SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:**

Will the Minister of Ayush be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Kollimalai hills in Namakkal District in Tamil Nadu is very famous for medicinal plants;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that most of the indigenous medicinal plants are in this Kollimalai hills;
- (c) whether Government would consider setting up a Siddha Medical Research Centre in Kollimalai hills;
- (d) if so, by when the said Centre is likely to be set up; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI,  
SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)**

**(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.138\* FOR 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022**

**(a)** Yes, Sir.

**(b)** Many indigenous medicinal plants are found in Kollimalai hills. As per information of Botanical Survey of India (BSI), an organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, more than 100 medicinal plants species are recorded from Kollimalai hills, Tamil Nadu. The Siddha Medicinal Plants Garden (SMPG) Mettur, Tamil Nadu, an unit of Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) has also conducted survey of medicinal plants in Kollimalai hills and collected twenty (20) rare medicinal plants from Kollimalai hills.

**(c)** No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration in this Ministry.

**(d)** Does not arise.

**(e)** There are already three (3) peripheral institutes of Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) functioning in Tamil Nadu namely (1) Siddha Central Research Institute, Chennai, (2) Siddha Clinical Research Unit, Government Siddha Medical College Campus, Palayamkottai, and (3) Siddha Medicinal Plants Garden (SMPG), Mettur Dam, Tamil Nadu. A National Institute of Siddha (NIS) under Ministry of Ayush is also situated in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

भारत सरकार  
आयुष मंत्रालय

राज्य सभा

तारांकित प्रश्न सं. - 138\*

15 मार्च, 2022 को पूछे जाने वाले प्रश्न का उत्तर

**कोल्लीमलइ हिल्स, तमिलनाडु में सिद्ध आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान केन्द्र की स्थापना**

\*138. श्री के. आर. एन. राजेश कुमार:

क्या आयुष मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि तमिलनाडु के नामक्कल जिले में स्थित कोल्लीमलइ हिल्स औषधीय गुण वाले पौधों के लिए बहुत प्रसिद्ध हैं;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि औषधीय गुणों से युक्त अधिकतर स्वदेशी पौधे इन्हीं कोल्लीमलइ हिल्स में होते हैं;
- (ग) क्या सरकार कोल्लीमलइ हिल्स में सिद्ध आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान केन्द्र की स्थापना करने पर विचार करेगी;
- (घ) यदि हां, तो उक्त केन्द्र के कब तक स्थापित कर दिए जाने की संभावना है; और
- (ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

**उत्तर**

**आयुष मंत्री (श्री सर्बानंद सोणोवाल)**

(क) से (ङ): विवरण सदन के पटल पर रखा गया है।

राज्य सभा में 15 मार्च, 2022 को पूछे गए तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 138\* के उत्तर में उल्लिखित विवरण

(क): जी हां।

(ख): कोल्लीमलई की पहाड़ियों में अनेक देशी औषधीय पादप प्रजातियां पाई जाती हैं। पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय के अधीन एक संगठन भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण (बीएसआई) द्वारा दी गई सूचना के अनुसार कोल्लीमलई, तमिलनाडु की पहाड़ियों में 100 से अधिक औषधीय पादप प्रजातियां दर्ज की गई हैं। केंद्रीय सिद्ध अनुसंधान परिषद (सीसीआरएस) की एक इकाई सिद्ध औषधीय पादप उद्यान (एसएमपीजी), मेदूर, तमिलनाडु ने भी कोल्लीमलई पहाड़ियों में औषधीय पादपों का सर्वेक्षण किया है और कोल्लीमलई पहाड़ियों से बीस (20) दुर्लभ औषधीय पादप एकत्र किए हैं।

(ग): जी नहीं। ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव मंत्रालय के विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(घ): प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ङ): तमिलनाडु में केंद्रीय सिद्ध अनुसंधान परिषद (सीसीआरएस) के तीन(3) परिधीय संस्थान पहले से ही कार्य कर रहे हैं नामतः (1) केंद्रीय सिद्ध अनुसंधान संस्थान, चेन्नई; (2) सिद्ध नैदानिक अनुसंधान इकाई, राजकीय सिद्ध मेडिकल कॉलेज परिसर, पलायमकोट्टई; और (3) सिद्ध औषधीय पादप उद्यान (एसएमपीजी), मेदूर डेम, तमिलनाडु। आयुष मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत राष्ट्रीय सिद्ध संस्थान (एनआईएस) भी चेन्नई, तमिलनाडु में स्थित है।

