GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2568 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2025

Integration of Ayush systems of medicine with modern medicine

2568 Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

Will the Minister of Ayush be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken initiatives towards integration of Ayush systems of medicine with modern medicine and for promotion of Ayush systems of medicine and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the measures taken by Government to ensure quality and efficacy of Ayush, Siddha, Unani, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy medicine; and
- (c) whether Government has set up Ayush hospitals, academic and research institutions in every district of the country on the lines of modern medical system and if so, the details thereof?

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

- (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. 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, Ministry of Ayush is supporting the efforts of the State/UT Governments for overall development and promotion of the Ayush systems of Medicine. However, in this regard suitable proposals are required to be submitted by the State /UT Governments through State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs) as per the provisions of NAM guidelines. The NAM inter-alia makes provision for the following activities:
- (i) Operationalization of Ayush Health & Wellness Centres (AHWCs) now renamed as Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush).
- (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
- (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 Programs
- (viii) Ayush Gram
- (ix)Behavior Change Communication (BCC)
- (x) Establishment of new Ayush colleges in the States where availability of AYUSH teaching institutions is inadequate in Government Sector.
- (xi) Infrastructural development of Ayush Under-Graduate Institutions and Ayush Post-Graduate Institutions/add on PG/ Pharmacy/Para-Medical Courses.

In addition to above, Ministry of Ayush is also implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Promotion of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) in Ayush to create awareness regarding Ayush Systems of Medicine. This scheme aims to reach out to all sections of the population across the country and under this Scheme, Ministry organizes National/State level Arogya Fairs, Yoga Fests/Utsavs, Ayurveda Parvs, Celebrate Important Days of Ayush Systems including Ayurveda day, Participate in Health Fairs/ Melas & Exhibitions, provide financial assistance for organizing seminars, workshops, conferences and conduct multimedia campaigns etc.

(b) The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945 have exclusive regulatory provisions for Ayurvedic, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani, and Homoeopathy drugs. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements to compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T & Schedule M-I of the Drugs Rules, 1945 for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani drugs and Homoeopathy drugs respectively and also to follow the quality standards of drugs as prescribed in the respective pharmacopoeia.

Drug Inspectors collect medicine samples regularly from manufacturing firms or shops within their jurisdiction and send them to Drug Testing Laboratory under Drug Control department for quality testing and if any sample is found to be 'Not of Standard Quality', appropriate action is initiated such as preventing the sale of the products from the market and appropriate legal actions as per Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules made thereunder.

Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), subordinate office under Ministry of Ayush lays down the formulary specifications and pharmacopoeial standards for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) drugs

which serves as official compendia for ascertaining the quality (identity, purity and strength) of the ASU&H drugs. PCIM&H also acts as the Central Drugs Laboratory for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy for the purpose of testing or analysis of ASU&H Drugs.

Drug Testing Laboratories are being recognized under Rule 160 A to J of the Drugs Rules, 1945 for carrying out such tests of identity, purity, quality and strength of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs. As on date, 108 private laboratories are approved or licensed under the provisions of Drugs Rules, 1945 for manufacturers. 34 Drug Testing Laboratories of State/UTs are testing quality of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and raw materials for legal samples.

Ministry of Ayush has implemented a Central Sector Scheme Ayush Oushadhi Gunavatta Evam Uttpadan Samvardhan Yojana (AOGUSY), with total Budget allocation of Rs. 122.00 for Strengthening and up-gradation of Ayush Pharmacies and Drug Testing Laboratories to achieve higher standards under one of its components.

Further Ministry of Ayush encourages following certifications of Ayush products as per details below:-

- An Ayush vertical has been created in Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) to strengthen regulatory measures ensuring safety and quality of Ayush drugs. Further, CDSCO issues WHO Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (WHO-CoPP) to Ayush drugs having compliance to such standards.
- Quality Certifications Scheme implemented by the Quality Council of India (QCI) for grant of AYUSH standard and premium mark to Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani products on the basis of third-party evaluation of quality in accordance with the status of compliance to domestic and international standards.
- (c) Public Health being a State Subject, the primary responsibility for setting up of Ayush hospitals, academic and research institutions in every district of the country on the lines of modern medical system, lies with the respective State Government. However, under NAM, there are provisions for setting up of 10/30/50 bedded Integrated Ayush Hospitals and for establishment of new Ayush colleges in the States where availability of Ayush teaching institutions is inadequate in Government Sector. In this regard, financial assistance is provided to the State/UT Government against their proposals submitted through State Annual Action Plan (SAAP), as per the provisions of NAM guideline. Accordingly, suitable proposals are required to be submitted in this regard. However, there is no provision for setting up of Research Institutions under NAM.
