

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2246
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2023**

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS BROUGHT UNDER AYUSH SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

2246 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of **AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of educational reforms brought under Ayush system of medicine;
- (b) the extent to which National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) Act and National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act helped to bring in above reforms;
- (c) the emphasis the Ministry is giving on scientific research;
- (d) whether it is a fact that WHO has recognized Ayush centres for traditional medicine;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the manner in which the Ministry is taking advantage of WHO recognition to take Indian Ayush to other countries of the world?

**ANSWER
MINISTRY OF AYUSH
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

- (a) and (b) The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020 and the National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 21.09.2020, accordingly, Central Government has constituted commissions *namely* the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) to provide quality and affordable medical education, ensure availability of adequate and high quality medical professionals of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy in all part of the country and encourages such medical professionals to adopt latest medical research in their work and to contribute to research.

As per NCISM Act, 2020, separate autonomous boards have been constituted under the Commission namely, Board of Ayurveda and Board of Unani , Siddha and Sowa Rigpa for education policy related matters; Medical Assessment and Rating Board for Indian System of Medicine for Assessment and Rating of Medical Institutions of Indian System of Medicine; Board of Ethics and Registration for Indian System of Medicine to address the issues related to Ethics and Registration of the Indian System of Medicine practitioners. Similarly, As per NCH Act, 2020, separate autonomous boards have been constituted under the Commission namely, Homoeopathy Education Board for education policy related matters; Medical Assessment and Rating Board for Homoeopathy for Assessment and Rating of Medical Institutions of Homoeopathy; Board of Ethics and Registration for Homoeopathy to address the issues related to Ethics and Registration of the Homoeopathy practitioners.

For monitoring of quality of Education, through NCISM Act, 2020 and NCH Act, 2020, there is an uniform National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test for admission to the undergraduate courses & Post Graduate National Entrance Test for Post-graduation Course respectively in each of the disciplines of the Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy in all medical institutions governed under these Acts. The aforesaid Acts has also provisions for National Exit Test, a common final year undergraduate medical examination shall be held for granting license to practice as medical practitioners and National Teachers Eligibility Test shall be conducted separately for the post-graduates of ISM & Homoeopathy who desire to take up teaching profession in that discipline.

To produce highly competent/proficient/meritorious ISM & Homoeopathy medical graduates.-

(i) Minimum Standard Requirements in Medical Education (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani Sowa-Rigpa and Homoeopathy undergraduate courses) have been notified for implementation with immediate effect; Competency/Outcome Based Course Curriculum and Syllabus for first professional course in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa (ASUS) and Homoeopathy have been implemented to ensure competency of the medical students; Early clinical exposure to medical students implemented from first year of the course/ program.

(ii) Methodology to supplement modern advances, scientific and technological developments in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa (ASUS) and Homoeopathy curriculum has been included in the regulations.

(iii) To promote multi-disciplinary attitude and approach, 28 online elective courses have also been started for first professional undergraduate medical students of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa (ASUS).

(iv) Industry-Academia interface has been initiated to provide industry exposure to the postgraduate students of concerned specialty in Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani.

(v) To improve the quality of teaching institutions in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa (ASUS) medical systems Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been developed for the online visitation and assessment of ASUS teaching colleges and attached hospitals.

(vi) To promote quality in research and publications, NCISM has trained 60 master trainers well-oriented in publication ethics, research integrity and scientific writing so as to train all PG guides of ASUS post graduate institutions across the country and made MOU with CCRAS to provide research grant for UG and PG students under SPARK scheme.

(vii) To promote quality in teaching, NCISM has trained around 2000 teaching faculties of ASUS as educational technologists.

(c) Ministry of Ayush has a mandate for coordination and promotion of research and development in Ayush systems of Health Care. Ministry has 5 Autonomous Organizations working under it having a common objective of Evidence Based Research in their respective systems of medicine includes Medicinal Plant Research (Medico-ethno botanical Survey, Pharmacognosy and Tissue Culture), Drug Standardization, Pharmacological Research, Clinical Research, Literary Research & Documentation and Tribal Health Care Research Programme. These five Research Councils are:

1. Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)
2. Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN)

3. Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM)
4. Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS)
5. Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH)

Apart from these autonomous organizations, Ministry of Ayush also runs Ayurgyan Scheme (Central Sector Schemes) which has Research and Innovation as a component of scheme. This Research and Innovation component (erstwhile Extra Mural Research Scheme) of Ayurgyan scheme was introduced to tap the potential of medical institutes, scientific research & development institution, universities and organizations for the research needs of Ayush sector, with an aim to expand the ambit of research in Ayush systems. Research and Innovation component of Ayurgyan Scheme has been designed to encourage Research & Development in priority areas based on disease burden in alignment to National Health Programme. The priority areas of support are fundamental concepts, basic principles, theories of Ayush systems, standardization/validation of Ayush drugs and new drug development. Outcomes of the Research Scheme have successfully demonstrated the effectiveness of Ayush systems and were successful in developing novel technology and are expected to harness the potential of Ayush in the interest of public health delivery.

Ministry of Ayush has conceptualized National Ayush Research Consortium consisting of Ministry of Ayush, DSIR, DBT and DST in consultation with NITI Aayog, to develop an institutionalized system of high end, global standard quality research in Ayush systems. This consortium will work with a multidisciplinary approach with scientists from basic science and Ayush to own Ayush research, sit together, visualize healthcare challenges, and plan and execute R&D initiatives to realize the goal of Health for all. This intends to create a Research to Policy Collaboration Model for effective implementation in Policy initiatives and translation of R&D outcomes in public health. Cabinet Secretary has given in-principle approval and a Consortium of Secretaries of Ministry of Ayush (as chair), Department of Science & Technology (DST), Department of Bio Technology (DBT), Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR), Department of Commerce (DoC), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India (MoEFCCI) and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has been created. Sub Committee is also made to chalk out funding mechanism and roadmap. Ministry of Ayush has signed two MoU with Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Bio Technology (DBT) to explore the possibility of co-operation, convergence and synergy to have evidence-based scientific and biotechnological interventions in Ayush sector.

- (d) and (e) There are the two WHO-Collaborating-Centres of Ayush Systems of Medicine.- (i) Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Delhi, (ii) Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar (Gujarat).
- (f) The Ministry of Ayush together with World Health Organization (WHO) as part of the Project collaboration agreement (PCA), developed and launched four WHO benchmark documents for Ayurveda and Unani.
