

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1602

ANSWERED ON 06/08/2024

“Production and processing of medicinal plants”

1602. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar:

Will the Minister of *Ayush* be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to train farmers across various States on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) for medicinal plants; and
- (b) the achievements of Government in promoting the production and processing of herbs and medicinal plants through these initiatives?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH
(SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR)

(a) & (b) National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush provides financial assistance in project mode to various institutes/ organizations throughout the country to organise awareness programme, exposure visits and capacity building programmes (seminars/training conferences/ workshops, etc.) through Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities under the **Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants**. NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has supported **240** projects for various IEC activities to aware the array of stakeholders including farmers about different aspects of medicinal plants like conservation, cultivation, post-harvest management and marketing with total budget of Rs. **2126.57** lakhs throughout the country from the financial year **2015-16 to 2023-24**.

Under the aforesaid scheme, NMPB has also supported training projects to various organization across the country to train the farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCP) of medicinal plants. Total **14352** farmers were benefited from the financial year **2015-16 to 2023-24**. NMPB has also supported a project entitled “Capacity Building cum Sensitization proposal for Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medicinal Plant Produce (VCSMPP)” to the Quality Council of India (QCI), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi for awareness programme on medicinal plants. The Quality Council of India (QCI) has organized **76** training programmes and trained **4408** farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs) of medicinal plants.

Beside this, National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush through its Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) provides training to farmers / collectors for Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs) for medicinal plants in various states / UTs of the country. Total **463** trainings / workshops were organized and **25490** farmers were trained through Regional Cum Facilitation Centres during the financial year **2017-18 to 2023-24**.

Ministry of Ayush, Government of India had also implemented the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the National Ayush Mission (NAM) during the financial year **2015-16 to 2020-21**. Wherein, Ministry of Ayush has supported **235** number of seminars/ workshops / buyer-seller meet / exposure visits and trainings for **19061** farmers through the concerned implementing agencies.

National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) have jointly developed e-CHARAK application as well as web portal for the promotion and processing of Medicinal Plants. “e-CHARAK” -e-Channel for Herbs, Aromatic, Raw material and knowledge is a platform to enable information exchange between various stakeholders involved in the medicinal plants sector. It is a multilingual platform available as Web and Mobile (IOS and Android) in 7 languages hosting agro-techniques of Medicinal plants, GAP, GFCP, post-harvest management techniques, schemes, etc. The detail of Achievements are given at **Annexure-I**.

Number of farmers trained under the different scheme of National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Ayush through project mode and Mission mode on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Field Collection Practices (GFCPs).

S.No.	Scheme Name/Component name	Number of farmers trained
1.	Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants.	
i.	Farmers trained under the projects supported for Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities from the financial year 2015-16 to 2023-24.	14352
ii.	Farmers trained under Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medicinal Plant Produce (VCSMPP) project (project approved during the financial year 2018-19).	4408
iii.	Farmers trained by Regional Cum Facilitation Centres (RCFCs) in project mode (project approved during the financial year 2017-18 to till date) .	25490
2.	Farmers trained under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) –medicinal plants component from the financial year 2015-16 to 2023-24	19061