

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1143  
ANSWERED ON 08/12/2023**

**Traditional and Complementary Medicine**

**1143: DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:**

**SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:**

**DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY**

**SHRI BHOLA SINGH:**

**SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR:**

**SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:**

Will the Minister of Ayush be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of AYUSH and World Health Organization (WHO) have signed Traditional and Complementary Medicine Project Collaboration Agreement in November 2023 and if so, the details thereof along with its objectives;
- (b) whether the Traditional Medicine Global Strategy 2025-34 proposed to be prepared by WHO is supposed to connect Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems with mainstream National Health System of India and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether an International Herbal Pharmacopoeia of herbs, which are found in South-East Asia proposed to be developed by the Ministry in collaboration with WHO and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there are specific strategies in place to promote India as a global destination for healthcare services related to Traditional and Complementary Medicines, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has taken steps to integrate evidence-based Traditional and Complementary Medicines into the National Health System, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a) to (c) Yes Sir, Ministry of Ayush and World Health Organization (WHO) have signed a Project Collaboration Agreement (PCA) on 17 November, 2023 with the objective to promote the standardization, quality and safety of Traditional and Complementary Medicine (T & CM); their integration in National Health Systems, biodiversity conservation and sustainability; and consumer protection through supporting WHO in the development and implementation of the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2034. Under the PCA, the Parties wish to collaborate regarding the project and activities like Development of WHO publications: Benchmark for training & practice in Siddha, guidelines for developing national essential medicines list for T & CM system, training module on quality and safety of herbal medicines used in T & CM; to support the development of International Herbal Pharmacopeia with focus on South-East Asia region's traditional medicine ; support the development of Traditional Medicine Global Strategy for 2025-2034 etc.

(d) Yes Sir, Government of India has introduced a new Visa Regime under chapter 11A i.e. Ayush (AY) Visa for foreigners visiting India for treatment under Ayush systems/ Indian systems of medicine and also to provide e-Ayush visa and e-Ayush Attendant visa to such foreigners.

Ministry of Ayush, under its central sector scheme for promotion of International Cooperation for Ayush, supports to Ayush Service providers to give boost to the export of Ayush products and services; having interactions with foreign countries through bilateral meeting, multilateral forums like BRICS, SCO, ASEAN, IBSA, G 20, BIMSTEC etc.; facilitates the International promotion, development & recognition of Ayush systems of medicine; holding training workshop/symposiums for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about Ayush Systems of Medicine at international level; signing of MoUs etc. The Ministry of Ayush signed 24 Country-

to-Country MoUs for Cooperation in field of Traditional Medicine and Homoeopathy with foreign nations; 46 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.

Ministry of Ayush promotes to develop world class Ayush hospitals in the country. The Ministry under its AYURSWASTHYA YOJANA, provides grants to Ayush hospitals for up-gradation of facilities and infrastructure; developing professional competencies among Ayush professionals etc. Ministry of Ayush developed a Central Sector Scheme under Champion Services Sector Scheme (CSSS) - Medical Value Travel with the objective to develop Ayush specific skilled human resource; capacity building of existing skilled human resources; to promote export of services; to develop supporting structure for Ayush health services.

(e & f) Yes Sir, Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have jointly constituted a working group under the co-chairmanship of Hon'ble Ayush Minister and Hon'ble Health and Family Welfare Minister to facilitate and resolve the issues for the integration of the Ayush system into the National Health System. Other steps have been taken for integration of Ayush into the National Health Systems, are as under:

- i. Government of India has adopted a strategy of Co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), thus enabling the choice to the patients for different systems of medicines under a single window. The engagement of Ayush doctors/ paramedics and their training is supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under National Health Mission (NHM), while the support for Ayush infrastructure, equipment/ furniture and medicines are provided by the Ministry of Ayush under National Ayush Mission (NAM) as shared responsibilities.
- ii. Ministry of Ayush is implementing the operationalization of Ayush Health and Wellness Centres (AHWCs) under Ayushman Bharat as a component of the

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) through State/UT Governments with an objective to establish a holistic wellness model based on Ayush principles and practices. Under NAM, as per the proposals received from State/UT Governments through their State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs), 12,500 units of existing Ayush dispensaries and Sub-centers have been approved to be upgraded as AHWCs in the State/UT Governments.

- iii. Integration of Ayurveda through All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)- New Delhi is being implemented at Safdarjung Hospital- New Delhi, AIIMS- Jhajjar, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand and Arogya Van, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia Forest Division, Statue of Unity area Development and Tourism Governance Authority (SoUADTGA), Gujarat. The Institute has also implemented Centre for Integrative Ayush Therapy (Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy), Cancer Care, Dentistry, Critical Care & Emergency Medicine, Orthopaedics, Dietetics and Nutrition. Likewise, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata provides Homoeopathic consultation at Centenary Hospital, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Port, Kolkata along with mainstream medicine.
- iv. Total of 107 Ayush Dispensaries/units are functioning under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- v. The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) has conducted feasibility studies for integration of Ayurvedic treatment in management of Osteoarthritis, National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS), Reproductive and Child Health (RCH).
- vi. The Ministry of Ayush has signed the Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Defence for: -
  - a) Integration of Ayurveda /Ayush under the health establishments in Cantonment Board Hospital/Dispensaries under Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE) as an OPD service and under this Memorandum of Understanding 37 Ayurveda OPD's are established in various Cantonment Board Hospitals/Dispensaries.

- b) Extending the service of Ayurveda in the health establishments in Ministry of Defence (MoD)/ Directorate General Armed Force Medical Services (DGAFMS) as OPD services and under this Memorandum of Understanding 12 Ayurveda units are established in Service hospitals under the Armed Forces Medical Services.
  - c) Integration of Ayurveda in 10 Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme(ECHS) polyclinic as an OPD service.
- vii. As per the annual report 2021-2022 of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Ministry of Labour and Employment, total of 358 Ayush units are functioning in Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)/ Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) hospitals and dispensaries.
- viii. Ministry of Ayush has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to extend the services of Ayush in the health establishments in 12 Major ports.

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