

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 164

TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st JULY 2026

Promotion of evidence based research in AYUSH system of medicine

164. Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

Will the Minister of Ayush be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated a roadmap for transition of AYUSH systems from experience-based practice to evidence-based validation through structured clinical research and scientific documentation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any framework has been developed to integrate AYUSH systems with mainstream healthcare to ensure coordinated and patient-centric care and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the research collaborations, funding allocations, regulatory reforms and institutional mechanisms established to promote evidence generation and integrated healthcare delivery in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH

(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) Yes, Ministry of Ayush has formulated an Ayush policy roadmap for promoting the transition of Ayush systems from experience-based practice to evidence-based healthcare through scientific research, structured clinical studies, evidence generation, digital documentation, capacity building and institutional mechanisms. Several initiatives have been undertaken through its apex Central Research Councils, Schemes and digital platforms across all streams of Ayush to generate scientific evidence, support policy formulation and facilitate integration of Ayush into the healthcare system.
- (b) Yes, the following framework has been developed to integrate Ayush systems with mainstream healthcare:

1. Mainstreaming of Ayush is one of the core strategies under National Health Mission (NHM), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) which seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the population. To promote traditional systems of medicine and wellness in the country, Government of India has adopted an integrated strategy of co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), thus enabling the patients to choose for different systems of medicines under a single window. 6302 PHCs, 3191 CHCs and 475 DHs have been co-located across the country as per the NHM-Medical Information System (MIS) database as on 31.12.2025.
2. Establishment of the Ayush Vertical under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) as a dedicated institutional mechanism for providing technical support for integration of Ayush into public health programmes, healthcare services, medical education and capacity building.
3. A competency-based and patient-centric framework has been developed for undergraduate students through the National Commission for Homoeopathy by introduction of early clinical exposure and competency-based clinical training, inclusion of Modern Pharmacology, Psychology, Yoga and interdisciplinary electives, compulsory internships at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), district hospitals and rural health institutions, community outreach programmes, village adoption programmes and peripheral Outdoor Patient Department (OPD) and strengthening referral linkages through community clinics and collegiate hospitals.

(c) The details of the research collaborations, funding allocations, regulatory reforms and institutional mechanisms established to promote evidence generation and integrated healthcare delivery are as follows:

1. Ministry of Ayush is implementing the Central Sector Scheme namely Ayurgyan Scheme from FY 2021-22. Under Research & Innovation (R&I) and Ayurveda Biology Integrated Health Research (ABIHR) components, financial assistance is provided to eligible organizations as per provisions contained in the scheme guidelines for conducting research activities in the field of Ayush systems of medicine (including clinical trials) for generation of scientific evidence on the safety, efficacy of Ayush interventions. An amount of Rs.5828.84 Lakhs has been released under ABIHR component of Ayurgyan Scheme from FY 2023-24 onwards for 11 Research Projects.
2. The apex Central Research Councils & National Institutes under the aegis of Ministry of Ayush are conducting collaborative research with reputed medical colleges, Indian Institutes of Technology, (IITs), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) & Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories and other scientific organizations for clinical research, public health research, drug standardization and evidence generation. The details of Budget Estimate (BE), Revised Estimate (RE) and Actual Expenditure (AE) of Research Councils are at **Annexure I**.
3. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between ICMR and Ministry of Ayush on 11th May 2023, to promote integrative health research to explore the areas of collaboration and synergy between Ministry of Ayush and ICMR for integrative health research and to strengthen the research capacity of Ayush and ICMR scientists. In addition, ICMR, and Ministry of Ayush through Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) have jointly undertaken a major initiative to establish

Ayush–ICMR Advanced Centres for Integrative Health Research (AI-ACIHR) at selected AIIMS institutions. These centres aim to develop high-quality evidence in priority disease areas and create robust models for integrative healthcare.

4. Establishment of Integrated Ayush Departments at Vardhman Mahavir Medical College (VMMC) & Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi along with extended Ayush OPD services by the Ayush Research Councils.
5. Development of Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) for Ayush systems to facilitate evidence-informed clinical practice and integration. STGs for six common musculoskeletal disorders (2024) and five common metabolic disorders (2025) have been published. National Master Trainer programmes have also been conducted in collaboration with the Central Health Education Bureau, followed by cascading training across States and Union Territories.
6. Development of Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for Ayush healthcare facilities (Ayushman Arogya Mandir and Hospitals) to facilitate integration of Ayush services within the public healthcare system.
7. Issuance of Ayush Public Health Advisories in coordination with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and development of Ayush guidelines for the Establishment of Tobacco Cessation Centres (TCCs) to facilitate integration of Ayush into public health programmes and strengthen integrative healthcare delivery.
8. Training and capacity-building programmes for Ayush healthcare professionals to promote standardized clinical practices and interdisciplinary collaboration, along with integration of Ayush services into National Health Programmes and other collaborative initiatives with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Annexure I

Sl. No	Schemes / Programmes	2025-26			2026-27
		BE	RE	AE (Prov.)	BE
1.	Grant to Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences	457.20	518.85	526.34	524.05
2.	Grant to Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine	214.50	199.00	199.00	208.50
3.	Grant to Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy	165.00	214.00	214.00	227.25
4.	Grant to Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy	105.45	46.95	41.60	137.70
5.	Grant for Central Councils for Research in Siddha	67.40	71.34	71.34	120.98
	Total:	1009.55	1050.14	1052.28	1218.48