

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 419
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th FEBRUARY, 2024**

SYNERGY BETWEEN MODERN AND TRADITIONAL SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE

419. DR. SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being taken to work holistically in the health sector with synergy between traditional preventive healthcare and modern medical facilities;
- (b) the initiatives being undertaken enabling the reach of healthcare services to the remote areas of the nation; and
- (c) the new measures being taken to promote equality in healthcare services and making them affordable and accessible to common people?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a): Government of India has adopted a strategy of Co-location of AYUSH facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), thus enabling the choice to the patients for different systems of medicines under a single window. AYUSH services have been allocated at 470 DHs, 3,149 CHCs, 204 health facilities other than CHC at or above block level but below district level, 6,891 PHCs and 2,894 health facilities above Sub-centre (SC) but below block level, as on 30th September, 2023.

AYUSH is integrated with various new and upcoming All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) established under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. A Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) comprising members from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Ministry of Ayush has been constituted to work out modalities for effective and expeditious integration of AYUSH in new and upcoming AIIMS.

Wellness-related activities like Yoga, cycling, and meditation, are conducted in Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs). As on 31.01.2024, total number of wellness sessions conducted including yoga are 3.10 cr under Ayushman Arogya Mandir including Ayushman Melas.

(b) & (c): In February 2018, the Government of India announced establishment of 1,50,000 Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) [now renamed as Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs)] across the country by December 2022. As updated by the States/UTs in AAM portal, a total of 1,64,478 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs have been established and operationalized, till 31.01.2024, by transforming existing Sub-Health Centres (SHC) and Primary Health Centres (PHC) in rural and urban areas to deliver the expanded range of comprehensive primary healthcare services with complete 12 package of services that includes preventive, promotive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative services which are universal, free, and closer to the community.

The teleconsultation services, available at operational AAMs, enables people to access the specialist services closer to their homes addressing concerns of physical accessibility, saving cost to care, shortage of service providers and to ensure continuum of care. Total teleconsultation conducted at Ayushman Arogya Mandir including Ayushman Melas are 19.41 cr as on 31.01.2024.

This Ministry supports 'Free Diagnostics Service Initiative' programme under NHM with the aim to provide accessible and affordable pathological and radiological diagnostics services closer to the community, which in turn reduces the Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE). Diagnostics services are provided free of cost at all levels of public health facilities (14 tests at Sub Centers, 63 at Primary Health Centers, 97 at Community Health Centres, 111 test at Sub District Hospitals and 134 tests at District Hospitals).

To ensure availability of essential drugs and reduce the OOPE of the patients visiting the public health facilities, Government has rolled out the Free Drugs Service Initiative under NHM. This includes financial support to States/UTs for 106 drugs at SHC level, 172 at PHC level, 300 at CHC level, 318 at SDH level and 381 drugs at district Hospitals.

MoHFW is organising health camps as part of on-spot activities under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra which includes Screening and Referral for Tuberculosis, Non-Communicable Diseases (Hypertension and Diabetes) and Sickle Cell Disease, Nikshay Mitra Registration and Consent under Nikshay Mitra, Seeding of Bank Accounts for Nikshay Poshan Yojna, Ayushman Card creation and Physical Card distribution.

Ayushman Bhav Campaign was launched by Hon'ble President of India on 13th September, 2023. Ayushman Bhav Campaign is envisaged to saturate selected health care services in every village/ town in line with the commitment of Hon'ble Prime Minister to ensure reach to the last mile and enable access to health care services to everyone in the society.