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SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: Respected Deputy Chairman, Sir, Kollimalai Hills in Namakkal District of Tamil Nadu is one of the most traditional places for cultivation of medicinal plants and lots of historical references are there for the same. We have to protect the medicinal plants in Kollimalai Hills. As the hon. Minister has replied, at present, one Siddha Medicinal Plants Garden is functioning in Mettur in Tamil Nadu under Central Council for Research in Siddha since 2004. It is engaged in the maintenance and development of herbal garden and cultivation of medicinal plants. It is situated around 125 kilometres away from Kollimalai Hills. In the reply of the hon. Minister, he said that there is no such proposal to set up Siddha Medical Research Centre. But I would request the Minister to consider setting up of a Siddha Medicinal Plants Garden Extension Centre in Kollimalai Hills from Mettur SMPG.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. You have one more question.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: There are much more rare medicinal plants in Kollimalai Hills. The District Administration and the State Government are ready to provide land for setting up of this Extension Centre.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: Will the Ministry of AYUSH reconsider establishing SPMG in Kollimalai Hills?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be specific in your question.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Respected Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has rightly raised this important issue before this august House. Kollimalai Hills in Tamil Nadu is famous for exotic medicinal plants and these medicinal plants are collected to develop Siddha medicines. So, considering the potentialities, the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, has already been taking a lot of initiatives by setting up institutions like Central Council for Research in Siddha, which is functioning in Tamil Nadu. There are three peripheral institutes, Siddha Central Research Institute, Chennai; Siddha Clinical Research Unit, Government Siddha Medical College Campus, Palayamkottai and Siddha Medical Plant Garden, Mettur Dam, Tamil Nadu. The National Institute of Siddha under the Ministry of AYUSH is also situated in Chennai. So, all these institutions are day and night working with commitment and sensibility with the support of the people of Tamil Nadu. I must mention that the initiative taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu is very, very

praiseworthy. During the Covid-19 pandemic, they had distributed one crore eighty lakh *Kabasura Kudineer* -- which is based on the Siddha system of medicine -- among the people of Tamil Nadu. It has given a lot of relief from this pandemic situation to the citizens. So, considering your expectation, I can simply tell you that I am also interested to pay a visit to these beautiful hills. To that extent, I can make you a promise.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary. Please be brief in your question. Please be brief so that others would also get opportunity.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want a direct answer. I kindly request the hon. Minister for one extension centre at Kollimalai hills for the Siddha medical plant. Then, my next supplementary question is this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already put your question.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: What is the total allocation made to Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) for Siddha plant cultivation during the last three years? Has the CCRS utilized the allocation fully? If not, the reasons therefor.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, the Ministry of AYUSH is trying to develop all systems of medicines that are involved in the AYUSH family. So, regarding the support, we have been extending our support as per the proposal sent by the respective institutions. And in this regard, as you know, all systems of AYUSH would now take a centrestage in the global scenario. You have all come to know that W.H.O. has decided to set up a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine. That is why, now, all the systems would move together to establish its strength with all scientific evidences and ability before the people of the globe. Therefore, this W.H.O. approved set up is the first and only institution in the country, that is, Global Centre for Traditional Medicine. Now, this is an opportunity for the people of the country who have been there in this particular system for decades together. This would definitely empower our traditional practitioners to demonstrate their ability before the global society.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. M. Thambidurai. Today is birthday of Dr. M. Thambidurai. Many many happy returns to Dr. Thambidurai. We all

wish you happy birthday. आपको हम सबकी ओर से जन्मदिन की बहुत शुभकामनाएँ। Please put your question .

