GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 822 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2025

Integration of AYUSH into mainstream public healthcare 822 Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:

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

- (a) the manner in which the integration of AYUSH into mainstream public healthcare would contribute to the achievement of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being);
- (b) the detailed roadmap for scaling up AYUSH services in public healthcare facilities, including timelines, budgets, and key performance indicators; and
- (c) the details of Government's strategy for standardizing AYUSH practices and ensuring quality control across public healthcare facilities and how Government will address the issue of scarcity of qualified AYUSH professionals, particularly in rural areas?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) To ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all ages under goal no 3 (Good Health and Well-being) of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Ayush system are expected to contribute significantly to achieve the goal. In this regard it is stated that National Health Policy, 2017 emphasized nurturing the AYUSH system of medicine through the development of infrastructural facilities of teaching institutions and initiating community-based AYUSH interventions for preventive & promotive healthcare. Three-dimensional mainstreaming at primary, secondary and tertiary care level is also emphasized to be continued. Ministry is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) through State /UT Governments and supporting their efforts through various activities to achieve the goal.
- (b) Government of India has adopted a strategy of Co-location of Ayush services in public healthcare facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), scaling up Ayush Services in Public healthcare facilities and enabling the choice to the patients for different systems of medicines under a single window.

The engagement of Ayush doctors/ paramedics and their training is being supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under National Health Mission (NHM), while the support for Ayush infrastructure, equipment/ furniture and medicines is being provided by the Ministry of Ayush under National Ayush Mission (NAM), as shared responsibilities. Further, under (NAM) State/UT Governments and providing financial assistance to them for different activities including scaling up Ayush services in public healthcare facilities. The mission interalia makes provision for following activities:

- (i) Operationlisation of Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush) by upgrading existing Ayush dispensaries and Sub health Centres.
- (ii) Co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs).
- (iii) Upgradation of existing standalone Government Ayush Hospitals.
- (iv) Upgradation of existing Government/Panchayat/Government aided Ayush Dispensaries/ Construction of building for existing Ayush Dispensary (Rented/dilapidated accommodation)/ Construction of building to establish new Ayush Dispensary in the area where there are no Ayush facilities available.
- (v) Setting up of 10/30/50 bedded Integrated Ayush Hospitals.
- (vi) Supply of essential drugs to Government Ayush Hospitals, Government Dispensaries and Government/Government aided Teaching Institutional Ayush Hospitals.
- (vii) Ayush Public Health Programmes.
- (viii) Establishment of new Ayush colleges in the States where availability of Ayush teaching institutions is inadequate in Government Sector.
- (ix) Infrastructural development of Ayush Under-Graduate Institutions and Ayush Post-Graduate Institutions/ add on PG/ Pharmacy /Para-Medical Courses.

Since implementation of NAM scheme comes under purview of respective State/UT Governments, accordingly no specific timeline/targets are being fixed by the Government of India. As per the proposals received through State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs) Grant-in-aid of Rs 4534.28 crore has been released to the State/UTs for implementation of different approved activities. Further, there are provision to carry out evaluation of National Ayush Mission Scheme at regular interval in States/UTs to monitor the performance of different activities and already defined parameters/indicators of NAM Guidelines as being implemented for the purpose.

(c) In regard to and ensuring quality control across public healthcare facilities, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India and the Quality Council of India (QCI), through its Board, National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & healthcare Providers (NABH), for NABH Ayush Entry Level certification (AELC) of Ayush Health & Wellness Centers (AHWCs) now renamed as Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush) and Integrated Ayush hospitals supported under the National Ayush Mission (NAM). Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush) and Ayush Hospitals have been launched on 04th March, 2024 by the then Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. Accordingly, these standards have been shared with State /UT Governments for compliance to improve the quality of health care delivery in the country. Further, Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) has also been published for standardizing Ayush practices. Mainstreaming of Ayush is one of the core strategies in National Health Mission to address the issue of scarcity of qualified Ayush professionals, particularly in rural areas which seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the population.
