

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4129
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH March, 2021**

PREVENTION OF CORONA VIRUS

4129. SHRI PRATAPRAO PATIL CHIKHLIKAR:

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

- (a) whether specific measures were taken by the Government to prevent infectious diseases and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any research work has been undertaken by the Ministry for developing medicine for COVID-19 using traditional systems and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to spread awareness about prevention of corona by treatment through alternative medicine system?

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 RIJJU)**

- (a): Ministry of AYUSH has undertaken following measures to prevent infectious diseases:-
- 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 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. Guidelines for Registered Practitioners of respective systems of AYUSH have been prepared by Research Councils and National Institutes with their team of experts and same is vetted by the Interdisciplinary 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), Delhi; Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar; National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur ; Central Council for Research in Ayurveda (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN) and other national research organizations as per the Report & Recommendations of the Interdisciplinary Committee.

- iv. CCRAS has developed an Ayurvedic formulation Ayush-64 for the management in Malaria through systematic process of drug development and transferred its technology for commercialization through National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

(b): Ministry of AYUSH has formed an Inter-disciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Task Force chaired by Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan having representation from scientists including ICMR, DBT, CSIR, AIIMS and AYUSH Institutions. The Interdisciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Task Force has formulated and designed clinical research protocols for prophylactic studies and add-on interventions in COVID-19 positive cases through thorough 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). The task force have taken up the proposals received from screening committees of Councils and proactively explored possibilities based on available leads. Ministry of AYUSH has constituted core group of experts under the Chairmanship of Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan 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.

Under the Research Councils and National Institutes of the Ministry of AYUSH, various research studies are being conducted on AYUSH interventions as prophylactic interventions. The details are at **Annexure-I**.

(c): The steps taken by the Government to spread awareness relating to optimization of immunity are as details under:-

- i. AYUSH for Immunity Campaign: Ministry of AYUSH launched a three-month long campaign called “AYUSH for Immunity” in the month of August, 2020 that aimed to increase awareness among the masses, regarding the effective home care solutions and recommended AYUSH practices, to help them to enhance their immunity. During the entire campaign, series of events, such as social media contests, online discourses and virtual seminars were carried out, which further increased the reach of Ministry of AYUSH among various sections of the society. It was a theme-based campaign, covering the Aahar, Vihaar and Nidra themes, for the months of September, October and November 2020 respectively. Various outreach activities were conducted by different institutions under the Ministry, for public awareness.
- ii. Updating Website on COVID related remedies: The website of the Ministry of AYUSH and its autonomous organisations were also updated regularly with information on immunity related remedies.
- iii. Holding webinars on virtual platforms: Ministry of AYUSH through various platforms including its own Ayush Virtual Convention Centre (AVCC) held webinars on various topics. A total of 6 webinars took place from 14th Aug 2020 on the subject of immunity.
- iv. Community Radio programme: Ministry of AYUSH also engaged Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), an Inter-Governmental organisation to disseminate immunity related information through Community Radio Stations(CRS) among rural and semi urban population. The broadcast of five minutes on CRS was done twice every day from 10/12/2020 to 10/02/2021.
- v. Sanjivani App: Ministry of AYUSH also initiated a novel method to assess the impact of its information campaign and the effect of Ayush based remedies. The information was collected by way of an IT based application, namely Ayush Sanjivani App.

Details of various studies on COVID- 19 being undertaken by Research Councils & National Institutes under Ministry of AYUSH

