

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.753  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2021**

**AYUSH TREATMENT AGAINST COVID-19**

**753. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:**

Will the Minister of **AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has strategically dealt COVID-19 crisis in the country for the last 15 months;
- (b) whether the Government has adopted Ayurvedic, Homeopathy, Unani and other Ayurveda line of treatment to fight against COVID-19;
- (c) if so, the number of Ayurvedic and Homeopathy Covid centres set up in the country to fight against the said pandemic, State-wise;
- (d) the number of COVID-19 patients treated at these centres along with the funds spent in this regard, State-wise; and
- (e) the estimated recovery rate for COVID-19 patients treated with these methods?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,  
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY  
(DR. MUNJPARA MAHENDRABHAI)**

(a) & (b): Yes. The Ministry of Ayush has taken several public health initiatives to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country in the last 15 months; the details of which are at **Annexure-I**.

(c) to (e): The details of AYUSH Centres including Ayurvedic and Homeopathic Centres treating COVID patients and estimated recovery rate are given at **Annexure-II**. The funds spent at the centres are part of overall expenditure incurred at the centre. However, as per the requests received from State/UT Governments, an amount of Rs. 2271.551 lakh has been approved by Ministry of Ayush under National AYUSH Mission (NAM) for purchase of medicines including AYUSH-64 Medicine in the context of COVID-19 pandemic, till date.

## **Public health initiatives taken by the Ministry of Ayush to prevent the spread of COVID-19**

- 1.** Ministry of Ayush issued an advisory on protecting yourself from COVID and staying healthy. In the advisory, in addition to maintaining hygiene like hand wash, use of mask etc. simple home remedies were also suggested for people.
- 2.** A letter to all Chief Secretaries of States / Union territories was sent from the Ministry with more specific suggestions on augmentation of General Immunity of people and possible Ayush intervention wherever required in coordination with Health departments of the States / UTs.
- 3.** A letter was sent to the Ministry of Health & Family welfare offering to integrate and utilize huge Ayush infrastructure to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4.** Ministry has sent a D.O. letter to Principals of all Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) colleges (approximately 727 colleges) for utilization of available infrastructure facilities like Hospital (IPD & OPD), pathology laboratory, ICU and manpower including medical & Paramedical Staff to combat with the COVID19 pandemic. Therefore, they were requested to offer their services to local health authorities for utilization of the available facilities by them as per the situation arises. Accordingly, the various Ayush institutes hospital were utilized by State Governments and designated as Quarantine Centre, Isolation Centre, COVID Care Centre and COVID Health Centre.
- 5.** A D.O. Letter from Secretary, Ayush was sent to Secretary DHR & DG ICMR to initiate research for AYUSH leads to deal with Corona Pandemic.
- 6.** The Ministry uses video conferencing and social media platforms to reach out to Ayush practitioners and involve them in stopping and discouraging false and unsupported claims.
- 7.** Ministry of Ayush recommends self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity with special reference to respiratory health.

General Measures

Ayurvedic Immunity Promoting Measures

Simple Ayurvedic Procedures

During dry cough/sore throat

- 8.** Ministry of Ayush and MoHFW have jointly provided training to 33,000 AYUSH master trainers. Total 66045 AYUSH Personnel had obtained training at igot.in platform on a continual basis. Ministry of Ayush has coordinated with MoHFW for utilisation of Ayush manpower as COVID warrior to manage COVID-19 with identified roles.

9. Ministry of Ayush has formed an Interdisciplinary AYUSH R&D Task Force chaired by Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan and 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 a thorough review and consultative process of high repute experts from different organizations across the country for studying four different interventions viz. Ashwagandha, Yashtimadhu, Guduchi + Pippali and a polyherbal formulation (AYUSH-64).

10. Ministry of Ayush issued Gazette notification for undertaking research on COVID-19 through Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy Systems 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.

Ministry of Ayush has also launched interdisciplinary studies involving AYUSH interventions for COVID-19 based on Taskforce recommendations. Under various research organizations and National Institutes under the Ministry of Ayush, 126 research studies at approx. 152 centres in the country have been initiated on AYUSH interventions. Ministry of Ayush has also taken initiatives to conduct clinical studies on Ayurvedic medicine with countries like the USA, Brazil, South Africa, Ghana, UK, Germany, etc.

11. Director Generals of Research Councils and Directors of National Institutes with their team of experts have prepared Guidelines for Registered Practitioners of respective system of AYUSH and the same is vetted by the Inter-disciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Taskforce of Ministry of Ayush. These guidelines are made available in the public domain to benefit registered AYUSH practitioners including Homoeopathy to help in the management of COVID-19 pandemic uniformly.

12. In order to make the process of product approval/licensing consistent at State/UT level for effective quality control of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathic medicines underwent clinical trials/research studies for COVID-19, Ministry directed to all State/UT Licensing Authorities to forward license application of such formulations with details and results of the clinical trial/research study for verification by the Central Government in the Ministry of Ayush and also directed that all State/UT Licensing Authorities shall grant the approval or license to manufacture for sale of any such formulation only after obtaining clearance from the Central Government.

13. The Ministry of Ayush launched a three-month campaign on “Ayush for Immunity”, through webinar and publishing a campaign bulletin on Ayush for Immunity. More than 50 thousand people participated in the Webinar.

14. Government of India has released “**National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for management of COVID-19**” prepared by the National Taskforce with consensus from various expert committees.

