

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2566
ANSWERED ON-11/08/2026

ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNCTIONAL AYUSH HWCS UNDER NAM

2566 SHRI SANJAY SETH

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state :-

- (a) the total number of functional AYUSH Health and Wellness Centers (HWCs) established nationwide under the National AYUSH Mission (NAM);
- (b) the financial allocation earmarked for mainstreaming traditional medicine systems into primary healthcare;
- (c) whether the Ministry has established international collaborations to scientifically validate Ayurvedic formulations globally;
- (d) the steps taken to incentivize the commercial cultivation of high-value endangered medicinal plants; and
- (e) the measures implemented to strictly regulate quality standards for exported AYUSH products?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) As per the proposals received from the State/UT Governments through State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs), a total number of 12,500 Ayush Health and Wellness Centers [now known as Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush)] have been approved across the country for operationalization by upgrading existing Ayush Dispensaries & Sub Health Centres under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) and as reported by the States/UTs, all are functional.

(b) Government of India has adopted a strategy of Co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centers (PHCs), Community Health Centers (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 NAM, as shared responsibilities. There are 6302 PHCs, 3191

CHCs & 475 DHs have been co-located with Ayush facilities across the country as per the NHM-MIS database as on 31.12.2025. Further, under NAM, as per the proposals received from the States/UTs through SAAPs, an amount of Rs. 6406.99 Crores have been released as Central share from the year 2014-15 to 2025-26 for implementation of different approved activities/programmes including mainstreaming of traditional medicine systems into primary healthcare throughout the country.

(c) Ministry of Ayush is implementing the Central Sector Scheme for Promotion of International Cooperation for Ayush including Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy. Under this scheme, the Ministry provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to the export of Ayush products and services; facilitates the International promotion, development and recognition of Ayush systems of medicine; foster interaction of stakeholders and market development of Ayush at international level; promote academics and research through the establishment of Ayush Academic Chairs in foreign countries and holding training workshop/symposiums for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about Ayush Systems of Medicine at international level.

Ministry of Ayush has Signed 27 Country to Country MoUs, 16 Ayush Chair MoUs and 57 Institute to Institute level MoUs for the international promotion and propagation of Ayush systems.

(d) Presently, there is no scheme in NMPB for cultivation of Medicinal Plants. However, NMPB is implementing Central Sector Scheme (CSS) on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” throughout the country. The scheme is aimed at providing project based support for the different activities. The Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated Component) is one of the component of CSS scheme wherein following activities are being supported:

- Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material to raise the planting material of medicinal plants for cultivation of NMPB’s prioritized medicinal plants including high value endangered medicinal plants.
- Information Education Communication (IEC) activities to aware the farmers about the cultivation of medicinal plants.
- Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing to increase the marketability of the medicinal plants, adding value to the produce, increasing profitability and reducing losses.
- Quality Testing and Certification of raw material.

NMPB, Ministry of Ayush has supported 12 projects to the different organizations under “Forward and Backward Linkages in supply chain of Medicinal Plants (Integrated Component)” of Central Sector Scheme during the Financial Year 2024 -25.

(e) The Ministry of Ayush has undertaken following initiatives to strengthen the quality ecosystem for Ayush medicines, including support for quality certification for exports of Ayush medicines:

- i. Ministry of Ayush is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Ayush Oushadhi Gunvatta Evam Utpadan Samvardhan Yojana (AOGUSY) to support Ayush Pharmacies and Drug Testing Laboratories to achieve higher standards like WHO-GMP and National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) respectively. Further, the scheme also supports for development of standards and accreditation/certification of Ayush products & materials in collaboration with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Quality Control of India (QCI) and other relevant scientific institutions and industrial Research & Development centres.
- ii. Drug Testing Laboratories are approved by the Ministry of Ayush under Rules 160A to 160J of the Drugs Rules, 1945, for carrying out tests relating to the identity, purity, quality and strength of Ayush drugs. As on date, 118 private Drug Testing Laboratories have been approved by the Ministry across States and Union Territories for conducting such tests in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs Rules, 1945. In addition, there are 34 Drug Testing Laboratories available in State/UTs for testing of the Legal Samples drawn by the Drug Inspectors of concerned State/UTs.
- iii. The Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), a subordinate organization under Ministry of Ayush, develops pharmacopoeial standards and formulary specifications for Ayush drugs, which serve as the official compendia for determining their identity, purity, and strength. Compliance with these standards is mandatory under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules made thereunder. PCIM&H also functions as the Appellate Drug Testing Laboratory for Ayush drugs and conducts regular capacity-building programmes for Drug Regulatory Authorities, Drug Analysts, and other stakeholders on standardization, quality control, and testing methodologies to strengthen the quality assurance system for Ayush drugs.
- iv. WHO Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (WHO-CoPP) to Ayush drugs is issued by Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) after joint inspections of manufacturing units by Drug Inspectors posted in Ayush vertical along with drug inspectors of State/UTs and CDSCO for compliance with WHO Technical Report Series (TRS) guidelines for Herbal Medicines.
- v. Ministry of Ayush has launched Ayush Quality Mark (AQM) initiative through the Ayush Export Promotion Council (AYUSHEXCIL). Under this framework, the Ayush Quality Mark is being granted after scrutiny and verification of valid quality certifications and statutory approvals issued by the competent Government authorities, such as WHO-GMP, Ayush Premium Mark and other recognised certifications, as applicable.
- vi. Ayush Standard Mark and Ayush Premium Mark are awarded to Ayush Drugs by Quality Council of India (QCI) based on third-party assessment of compliance with prescribed national and international quality standards.
