

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4138
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2023**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SOWA -RIGPA

**4138 SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA)
SHRI BHOLA SINGH
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR**

Will the Minister of **AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established the National Institute for Sowa- Rigpa in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its achievements so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any schemes to promote research in traditional system of medicine in Himalayan region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures taken by the Government for development and promotion of Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine in the country?

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

- (a) Yes Sir.
The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of National Institute of Sowa Rigpa (NISR) at Leh, U.T. of Ladakh on 20th November, 2019, as an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.
- (b) The Institute was formally registered under Societies Registration Act of Union Territory of Ladakh on 13th April, 2020. The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh allotted a land measuring 120 kanal. at Saboo-thang area of Leh. The Institute had started functioning from November, 2020.

Achievement so far :

- Inclusion of Bachelor of Sowa-Rigpa Medicines & Surgery (BSRMS) course under section 22 of UGC.
- University Affiliation of U.G. course with University of Ladakh.
- Got permission to start U.G. course in Sowa –Rigpa by National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)..
- Started Class for the first batch of Bachelor of Sowa-Rigpa Medicine & Surgery course from March 2022 with an intake of 10 students.
- Appointment of Full time Director for the Institute from 10th November 2022.
- Class started for the 2nd batch of UG course from March 2023 with 9 students.
- Academic Block, Hostels and 45 bedded Hospital are under construction at new 15 acre Campus.

(c)&(d) The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) is promoting research in traditional system of medicine in Himalayan region, through its Eight (08) peripheral Institutes/ Centres in Himalayan region – Regional Ayurveda Research Institute(s) located at Jammu, Mandi(HP), Ranikhet(Uttarakhand), Gangtok(Sikkim), Itanagar(AP), Guwahati(Assam), Dimapur(Nagaland) and Agartala(Tripura). National Institute of Sowa Rigpa as part of promoting research has documented a few folklore claims, through Tribal Health Care Research Programme and have also published Research Papers in journals and presented in seminars/webinars/ worksops etc. The Institute is planning to conduct research programs in Himalayan regions, through Survey and documentation of Himalayan Medicine Plants used in Sowa-Rigpa, Sowa –Rigpa formulations and scientific validation of Sowa-Rigpa knowledge.

(e) NISR is planning to conduct Workshops/Seminars/webinars etc. in the Himalayan belt and in other parts of the Country, for development and promotion of Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine.
