

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3986  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**NATIONAL HEALTH POLICY, 2017**

**3986: DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- a) whether any progress has been made to realise aims as stated in National Health Policy 2017, to ensure quality of medicines, develop infrastructure and foster research and to link AYUSH systems to the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) network;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c) : The National Health Policy formulated in 2017 envisages to provide universal access to good quality healthcare services through increasing access, increasing affordability by lowering the cost of healthcare delivery and equity. The policy envisages as its goal the attainment of the highest possible level of health and well-being for all at all ages, through a preventive and promotive healthcare orientation in all developmental policies, and universal access to good quality healthcare services without anyone having to face financial hardship as a consequence. The Policy is centered on the key principles of Equity; Affordability; Universality; Patient Centeredness & Quality of care; accountability; Inclusive partnerships; Pluralism and decentralization.

The Central Govt. has taken several initiatives for supplementing the efforts of the State for providing quality and affordable healthcare services to the people. Under National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support are provided to States/UTs to provide accessible, affordable and quality healthcare, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population in both urban and rural areas.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Government has taken many steps towards universal health coverage, by supporting the State Governments in providing accessible & affordable healthcare to people. The National Health Mission (NHM) provides support for improvement in health infrastructure, availability of adequate human resources to man health facilities, to improve availability and accessibility to quality health care especially for the underserved and marginalized groups in rural areas. Mainstreaming of AYUSH is one of the core strategies in National Health Mission (NHM) which seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the population.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), engagement of Ayurveda Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) doctors/ paramedics are all supported, provided they are co-located with existing District Hospitals (DHs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) with priority given to remote PHCs and CHCs.

As part of Ayushman Bharat, the Government is supporting the States for transformation of Sub Health Centres and Primary Health Centres into Health and Wellness Centres across the country for provision of Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) that includes preventive healthcare and health promotion at the community level with continuum of care approach in order to realize the goal of Universal Health Coverage. Amongst these, some facilities are AYUSH- SHC or AYUSH dispensaries. AYUSH medicine is also a part of ASHA drug kit for management of primary conditions at the community level.

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