

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3554

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2005

GROWTH OF PLANTS

Singh Shri Rakesh

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether any discovery regarding growth of plants has been made at Jabalpur by the Birbal Sahney Palaeobotany Science Institute, Lucknow; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ( KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes sir.

(b) Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow has done extensive survey in and around Jabalpur. Plants of Early Cretaceous age (about 110 million years old) have been reported from the Chui Hill of Jabalpur. The flora consists of Pteridophytes (Cladophlebis and Sphenopteris) and Gymnosperms (Araucarites, Elatocladus, Pachypteris, Ptilophyllum, etc.). These plants no longer exist and have become extinct. Besides, a large number of fossil plants as old as 65 million years old have been reported particularly from Dindori and Mandla districts of Madhya Pradesh and the Institute has rendered its expertise in establishing the Ghughua National Fossil Park situated near Shahpura, about 80 km east of Jabalpur.