

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2385
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to develop alternative systems of medicine such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy and Yoga keeping in view its domestic and enormous export potential and effective cure for a range of disorders;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have sought any assistance from the private sector to boost the development of the above alternative systems of medicines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the private sector in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): In order to develop and propagate, the Indian Systems of Medicine, the Government in 1995 established an independent Department of ISM&H in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Department of ISM&H has already formulated schemes for medicinal plant garden, preparation of agro-techniques, upgradation of undergraduate/postgraduate teaching, standardisation of drugs, encouraging extra mural research and dissemination of information through information, education and communication (IEC). In order to ensure manufacture of quality, Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani (ASU) drugs, the Department has notified Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) on 23rd June, 2000 under the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules 1945. Pharmacopoeias for the drugs of each of the systems are being published in a phased manner.

(c)to(e): In order to involve private sector in the development of various pathies under ISM&H, the Department of ISM&H had recently held a two days` seminar on `Good Health in the Millennium - Challenges for Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy` in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) on 6th & 7th April, 2000 in New Delhi which was inaugurated by the Hon`ble Prime Minister of India on 6th April, 2000. The Seminar had suggested setting up of Medicinal Plants Board, involvement of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy in primary health care, introduction of basic principles and concepts of ISM&H in curricula of MBBS, standardization of drugs and quality control. The industry agreed to start ISM&H dispensaries, grow medicinal plants and introduce Yoga in their establishments.