| S.No. | COVID-19 Studies |
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| 1. | Evaluation of protective potential of an Ayurvedic Rasayan (Chyawanprash) in the prevention of COVID-19 among Health Care Personnel – An open label, prospective Randomized controlled parallel group study |
| 2. | Evaluation of the efficacy of an Ayurvedic intervention (Chyawanprash) in the prevention of COVID-19 pandemic among Health Care Personnel – An open label single arm prospective study |
| 3. | Evaluation of Efficacy and Safety of Ayurveda Intervention (Ayush -64) in the management of COVID-19 infection (Asymptomatic & Mild to Moderate symptoms)- An open label single arm prospective clinical trial |
| 4. | A pilot study to assess the efficacy of AYUSH - 64 in COVID - 19 cases |
| 5. | Evaluation of Efficacy and Safety of Ayurveda Intervention (AYUSH-64) add-on-therapy for patients with Covid-19 infection (Stage-I)- A Randomized controlled clinical trial |
| 6. | A Randomized, Open Label, Parallel Efficacy, Active Control, Exploratory Clinical Trial to evaluate Efficacy and Safety of an Ayurvedic Formulation (AYUSH -64) as Adjunct Treatment to Standard of Care for the management of Mild to Moderate COVID-19 Patients. |
| 7. | A Randomized, Open Label, Parallel Efficacy, Active Control, Multi-Centre Exploratory Drug Trial to Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of AYUSH 64 as Adjunct Treatment to Standard of Care for the management of Mild to Moderate COVID-19 Patients. |
| 8. | Impact of Ayurvedic Interventions in prevention of COVID-19 infection in identified containment area of Delhi |
| 9. | A prospective non-randomized open label controlled interventional study on the effect of Guduchi Ghan Vati/ Sudarshan Ghan Vati as a prophylactic measure among high risk population (Health Care Workers/ Containment Zone population) exposed to COVID 19. |
| 10. | Impact assessment of effectiveness, acceptance and usage of AYUSH advisories & measures in prevention of COVID 19: An app based study |
| 11. | A Prospective Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial to evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Ayurveda Intervention (<i>Guduchi Ghan Vati</i>) in the management of COVID-19 infection (Asymptomatic & Mild to Moderate symptoms) |
| 12. | Impact of Ayurvedic intervention (Guduchi Ghan vati) in the containment areas of Himachal Pradesh- a community-based study |
| 13. | Effect of an Ayurvedic formulation as add-on therapy to Standard of Care in COVID 19 positive patients in a tertiary hospital |
| 14. | A prospective non-randomized open labeled controlled interventional study on the |

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| | effect of Ashwagandha (<i>Withania somnifera</i>) as a prophylactic measure among high risk population (Health Care Workers/Containment Zone Population) exposed to COVID-19 |
| 15. | A prospective non-randomized open labeled controlled interventional study on the effect of Guduchi (<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>) as a prophylactic measure among high risk population (Health Care Workers/Containment Zone Population) exposed to COVID-19 |
| 16. | A prospective non-randomized open labeled controlled interventional study on the effect of Chyavanprash Lehyam as a prophylactic measure among high risk population (Health Care Workers/Containment Zone Population) exposed to COVID-19 |
| 17. | Prospective non randomized open label control interventional study on the effect of Ayurvedic Raksha Kit (Chyavanprash, Samsahmani vati & Haritaki) as Prophylactic measure among police personal working in the vicinity of COVID -19 facilities |
| 18. | Prospective non randomized open label control interventional study on the effect of Ayurvedic Raksha Kit-1 (Ayush 64, Samsahmani vati & Chyavanprash) as Prophylactic measure among Ayush healthcare workers working in the vicinity of COVID -19 facilities |
| 19. | In-silico evaluation of compounds of an Ayurvedic drug, AYUSH-64, for their action against SARS-CoV-2 Main Protease. |
| 20. | A Study of Ashwagandha in the Prophylaxis Against COVID-19 and its benefits on General Health in High Risk Health Care Workers: A Randomized Controlled Comparison with Hydroxychloroquine Sulphate (HCQS). |
| 21. | A Prospective Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial to evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Ayurveda Interventions (Ashwagandha Tablet and Shunti Capsule) in the management of COVID-19 infection (Mild to Moderate symptoms). |
| 22. | A prospective open label controlled interventional study on the effect of Ayurvedic intervention (Ayurveda Raksha Kit) as a prophylactic measure in the Pandemic of COVID-19 - A community based study. |
| 23. | A Randomized controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy of Ayurvedic interventions (Agastya Haritaki and Ashwagandha) and Yoga in long term effects of COVID-19. |
| 24. | Evaluation of the immuno-stimulatory potential of Ayurveda management protocol in cohort of Delhi police - An exploratory clinical study. |
| 25. | Ashwagandha for the prophylaxis against SARS-CoV-2 Infection: A Randomised Hydrochloroquine Controlled Clinical Trial in Health Care Providers – Under CSIR, AYUSH task force AIIA Hospital |
| 26. | Prophylaxis with Neem capsules (<i>Azadirachta indica</i>) in subjects coming in contact with COVID 19 patients |
| 27. | Evaluation of Prophylactic Effect of Comprehensive Ayurveda and Mindfulness Based Yoga Regimen among Quarantined Individuals Exposed to COVID-19 Patients - A Randomized Controlled Trial |
| 28. | Evaluation of Prophylactic Effect of Comprehensive Ayurveda and Mindfulness Based Yoga Regimen among Healthcare Workers of a tertiary care hospital in Delhi during COVID-19 - A Randomized Controlled Trial |

