

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1272
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000
HERBAL MEDICINAL PLANTS
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL;CHINMAYANAND;SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the most precious 217 species of herbal medicinal plants in Uttar Pradesh are on the verge of becoming extinct;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to save these species from extinction;
- (c) whether the Government propose to formulate any action plan to encourage the farmers to increase the cultivation of these precious herbal plants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

- (a) & (b) As per information available, 29 plants are stated to be rare/endangered. Wild life sanctuaries, National Parks, Biosphere Reserves and Botanical Gardens are used for conservation of such plants. Gene Banks have also been established to help in conservation of plants.
- (c) to (f) Central Sector Scheme has been implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research for encouraging farmers for cultivation of medicinal plants. Agro-techniques are being developed for ex-situ cultivation. A number of varieties of medicinal and aromatic plants have been developed and made available to the farmers for cultivation.