- 15.** Ministry of Ayush has also released Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha preventive measures for self-care during COVID-19 and Guidelines for AYUSH Practitioners for COVID-19 Patients in Home Isolation.
- 16.** Ministry of Ayush has also issued an advisory for Ayush practitioners on ethical practices during COVID-19 pandemic.
- 17.** Ministry of Ayush vide its D.O. letter No. Y-18020/2/2020 –EP-III has requested all States/UTs to issue appropriate instructions to District Authorities urgently to involve District Ayurveda Officers in the management and mitigation of COVID-19 in the districts and utilize the services of Ayush doctors, AYUSH healthcare providers and AYUSH health care facilities extensively so that the shortage of manpower and infrastructure for the management of COVID-19 can be duly addressed.
- 18.** States/ UTs licensing authorities / Drug Controllers has been informed to allow the licensed manufactures for AYUSH-64 under their jurisdiction to include a new indication of AYUSH-64 for repurposing as an intervention for the management of asymptomatic, mild to moderate COVID-19 in addition to existing indication (s). Further, States/ UTs Licensing Authorities have been requested to expedite the process of the licensing/ approval of the application for the manufacturing of AYUSH-64.
- 19.** Ministry of Ayush vide D.O letter no.S-16030/13/3030-NAM has also requested the States/UTs Governments to popularise the use of Kabasura Kudineer and AYUSH-64 in the asymptomatic, mild to moderate COVID-19 patients at isolation centres/ COVID Care Centre / COVID Health Centre, AYUSH hospitals/ dispensaries and patients in home isolation.
- 20.** In order to provide maximum benefit of Ayush systems of medicine, a Nation-wide campaign was launched for distribution of AYUSH-64 and Kabasura Kudineer through Research Councils and National Institutes under Ministry of Ayush across the country.
- 21.** For continuing with the efforts to augment human resources for the management of COVID-19 cases, the Ministry of Ayush has issued an advisory to deploy the trained AYUSH human resources available with them for clinical management of COVID-19 cases.
- 22.** Ministry of AYUSH has released Home care guidelines for children and Advisory for AYUSH Practitioners about prophylactic care in Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 23.** To strengthen the community-wide effort to limit the spread of COVID-19, Ministry of Ayush has also operationalized a dedicated community support helpline i.e. toll-free number 14443, to provide AYUSH-based approaches and solutions for the challenges raised by COVID-19.
- 24.** Ministry of Ayush has launched of Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal and the third version of Ayush Sanjivani App. The Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal (<https://accr.ayush.gov.in/>) will serve as a platform to support both AYUSH practitioners and the general public..

## **Annexure –II**

**The details of AYUSH Centres including Ayurvedic and Homeopathic Centres treating COVID patients and estimated recovery rate are as follows -**

### **1. All India Institutes of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi**

COVID Health Centre was established at All India Institutes of Ayurveda, New Delhi on 18.06.2020 to treat mild to moderate cases of COVID-19. Till date 592 COVID patients were admitted in the CHC ward. 99.84% of patients were cured without any complications.

### **2. National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur**

Covid Care Centre was established at Hospital NIA Jaipur in collaboration with Rajasthan Govt. The medicines, Ayush 64 tablets to 13198 persons, Immunity kit comprising Chyavanprash, Ayushkashaya, Jvarahar Capsule to 19000 persons & Guduchi Ghana Vati to 2500 persons were distributed by NIA, Jaipur. Total no. of 98 patients treated with Ayush protocol in NIA COVID Care Centre. Further, Ayush-64 has been provided to 3000 COVID positive patients.

### **3. Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar**

Total of 938 patients admitted at Covid Care Centre of ITRA hospital.

### **4. National Institute of Siddha, Chennai**

Siddha Covid Care Centre at NIS has treated 5000 patients. Further, in 2020, the Covid Care Centre managed by NIS at SRM Medical College treated 400 covid cases.

### **5. North Eastern Institute of Folk Medicine (NEIFM), Pasighat.**

Distributions of AYUSH-64 to home-isolated asymptomatic, mild and moderate Covid-19 patients were given. 270 patients were administered with AYUSH-64 till date.

**State/UT wise details regarding the number of Ayurvedic and Homoeopathy COVID centers set up, the number of patients treated, the percentage of recovery rate for COVID-19 patients treated**

S. No.	Name of the State/ UT	No. of Ayurvedic and Homoeopathy Covid centers set up in State/UT	No. of COVID-19 patients in these centers	The percentage of recovery rate for COVID-19 patients treated with these methods
1	Haryana	11 Ayurvedic Covid centres	5105	93.16% recovered 6.84% referred/ drop out
2	Manipur	One integrated AYUSH hospital & dedicated Covid Care centre	80	72.72%
3	Mizoram	01	127	100%
4	Tamil Nadu	05	2300	100 %
5	Telangana	01	476	95 %
6	Gujarat	In Gujarat since May 2020 more than 44 CCC and more than 21 DCHC/DCH allowed add- on AYUSH intervention to COVID-19 Mild to Moderate cases with their consent.	33,129	As AYUSH intervention was given along with Add on Standard Treatment so exclusive recovery rate for AYUSH intervention could not be analyzed
7	Karnataka	01	87	90 %
8	Kerala	1206	337945 (These patients are treated through 1206 designated covid treatment centres named as AYUR RAKSHA clinics. AYUR RAKSHA clinics established at all Ayurveda Hospitals /Dispensaries and given OP level treatment for A category covid patients (Asymptomatic /mild).	99.96 %
9	Puducherry	01	02	80%

Note- State/UT Governments of Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Rajasthan, J&K, Daman & Diu, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Goa have furnished nil information.