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| 29. | Evaluation of the immuno-stimulatory potential (ShariraBala) of Ayurveda Management Protocol in a Cohort of DDA Residents of Gautampuri - An Exploratory Clinical Study AIIA |
| 30. | “Evaluation of the efficacy of Ayurveda drugs for enhancing overall strength and immunity in health care workers of All India institute of Ayurveda - an exploratory clinical study” |
| 31. | Evaluation of prophylactic effect of Ayurveda Interventions in the prevention of COVID -19 Infections in susceptible general population: A single arm clinical exploratory Study |
| 32. | Identifying the pathological models of COVID-19 in Ayurveda : Shat kriya kala & Vikar vighata ; bhava abhava - A Cross sectional study |
| 33. | A Prospective, Randomized, Open label Three Armed Clinical study to assess the role of Vasa Ghana(whole Aqueous whole of Adhatoda vasica), Guduchi Ghana (whole Aqueous extract of Tinospora cordifolia) and Vasa-Guduchi Ghana (whole Aqueous extract of Adhatoda vasica & Tinospora cordifolia combined) in management of symptoms and preventing the progression of severity of the disease in SARS-CoV2 tested positive asymptomatic and mild COVID-19 cases |
| 34. | An Open label, Multicentric, Randomized, Comparative, Prospective, Interventional Community based Clinical Study to Evaluate Safety and Efficacy of Guduchi Ghana Vati as a Preventive Remedy on Healthy Individuals in Pandemic of COVID-19 (06 containment areas of Rajasthan: Jaipur A, Jaipur B, Ajmer, Kota, Jodhpur, Tonk) |
| 35. | Clinical evaluation of Dabur Chyawanprash (DCP) as a preventive remedy in pandemic of COVID-19 – An Open label, Multi centric, Randomized, Comparative, Prospective, Interventional Community based Clinical Study on Healthy individuals. Apart from NIA, Jaipur ; 5 other Centres: Khemdas Ayurved Hospital,GUJARAT, Parul Ayurveda Hospital,Vadodara,GUJARAT (2 sites), MAMs SS Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya and Sane GurujiArogya Kendra Malwadi Hadapsar , Pune, Maharashtra, R A Podar Medical College (Ayu) & M.A. Podar Hospital Worli, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| 36. | Evaluation of Efficacy and Safety of Ayurveda Intervention (Ayush-64) add-on therapy for patients with COVID-19 infection (Stage I)-An Open labelled, Parallel Group, Randomized controlled clinical trial In collaboration with All India Institute of Medical sciences, Jodhpur |
| 37. | A cross-sectional retrospective study on Immunobooster kit (Chyawanprasha, Immunity booster capsules and Kwatha) prophylaxis for the prevention of COVID-19. |
| 38. | CCRH has undertaken study with AIIMS, Jhajjar for development new drug i.e., Nosode from COVID-19. Study is ongoing. |
| 39. | Community based cluster randomized open level controlled field trial to evaluate the effectiveness of Homoeoprophylaxis and standard prophylaxis against COVID-19. |
| 40. | Understanding the mechanistic pathways of Homoeopathy medicine Cinchona (3C, 6C & 12C) through in vitro study for their potential application as anti-viral drug to fight against COVID-19. |
| 41. | An evaluation on effectiveness of Homoeopathic Intervention as an Add-On therapy in the management of Covid-19 infection – An Open Labelled Prospective Single Arm Observational Clinical Trials. |