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: I thank the hon. Deputy Chairman and all the hon. Members for blessing me and with your blessings, I can serve more. We know very well that the Central Government is extending a lot of efforts to develop AYUSH, and especially, in Tamil Nadu, they have established three research centres for Siddha. Siddha is a very famous, traditional and ancient thing which has given a lot of relief to the people, the Indian system. But now, that standard is slowly going down, that is what I have learnt. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister not only to establish three research institutes like these, but let us have more centres like Kollimalai and other places and it will give it a boost. Sir, I would like to know as to whether the Minister will come forward to establish more research centres for the Siddha system.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, the hon. Member has expressed his concern about the development of Siddha system of medicine in the country and that is why he is asking for more and more institutions to be set up throughout the State of Tamil Nadu. For his information, so far, eight peripheral institutions throughout the country are functioning now, like, we have Siddha Central Research Institute, Chennai; Siddha Regional Research Institute, Puducherry; Siddha Regional Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram; Siddha Clinical Research Unit, Palayamkottai; Siddha Medicinal Plants Garden, Mettur; Siddha Clinical Research Unit, New Delhi; Siddha Clinical Research Unit, Bengaluru; Siddha Clinical Research Institute, Tirupati. So this is the way. It is gradually growing up. And I believe, definitely, considering the importance of this particular system of medicine and out of this medicine...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: This particular system has proved its importance in prevention of diseases and preservation of human health also. That is why, I am confident that whatever the hon. Member is expecting from us--this is a demanding situation--I can particularly assure this House that you must appreciate...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief in your answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: You must appreciate why...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. It is not allowed Rajeshkumarji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Listen to me, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Listen to me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please be brief.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, I will be brief. How its importance is growing up, this must be realised by the august House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All the questions are important. Please let us move to others. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister, please be brief. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please be brief or I will move to the other question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, I can assure the House...*(interruptions)*...

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप बोलें, आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है।

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: This is a growing situation and this particular matter will be definitely examined. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव :** श्रीमन्, सिद्ध चिकित्सा पद्धति 'आयुष मंत्रालय' के अंतर्गत ही आती है। आपको आश्चर्य होगा कि इस मंत्रालय की तरफ, इन सारी पैथीज़ की तरफ सरकारें इतनी उदासीन हैं कि All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi के बजट से आयुष मंत्रालय का बजट कम है, उसके बराबर भी नहीं है। इतने कम बजट के साथ आप नयी संस्थाएं नहीं खोल सकते हैं। आपका मंत्रालय अधिक बजट मांगता भी है, तब भी बजट में उतना पैसा दिया नहीं जाता है। इस तरह कैसे आप ये सारी medicines रखवाएंगे, चाहे वे तमिलनाडु की हों, केरल की हों या उत्तराखंड में पाई जाती हों? आज ये medicines smuggle हो कर देश से बाहर जा रही हैं। क्या इसकी जानकारी सरकार को है? कृपया मंत्री जी यह बताएं कि इनको रोकने के लिए आप क्या काम कर रहे हैं? इन सारे medicinal plants से जो दवाइयां बन सकती हैं, उनके लिए आप क्या तौर-तरीका अख्तियार करने जा रहे हैं?



**श्री सर्वानंद सोनोवाल :** महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो कहा है, मुझे लगता है, वह सही नहीं है, क्योंकि 2014 में नेशनल आयुष मिशन का बजट 75 करोड़ रुपये था, जो आज बढ़कर 550 करोड़ रुपये हो गया है। इससे साफ ज़ाहिर है कि इसके बजट को पांच गुणा बढ़ा दिया गया है। 2014 में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इसे इंडिपेन्डेंट मंत्रालय का स्टेटस दिया और अभी कैबिनेट मंत्रालय का स्टेटस दिया है। इससे साफ ज़ाहिर है कि पिछले सात सालों के अंदर इसमें जो बढ़ोतरी हुई है, इसे जो इम्पोर्टेंस दी गई है, उसकी वजह से दुनिया ने यह स्वीकार किया है कि हमारे ट्रेडिशनल सिस्टम ऑफ मेडिसिन में जो शक्ति है, उस शक्ति के द्वारा यह दुनिया के मानव समाज को अलग-अलग बीमारियों में राहत दे सकता है।

**श्री उपसभापति :** माननीय बृजलाल जी, यह क्वेश्चन सिद्ध मेडिकल रिसर्च सेन्टर एट कोल्लीमलइ, तमिलनाडु से रिलेटेड है, क्या आपका क्वेश्चन इससे रिलेटेड है?

**श्री बृजलाल :** नहीं, सर।

**श्री उपसभापति :** माननीय तिरुची शिवा जी, आप अपना सवाल पूछिए।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the concerned Minister very clearly says that the researchers have also conducted a survey of medical plants in Kollimalai hills and collected twenty rare medicinal plants from Kollimalai hills. One of the main questions is whether the Government has any proposal for setting up of Siddha Medical Research Centre in Kollimalai hills and it is said, 'No such proposal.' When twenty rare medicinal plants have been collected by the survey, why don't the Minister consider setting up of a plant there? That is all. This is my simple question.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, I am repeatedly saying that I am interested to visit considering the availability of the medicinal plant in that particular famous hill. So, I am definitely visiting there. After that, definitely, I will examine the whole issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q No. 139.