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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3972 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH March, 2021

AYURVEDIC MEDICINES FOR TREATMENT DURING COVID-19

3972. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
DR. AMAR SINGH:
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has sought any formal certification or review from the WHO for any traditional medication like Coronil to treat COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government endorses claims by the manufacturers of Coronil tablet that it is a remedy for COVID-19 and has received certification from Government as per WHO certification scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any action will be taken by the Government against such manufacturers/promoters of such remedies who claim to have such certification from WHO and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any data on the effectiveness of traditional medication like Ayurveda to cure COVID-19, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the research work/clinical trials supporting efficacy of Coronil in COVID-19 treatment and if so, the details thereof?

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): The Government did not seek any formal certification or review from WHO for any traditional medication to treat COVID-19;

(b) to (d): Manufacturer of *Coronil* (M/s Patanjali Research Foundation Trust) have applied to the Interdisciplinary Technical Review Committee (ITRC) constituted by Ministry of AYUSH to review all the COVID-19 related claims through the State Licensing Authorities. The committee appraised & observed that the core ingredients of *Coronil* like Tulsi, Ashwagandha are included in the National Clinical Protocol for COVID-19 and also based on the rational and inference of Patanjali's presentation, it was suggested that it may be used as supporting measure in COVID-19. The State Licensing Authority is also informed that *Coronil* tablet may be used as supporting measure in the management of COVID-19 without claiming cure.

As per the WHO certification scheme, which is a scheme of Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (COPP) by National Regulatory Authority (NRA) for the purpose of international commerce i.e. for registration of products in foreign countries, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has issued Certification of Pharmaceutical Product (COPP) to M/s Divya Pharmacy Unit (II), Haridwar for their product Divya Coronil Tablet, after examination of their application in consultation with Ministry of AYUSH.

(e) & (f): So far Government did not receive any data on the traditional medicine to cure COVID-19. However, Ministry of AYUSH has constituted a Interdisciplinary AYUSH R&D Task Force on COVID and also a core group of experts under the Chairmanship of Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan to identify and propose formulations on COVID-19 which organized / reviewed the scientific studies on COVID-19 in line with principles of AYUSH systems and have obtained substantial leads on COVID-19viz, one for prophylaxis as immune modulatory, another for management of COVID-19 with antiviral properties and one product for post COVID-19 care. Further an ITRC (Interdisciplinary Technical Review Committee) Chaired by Prof. Maulik from AIIMS, New Delhi is reviewing the studies on traditional medications intended to be used in COVID-19.