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| 42. | Incidence of Influenza like Illness (ILI) in participants taken Arsenicum Album 30 immune buster during SARS –COVID 19 Pandemic: A retrospective cohort study. |
| 43. | A research study proposal on a survey on the effectiveness of Arsenicum Album 30c as a prophylactic medicine for COVID- 19 among the residents of Dharawi, Mumbai. |
| 44. | A survey on the effectiveness of Arsenicum Album 30c as a prophylactic medicine for covid-19 among the frontline and health care workers of Thirumangalam, Madurai. |
| 45. | A prospective Non-randomized Open label Controlled Interventional study on the effect of Siddha intervention – Kaba Sura Kudineer (KSK) as a Prophylactic measure among high risk population (Health Care Workers/Containment Zone population) exposed to COVID-19 (SIDDHALION) |
| 46. | A prospective, single centre, randomized open labelled comparative clinical study to evaluate the effectiveness of Siddha medicine, Kabasura Kudineer and vitamin c-zinc supplementation in the management of asymptomatic COVID 19 patients at Government Stanley Medical College |
| 47. | A randomized open labeled clinical study to compare the effectiveness of Kabasura Kudineer and Vitamin-C Zinc supplementation in the management of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 patients at Govt. Theni medical college. |
| 48. | Retrospective Survival analysis to assess the length of stay of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) patients in GMC & ESIH Coimbatore who were under- Integrated Medicine -Zinc, Vitamin C & Kabasura Kudineer (ZVcKK). |
| 49. | Assessment of prophylaxis offered to frontline workers who have involved themselves in war footing of COVID – 19 in Tamil Nadu who are taking Siddha interventions like Nilavembu Kudineer/Kabasura Kudineer. |
| 50. | Awareness and practices regarding COVID-19 related prevention, control and promotive measures among population, Tamil Nadu, India: Cross-sectional study. |
| 51. | Case series with Kabasura Kudineer as add on therapy in District COVID care centre at Thirupathi. |
| 52. | A prospective, non-randomized, single arm observational study to access the safety and effectiveness of Siddha Sastric Medicines – Fixed Regimen intervention in prevention of COVID-19 disease progression of severity from COVID-19 Positive asymptomatic, mild or moderate to critical with reference to the Siddha guidelines of COVID-19 management, Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India at a Home Quarantine Chennai Containment Zone. |
| 53. | A prospective, non-randomized, single-arm interventional study to assess the safety and efficacy of Siddha Sasthric Medicines – Fixed Regimen in the prevention of COVID-19 disease progression of asymptomatic, and mild at Siddha COVID Care Centre, Chennai, 2020 (SSM-FiRe). |
| 54. | A Double blinded RCT Namely "A Double Blinded controlled RCT to evaluate the efficacy Nilavembu Kudineer and Kabasura kudineer in Symptomatic COVID 19 Patients" was planned as a collaborative study with Govt. Institute of Medical Sciences, Greater Noida and Siddha Clinical Research Unit, New Delhi. |
| 55. | Clinical validation of the “Immune booster” potential of the Siddha medicine drug, Kabasura kudineer (KSK) in asymptomatic contacts of COVID-19 cases: a controlled clinical trial at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Studies, Chennai. |
| 56. | Efficacy of Pranayama on Positivity rate in people exposed to Covid-19 patients and mental status. |

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| 57. | Efficacy of a virtual video-bases, regular yoga programme on the Anti-oxidant status, immune function and stress hormone responses in healthy population and patients recovered from covid-19 disease. |
| 58. | Effect of an integrated Yoga program on stress, mood states, sleep quality, symptom severity, quality of life and clinical outcomes in Covid-19 positive patients undergoing conventional treatment. |
| 59. | Effect of an integrated Yoga program on stress, mood states, sleep quality, symptom severity, quality of life and clinical outcomes in Covid-19 positive patients undergoing conventional treatment: a Multi-centric trial. |
| 60. | National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore has carried out population studies in containment zones for prophylactic potential of Joshanda, Rhemira Marwaried, Arq Ajeeb. |
| 61. | A prospective, interventional, case control study to observe and assess the safety and efficacy of Unani regimen in preventing the progression of severity of the disease in hospitalized SARS-CoV2 tested positive asymptomatic /mild to moderate symptomatic COVID-19 cases. |