

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1592  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10/02/2023**

**PROMOTION OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINES**

**1592. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:  
DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN:  
SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:**

Will the **MINISTER OF AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to promote international cooperation to expand the ambit of traditional medicines, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any study has been undertaken for integration of existing AYUSH list with foreign traditional medicine systems, if so, the details thereof and if not, the new initiatives taken/to be taken therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to promote the traditional medicines through education and skill development throughout the country as well as at world level, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Health Organisation and if so, the details thereof and the targets set in this regard;
- (e) whether adequate policy measures have been taken by the Government to promote traditional system of medicines in the country that resulted in the positive outcome and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government is giving adequate focus on evidence based research in all AYUSH systems and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF AYUSH  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

- (a) The Ministry has developed a Central Sector Scheme for the Promotion of International Co-operation in AYUSH (IC Scheme) under which the Ministry of Ayush provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to the export of AYUSH products & services; facilitates the International promotion, development and recognition of AYUSH system 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.

The Ministry of Ayush has taken the following steps towards the international recognition for AYUSH systems of medicine:

- Signed 24 Country to Country MoUs for Cooperation in field of Traditional Medicine and Homoeopathy with foreign nations.
- Signed 40 MoUs with international institutes for undertaking Collaborative Research / Academic collaboration.
- Signed 15 MoUs with international institutes for setting up of AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign nations.
- supported the establishment of 39 Ayush Information Cells in 35 foreign nations.
- Offers scholarships to foreign nationals for undertaking AYUSH courses in recognized AYUSH institutions in India under International Ayush Fellowship/Scholarship Programme.
- In cooperation with QCI, got developed Quality Certification programme viz. Ayush mark and Premium mark to increase reliability of standards of ASU&H Products.
- Given WHO-GMP (COPP) to 31 Ayurvedic Drug manufacturers to facilitate the export of Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani & Homoeopathy Drugs.
- Signed an agreement with WHO to establish WHO-GCTM in Jamnagar, Gujarat, the ground-breaking Ceremony of which was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Director General of WHO and other esteemed dignitaries on 19.04.2022 in Jamnagar, Gujarat. This Centre aims to provide support to implement WHO's traditional medicine strategy (2014-23) and to support nations in developing policies & action plans to strengthen the role of traditional medicine as part of their journey to universal health coverage.

(b) An AYUSH PHFI research Project/study entitled “Assessment of integration of AYUSH into the public health system for combating COVID-19” is being conducted with the support of WHO. The areas of Collaboration are Development of WHO terminology in Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, and WHO publication on standard terminology in Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha. The All India Institute of Ayurveda, M/o AYUSH New Delhi with LSH&TM, UK is going to undertake “Clinical trial of Ashwagandha for promoting recovery from Covid-19 in the UK”.

(c) Yes, Ministry of Ayush launched a Central Sector Scheme namely Champion Sector Services scheme for Medical Value Travel(CSSS) for Skill Development in Ayush Sector on Pan India basis. The Skill Development in Ayush Sector has the following objectives: (i) To develop Ayush specific skilled human resource. (ii) Capacity building of existing skilled human resources. (iii) To promote Export of Services. (iv) To develop supporting structure for Ayush health services.

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine is also working to improve the quality of education, through education and clinical skill development, regulatory provisions & streamlining of registration, ethical practice of Indian System of Medicine throughout the Country.

The Ministry of Ayush also setup Ayush Academic Chair in foreign Universities and offers 104 scholarships to foreign scholars to study Ayush Systems in India under the Ayush

Scholarships programme. As of now, the Ministry of Ayush has signed 15 MoUs with foreign partner countries for setting up of Ayush Academic Chairs.

(d) Yes, the Ministry of Ayush has collaborated with WHO to promote traditional systems of medicine on the following:

- Signed an agreement to establish WHO-GCTM in Jamnagar, Gujarat, the ground-breaking Ceremony of which was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Director General of WHO and other esteemed dignitaries on 19.04.2022 in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- A Project Collaboration Agreement (PCA) was signed on 13th May, 2016 as an Umbrella MoU for cooperation on promoting the quality, safety and effectiveness of service provision in traditional and complementary medicine.
- Launching four WHO benchmark documents developed by Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine Unit, WHO as part of the collaboration agreement (PCA).
- Donor Agreement for developing a Second Module in the Traditional Medicine (TM) Chapter of the International Classification of Diseases -11 Revision (ICD-11).
- An AYUSH PHFI research Project/study entitled "Assessment of integration of AYUSH into the public health system for combating COVID-19" has been conducted with the support of WHO.
- Ministry deputed experts at WHO Hq. Geneva for supporting the work of International Pharmacopeia of Herbal Medicine (IPHM) and for the work related to development of WHO terminology for Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha.
- Ministry has signed an agreement with WHO for the secondment at grade P5 to the World Health Organization (WHO), Traditional, Complementary and Integrated Medicine Unit within the Department of Integrated Health Services (IHS).
- Ministry has signed an agreement with WHO for the secondment of grade P4 at WHO SEAR office at New Delhi.

(e) Yes, the Ministry of Ayush has taken crucial policy measures to promote the traditional system of medicines in the country i.e. constitution of the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, MoUs with the Ministry of Defence for establishing Ayurveda OPDs at AFMS Hospitals and Cantonment Board Hospitals, with Ministry of Railways for introduction of Ayush in Railway Hospitals, with Department of Science & Technology, Tripartite MoU between Ministry of Ayush, CSIR and ICAR, and collaborated with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), and with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) for providing technical support to Ministry of Ayush.

A Strategic Policy and Facilitation Bureau (SPFB) has been established in the Ministry in collaboration with Invest India to facilitate investment in Ayush sector.

(f) Yes, the Ministry of Ayush has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ayush along with the Secretaries of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Department of

Commerce(DoC) and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India (MoEF & CC) for promoting collaboration in Ayush research among scientific bodies. And Ministry of Ayush has collaborated with Department of Biotechnology for identifying research priorities for collaborative research under the purview of MoU between Ministry of Ayush & DBT, with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for identifying, visualizing, planning, implementing and integrating common research areas between Ministry of Ayush & ICMR, with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for integration of traditional systems of medicine and modern science.

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