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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2062 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH February, 2021

BRIDGE COURSE FOR AYUSH DOCTORS

2062. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA: SHRI L.S. TEJASVI SURYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to introduce bridge courses for AYUSH doctors to learn and practise Allopathy medicine in clinics and if so, the details thereof, course-wise along with the mechanism to enroll into them;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to promote the immunity and health boosting medicines prescribed in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy since the onset of coronavirus pandemic; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to create awarness about unverified medicines, information or practises regarding AYUSH during the coronavirus pandemic?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a): There is no such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.
- (b): Following steps has been taken by the Government to promote the immunity and health boosting medicines prescribed in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy since the onset of coronavirus pandemic.
 - (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 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) Considering the importance of immunity boosting measures in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Ministry of AYUSH has promoted use of ready-made Ayush formulation i.e. 'AyushKwath' (Ayurveda) or 'AyushKudineer' (Siddha) or 'AyushJoshanda' (Unani) in the interest of health promotion to the masses.
- (III) Ministry of AYUSH has issued an order dated 28.07.2020 regarding directions to state/UT licensing Authorities to forward license application of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic medicines underwent clinical trial/ research studies for COVID
- (IV) Ministry of AYUSH has constituted core group of experts under the Chairmanship of Prof.BhushanPatwardhan, Vice-Chairman, UGC, to identify and propose formulations on COVID-19 which are in line with Classical Ayurveda principles and have substantial leads on COVID-19 viz. one for prophylaxis as immunomodulatory, another for management of COVID-19 with antiviral properties and one product for post COVID-19 care.
- (V) AYUSH Sanjivani mobile app developed by Ministry of AYUSH and has documented the impact assessment of effectiveness, acceptance and usage of AYUSH advisories & measures in the prevention of COVID-19 through Mobile app base population study in around 1.5 crores respondents.
- (c): The Government has directed to all State Licensing Authorities regarding licensing/approval of various dosage forms of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani (ASU) formulations/products and to forward license applications of such formulations related to COVID- 19 with details and results of the clinical trial/Research studies for verification. State Licensing Authority shall grant the approval or license to manufacture for sale of any such formulations only after obtaining clearance from the Central Government vide Ministry's orders dated 28.07.2020 & 22.09.2020.

The Ministry of AYUSH has released "National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for management of COVID-19" prepared by National Task force which in consensus from expert committees from All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Delhi, Institute of Post Graduate Training and Research in Ayurved (IPGTRA), Jamnagar, and National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur, Central Council for Research in Ayurveda (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) and other national research organizations as per the Report & Recommendations of the Interdisciplinary Committee wherein guidelines for post-covid care has been mentioned.