

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 81
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30TH JULY, 2024**

APEX COMMITTEE ON ACUPUNCTURE

81 SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) the actions taken by Government to recognise acupuncture as a system of health therapy;
- (b) whether Government has constituted any apex committee for the purpose and promotion of acupuncture;
- (c) if so, the details of recommendations and guidelines by the apex committee;
- (d) the actions being taken by Government on the recommendation and guidelines of the committee;
- (e) whether Government is considering to form any national level council for acupuncture; and
- (f) whether the Ministry has held any discussion with Ministry of Ayush to include acupuncture under Ayush?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

- (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 81 * FOR 30TH JULY, 2024**

(a) Based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Experts, practice of Acupuncture was qualified as a 'mode of therapy'.

Thereafter, an Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC), constituted by the Department of Health Research, had recommended in 2018 that Acupuncture can be accepted as an independent system of healthcare for the indications for which there is evidence and expertise exists for teaching, training and certification.

(b) & (c) After consideration of IDC report, 'Apex Committee on Acupuncture' (ACA) was constituted for the purpose of promotion and regulation of Acupuncture as a system of healthcare / therapy. The recommendations and the guidelines of the ACA include proposed course curricula for certificate, degree and diploma courses in acupuncture; proposed template for rules and regulations for regulating the system, and suggestions for reimbursement for acupuncture treatment. The Committee has further recommended that in order to implement the guidelines, the Government of India may take appropriate decision about establishing an appropriate regulatory mechanism so as to ensure a conducive environment and system for promotion and regulation of practice of acupuncture as a system of healthcare and therapy in the country.

(d) to (f) The recommendations of Apex Committee on Acupuncture for establishing an appropriate regulatory mechanism are under active consideration of the Government. In this regard, a comprehensive consultation, involving multiple departments, including Ministry of AYUSH, has been completed.
