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AP unveils project to protect IPRs on traditional medicine

Our Bureau

Hyderabad , Nov 11

IN a bid to protect Indian intellectual property rights, the Government of India has taken up a Rs 120-crore Golden Triangle Project to scientifically validate the procedures and processes in the indigenous systems of medicine.

Once identified, these unique attributes would be registered in 11 countries, according to Dr Anbumani Ramadoss, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

About 70,000 ayurvedic, 55,000 unani, and 15,000 siddha formulations have been compiled so far. The Government has already spent Rs 12-13 crore on the effort. These formulations will be registered in 11 countries including the US, European Union, Canada, and Australia.

Addressing the inaugural of the first edition of Arogya-2005 on Friday, the Minister said that the Golden Triangle project would involve the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine.

He added that efforts are on to build a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) in order to document the procedures.

Stating that response to plant-based medicines was increasing all over the world, he said that it was very important to protect the traditional medical wisdom.

The Government is very keen to encourage promotive and

preventive medicine. Henceforth, Arogya would be held annually in Hyderabad, he added.

The FICCI and the Department of Ayush under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organised the three-day expo.

The Minister said that the response to the Chennai and New Delhi editions of Arogya was tremendous. Seeing the response, the Government proposes to take the expo to Kolkata, Bangalore, and Mumbai.

On bird flu, he said that the Government would acquire one million doses from the WHO. The Government also plans to set up an influenza vaccine manufacturing facility.

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