

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1969  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003  
HERBAL PLANTS  
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

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

- (a) whether a number of herbal plants could be grown in arid regions without much requirement of water;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has prepared any scheme to educate farmers to grow herbal plants in such regions; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir. A number of herbal plants like Aonla, Aloe, Ghritakumari, Babchi, Guggal, Kalmegh, Senna, Haritaki etc. could be grown in the arid regions without much requirement of water.

(b)&(c): The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on MacroManagement in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan under which cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants is one of the Activities. This scheme is being implemented in all the States of the country including the arid regions wherein activities like supply of quality planting material of medicinal plants, area expansion, establishment of demonstration plots and training of farmers are undertaken