

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3573
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2005
HARVESTING OF FLOWERS FOR MEDICINAL USE
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the harvesting of flowers for odour and medicinal use in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any technical centre has been set-up in this regard in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof location-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken for marketing of these products in Indian as well as in international markets?

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) to (d): Some Central Ministries/Departments/Institutes are supporting various research programmes for the improvement, cultivation and harvesting of suitable flowers for scent and medicinal use in the country. Some constituent laboratories of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) such as Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants(CIMAP), Lucknow, Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Jammu, RRL,Bhubaneswar; RRL, Jorhat and Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur have been carrying out research on improvement and utilization of suitable flowers for scent and medicinal use along with imparting training to the farmers on cultivation practices. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has also set up a National Research Center on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants at Anand, Gujarat to carry out research on different aspects of medicinal and aromatic plants. The Ministry of Small-Scale Industries has also established Fragrance & Flavour Development Centre (FFDC) at Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh alongwith its five Cluster Centres located at Jhalawar and Dhaulpur in Rajasthan, Ganjam in Orissa, Patna in Bihar and Nainital in Uttaranchal State for specific crops of the region. The main objectives of the centre is to serve, sustain and upgrade the status of farmers and industry engaged in aromatic plants cultivation and its processing so as to make them competitive both in local and global markets by assisting in adoption of agronomical practices to introduce aroma bearing plants of higher yields, providing guidance on post-harvest technology, storage, packaging, sampling, marketing, testing and quality control services for the raw material and products. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has recently completed two projects on field demonstration of improved agrotechnology including processing of Damask rose and pyrethrum at CIMAP, Lucknow and identification of elite germplasm of kewda and developing their propagation techniques at RRL, Bhubaneswar.

(e) The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has a proposal to conduct study at national level to assess the demand / availability status of medicinal plants. A proposal for studying the volume/nature of export in overseas marketing has been taken up in association with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).