

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:918
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006
CULTIVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS
Baxla Shri Joachim

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the potentials of West Bengal for cultivation of medicinal plants and energy plantations like Ethanol have been examined;
- (b) if so, the details of the findings thereof alongwith the action taken thereon; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) has been set up under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to deal with all aspects of promotion and cultivation of Medicinal Plants in the country. The NMPB, have sanctioned 23 projects for promotion conservation, development and cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants in respect of the State of West Bengal at a total cost of Rs.199.30 lakh, during last 5 year (2001-02 to 2005-06). In India, Ethanol is produced from molasses for blending in petrol to the extent of 5%.