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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4109 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH March, 2021

AYUSH CENTRES TO FIGHT COVID-19

4109. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH)

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy to fight against Covid-19 using all the treatments available under AYUSH including Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani and other systems; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of AYUSH covid centres/clinics set up in the country to fight against Coronavirus, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether covid patients were admitted in the AYUSH centres and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the recovery rates of patients who were treated under the AYUSH systems in terms of percentage alongwith the assessment that has been made in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons 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): Ministry of AYUSH has taken following steps to support the efforts to fight against COVID-19 through AYUSH systems of medicine:-
- i. Ministry of AYUSH issued an advisory on 29.01.2020 on how to protect oneself from COVID-19 and how to stay healthy. Ministry has written 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. Guidelines for Registered Practitioners of respective system of AYUSH have been prepared by Research Councils and National Institutes with their team of experts and same is vetted by the Inter-disciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Task Force of Ministry of AYUSH. These vetted guidelines are made available in public domain for the benefit of more than 700000 registered AYUSH practitioners to help in the management of COVID-19 pandemic uniformly.

- iii. The Ministry of AYUSH has also 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), New 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 Inter-disciplinary Committee.
- iv. AYURRAKHSA project has been launched which is a joint venture of All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) & Delhi Police for which free AYURAKSHA Kits have been distributed to boost the immunity of frontline Corona warriors through Ayurveda medicines and measures.
- v. Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy, a subordinate office of the Ministry of AYUSH has published stand-alone pharmacopoeial standards & formulary specifications of *Ayush Kvatha Churna/Kutinir Churanam/Safuf-i-Joshanda* parallel across Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani (ASU) systems considering importance of immunity boosting measures in wake of COVID-19 outbreak.
- vi. Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), an autonomous body under the Ministry of AYUSH has conducted 126 online Yoga Therapy classes during COVID-19 pandemic. MDNIY had deputed 30 Yoga Instructors to impart Yoga to COVID-19 patients/ high risk groups in Quarantine Centres under Directorate of AYUSH, Delhi from 15th July, 2020 wherein 14,673 COVID-19 positive patients as well as high-risk people have been benefitted out of the programme.
- (b): AIIA, New Delhi an autonomous body under the Ministry of AYUSH has a 200-bedded Ayurvedic Tertiary Care Hospital of India, out of which 47 beds are allocated for establishment of CHC Facility to contain & prevent the COVID-19 positive cases. Ayurveda treatment along with holistic approach of medicine which includes Yoga, Meditation and specific diet are being successfully provided to COVID-19 patients with mild to moderate symptoms at AIIA Hospital.
- (c): Yes, 435 patients have been admitted at AIIA till date and got successfully treated in its COVID-19 Health Centre.
- (d) & (e): Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has undertaken 04 treatment trials in COVID-19 via collaborating with reputed hospitals all over India. Total 543 patients in Homoeopathy as adjuvant to standard of care group were treated. Studies were undertaken at Pune (Ruby Hall clinic, KEM hospital, YCM hospital); Chirayu Hospital, Bhopal; Government COVID care centre, Bhopal; AIIMS Jhajjar, Haryana; JJ hospital, Mumbai, Maharashtra. Out of 543 patients treated, 536 patients recovered in add on Homoeopathy group.

National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata has conducted one research project "An Evaluation on changes in Clinical Parameters in Homoeopathic Intervention as an add on therapy in the management of Covid-19 infection- An open Label Prospective Single Arm observation Descriptive Study" at ESI Hospital, Chennai. The patients were treated as an add on therapy to standard care treatment. In total 60 patients were enrolled in the above mentioned project out of which 54 completed the treatment and recovered from the hospital.