

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY,
UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(AYUSH)**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2110
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2020**

TRADITIONAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE AND EPIDEMIC MANAGEMENT

**2110. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI:**

Will the Minister of **AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government utilized the traditional health knowledge and epidemic management to contain and prevent COVID-19, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the role of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy in the management of COVID-19;
- (c) whether the Government has utilized the traditional health practices and immunisation modulation in management of COVID-19, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the modern medicine practioners agree/concur with the assessment and management of COVID-19 under AYUSH;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to provide awareness to the general public regarding the management of COVID-19 under AYUSH, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that modern medicine practioners oppose the management of COVID-19 under AYUSH and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) to (e): Yes. (i) Ministry of AYUSH issued an advisory on 29.01.2020 on how to protect oneself from COVID and how to stay healthy. Ministry has also written a letter dated 06.03.2020 to all Chief Secretaries of States / Union territories with more specific suggestions on augmentation of General Immunity of people and about possible AYUSH intervention. Ministry has also issued self-care guidelines on 31.03.2020 for preventive health measures and boosting immunity with special reference to respiratory health.
- (ii) Ministry has sent a D.O. letter dated 16.03.2020 to Ministry of Health & Family welfare offering for integrating and utilizing huge AYUSH infrastructure to combat with the COVID19 pandemic and also to Principals of all Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) colleges (approximately 727 colleges) on 23.03.2020 for offering their services to local health authorities for utilization of the available facilities by them as per the situation arises.

- (iii) Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with M/o Health & Family has organized Training of Trainers for COVID-19 Preparedness, Response and Containment.
 - (iv) Ministry of AYUSH issued Gazette notification dated 21.04.2020 for undertaking research on COVID-19 through Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy 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.
 - (v) Ministry of AYUSH has formed an Inter-disciplinary AYUSH R&D Task Force. The Task Force has formulated and designed clinical research protocols for prophylactic studies and add-on interventions in COVID-19 positive cases through 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).
 - (vi) Ministry of AYUSH has launched Clinical research studies on AYUSH interventions as prophylactic interventions for Covid-19 in high risk population, through Research Councils and National Institutes under Ministry of AYUSH.
 - (vii) Ayush Sanjivani mobile app developed by Ministry of AYUSH has also been launched to generate data on acceptance and usage of AYUSH advocacies and measures among the population and its impact in prevention of COVID-19 targeting 05 million populations.
- (f) No.