

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1477
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether studies of minor forest produce and industries based on non-wood forest product have undertaken Technology Management Programme;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the objective of such studies; and
- (d) the details of studies so far completed ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Studies on minor forest produce based industries have been initiated/ carried out for the States of Maharashtra, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu under the Technology Management Programme of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The outcome of these studies were: there are around 300 different varieties of minor forest produces available in the above regions such as amla, chironji, mahua, baelfruit, tendu leaves, asugandha etc.; the industries dependent on minor forest produce as raw material are Ayurvedic & Herbal Drugs Industry, Essential Oil Industry and Natural Pesticides & Insecticides Industry; the technologies needed for value addition of minor forest produce include super critical fluid extraction, fridge drying, microwave assisted extraction and cryogenic grinding technologies; and strategies for promoting minor forest based industries include conducting training programmes for motivation of farmers/cultivators to increase the yield of minor forest produce and promoting close linkages and coordination among R&D labs and industries for transfer of technologies required for value addition of minor forest produce.

(c) The objectives of such studies were: to assess the availability of minor forest produce in various regions; to assess the industries dependent on minor forest produce as raw material; to suggest measures towards generation of value added products based on minor forest produce as raw material; to assess the technologies needed for value addition; and to evolve strategies to promote minor forest produce based industries in the regions.

(d) Studies on minor forest produce based industries for the States of Maharashtra, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh have been completed so far.