GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1582
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2023

EFFECTIVENESS OF AYURVEDA MEDICINES FOR COVID-19

1582. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of ayurveda medicines in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic;
(b) whether Union and State Governments have approved any ayurveda medicines for pre and post COVID-19 treatment and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether any study has been carried out to assess the efficacy and success of such ayurveda medicines and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a group of scientists and physicians recently launched a campaign in social media calling all AYUSH Systems “pseudoscience”; and
(e) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF AYUSH
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) Ministry of Ayush has taken various steps for the management and mitigation of COVID-19 through Ayush systems of medicine including Ayurveda. Details are at Annexure-I.


The ITRC for COVID-19 has suggested and recommended following three Ayurveda medicines for the prevention/management of COVID-19 -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.no.</th>
<th>Name of the product</th>
<th>Company name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Coronil Tablet</td>
<td>M/s Patanjali Research Foundation Trust, Uttrakhand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Clevira tablet</td>
<td>M/s Apex Laboratories Private Ltd., Chennai.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>NAOQ19 tablet</td>
<td>M/s Sri Sri Sriveda Sattva Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.</td>
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(c) Yes Sir. Ministry of Ayush has formed an Inter-disciplinary AYUSH R&D Task Force chaired by Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan and having representation from scientists including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and AYUSH Institutions. The Interdisciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Task Force has formulated and designed clinical research protocols for prophylactic studies and add-on interventions in COVID-19 positive cases through thorough review and consultative process of experts of high repute from different organizations across the country for studying four different interventions viz. Ashwagandha, Yashtimadhu, Guduchi + Pippali and a poly herbal formulation (AYUSH-64).


Ministry of Ayush has also launched interdisciplinary studies involving Ayush interventions for COVID-19 based on recommendations of Task force. Under various research organizations and National Institutes under Ministry of Ayush, 150 research studies in the country are being conducted on Ayush interventions.

Ayush Sanjivani mobile app has also been developed by Ministry of Ayush and has documented the impact assessment of effectiveness, acceptance and usage of Ayush advisories & measures in the prevention of COVID-19 through Mobile app base population study in around 1.35 crores respondents and analysis of 7.24 lakh public data revealed that 85.1% of the respondents reported use of Ayush measures for prevention of COVID-19, among which 89.8% respondents agreed to have benefitted from the practice of Ayush advisory.
(d) and (e) Ministry of Ayush is aware that a few vested interest led professionals keep on trying to denigrate Ayush systems. Whenever a specific allegation is made the Ministry responds with relevant facts. On the other hand, the Ministry of Ayush regularly posts research based social media posts and also utilizes the Press Information Bureau (PIB) route to refute false claims through the “Fake News” section.
Annexure- I

i. Ministry of Ayush recommends self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity.
   - General Measures
   - Ayurvedic Immunity Promoting Measures
   - Simple Ayurvedic Procedures
   - During dry cough/sore throat


iii. Ministry of Ayush has also released Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha preventive measures for selfcare during COVID-19 and Guidelines for Ayush Practitioners for COVID-19 Patients in Home Isolation.


viii. The scientists of reputed research institutions of the country have found that AYUSH 64, a poly herbal formulation developed by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush is useful in the treatment of asymptomatic, mild and moderate COVID-19 infection as an adjunct to standard care. In order to provide maximum benefit of Ayush systems of medicine, a Nation-wide campaign has been launched for distribution of AYUSH-64 and Kabasura Kudineer through 86 clinical units of Research Councils and National Institutes under Ministry of Ayush.