

## ‘AYUSH HELPED 59,350 FARMERS GROW HERBS’

Relevant for: Science & Technology | Topic: Biotechnology, Genetics & Health related developments

Till date, the Ministry of Ayush has supported 59,350 farmers in the cultivation 84 medicinal plants species out of the 140 prioritised medicinal plants, and covered 56,305 hectare area throughout the country from the financial year 2015-16 to 2020-21, according to information submitted by Ayush Minister Sarbananda Sonowal in Rajya Sabha in the ongoing Parliament session.

He was responding to a question by RS member M.V. Shreyams Kumar on the number of farmers who cultivate medicinal plants availing the subsidy scheme for growing 140 prioritised plants and the total amount spent for subsidy during the last five years and the current year.

In his response the Minister added that under the medicinal plants component of the Centrally sponsored scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM), the Ministry had provided financial assistance in form of subsidy to encourage the farmers for cultivation of medicinal plants throughout the country from the 2015-16 to 2020-21. Under the scheme, 140 medicinal plants species have been prioritised for supporting cultivation for which the subsidy was provided to farmers at — 30%, 50% and 75% of cost of cultivation.

During the last five years, the Ministry has provided assistance of Rs. 11,773.830 lakh for cultivation of 84 medicinal plants throughout the country, noted the reply.

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