

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1582  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> 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**.

(b) Ministry of Ayush has constituted an Interdisciplinary Technical Review Committee (ITRC) for COVID-19 vide notification No. T-14020/5/2020-DCC dated 28.10.2020 for the examination of the applications/claims on Patent & Proprietary (P&P) Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani & Homoeopathy (ASU&H) medicines/ classical ASU&H medicines with new indication or re-purposing of licensed P&P, ASU&H medicines for COVID-19, forwarded by State Licensing Authorities/ Individuals referred by Ministry of Ayush.

The ITRC for COVID-19 has suggested and recommended following three Ayurveda medicines for the prevention/management of COVID-19 -

| <b>S.no.</b> | <b>Name of the product</b> | <b>Company name</b>                                   |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| 1.           | Coronil Tablet             | M/s Patanjali Research Foundation Trust, Uttarakhand. |
| 2.           | Clevira tablet             | M/s Apex Laboratories Private Ltd., Chennai.          |
| 3.           | NAOQ19 tablet              | M/s Sri Sri Sriveda Sattva Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.      |

(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 issued Gazette notification L.11011/8/2020/AS dated 21.04.2020 for undertaking research on COVID-19 through Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy Systems including prophylactic measures, intervention during the quarantine, asymptomatic and symptomatic cases of COVID-19, Public Health Research, Survey, Lab Based Research etc. to generate evidence.

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."

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## 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
- ii. Government of India has also released “**National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for management of COVID-19**” prepared by National Task force. The Ayurveda protocol includes guidelines for prophylaxis, management of asymptomatic and mild COVID-19 cases and post-COVID management.
- 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.
- iv. Ministry of Ayush has released Home care guidelines for children and Advisory for AYUSH Practitioners about prophylactic care in Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- v. Ministry of Ayush has released Ayush recommendations for the public on holistic health and well-being Preventive measures and care during COVID-19 & LONG COVID-19.
- vi. Ministry of Ayush has released guidelines for Ayurveda Practitioners for COVID-19 patients in Home Isolation and Ayurveda & Unani based Preventive Measures for self care during COVID-19 Pandemic.
- vii. Ministry of Ayush has released an advisory on “Ayush interventions for Prophylaxis & Management of COVID-19” and Ayush guidelines for COVID-19 cases for care givers.
- 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.