

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.299  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**AYUSH MEDICINES FOR GERIATRIC POPULATION**

**\*299. SHRI T.R.V.S. RAMESH:**

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ministry has taken any steps to improve health of the country's geriatric population following the pandemic, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of people of 60 years and above age across the country to whom AYUSH prophylactic medicines have been distributed till date under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" campaign, State-wise including districtwise in Tamil Nadu?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF AYUSH**

**(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

- (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.299\* FOR 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has taken various steps to improve the health of the country's geriatric population following the pandemic, including Tamil Nadu.

Prophylactic medicines for prevention of COVID-19 from Ayush systems including Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy were distributed free of cost to general public including geriatric population. Initiatives/Actions taken by Ministry of Ayush for management of COVID-19 pandemic are at Annexure-I.

(c) State/UT-wise number of people including 60 years and above age across the country to whom AYUSH prophylactic medicines have been distributed till 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" campaign by Ministry of Ayush is attached as Annexure-II. District-wise details of Tamil Nadu is attached at Annexure-III.

**Initiatives/Actions taken by Ministry of Ayush for management of COVID-19 pandemic.**

1. Ministry of Ayush issued an advisory on how to protect yourself from COVID and how to stay 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 about possible AYUSH intervention wherever required in coordination with Health departments of the States / UTs.
3. A letter was sent to Ministry of Health & Family welfare offering for integrating and utilizing huge AYUSH infrastructure to combat with the COVID19 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 COVID-19 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. Ministry of Ayush recommends self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity.
  - General Measures
  - Ayurvedic Immunity Promoting Measures
  - Simple Ayurvedic Procedures
  - During dry cough/sore throat
6. The Ministry of Ayush launched a three-month campaign on “Ayush for Immunity”, through webinar and also publishing campaign bulletin on AYUSH for Immunity. More than 50 thousand people participated in the Webinar.
7. 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 continual basis. Ministry of Ayush has coordinated with MoHFW for utilisation of AYUSH manpower as COVID warrior for the management of COVID-19 with identified roles.

8. Guidelines for Registered Practitioners of respective system of AYUSH have been prepared by Director Generals of Research Councils and Directors of 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 guidelines are made available in public domain for the benefit of registered AYUSH practitioners including Homoeopathy to help in the management of COVID-19 pandemic uniformly.
9. Government of India has also released “National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for management of COVID-19”.
10. Ministry of Ayush has also released Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha preventive measures for selfcare during COVID-19 and Guidelines for Ayush Practitioners for COVID-19 Patients in Home Isolation.
11. During the second wave of this pandemic, the scientists of reputed research institutions of the country have found that AYUSH-64, a poly herbal formulation developed by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush is useful in the treatment of asymptomatic, mild and moderate COVID-19 infection as an adjunct to standard care. The Ministry of Ayush-Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) collaboration has recently completed a robust multi-centre clinical trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of AYUSH-64 in the management of mild to moderate COVID-19 patients. Further, *KabasurKudineer*, a siddha preparation was also subjected to clinical trials for studying the efficacy in COVID-19 patients by Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) under Ministry of Ayush and is also found useful in the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 infection.
12. States/ UTs licensing authorities / Drug Controllers has been informed to allow the licensed manufactures for AYUSH-64 under their jurisdiction to include 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 application for the manufacturing of AYUSH-64.
13. 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/ dispensary and patients in home isolation.
14. In order to provide maximum benefit of Ayush systems of medicine, a Nation-wide campaign for distribution of AYUSH-64 and *Kabasura Kudineer* through 86 clinical units of Research Councils and National Institute under Ministry of Ayush across the country.

15. Ministry of Ayush has also issued advisory for Ayush practitioners on ethical practices during COVID-19 pandemic.
16. 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.
17. For continuing with the efforts to augment human resources for the management of COVID-19 cases, the Ministry of Ayush has issued advisory to deploy the trained AYUSH human resources available with them for clinical management of COVID-19 cases. The decision to deploy AYUSH professionals to the frontlines of the COVID-19 war is in continuation of decisions taken to boost availability of medical personnel to fight COVID-19 such as postponement of the NEET-PG Exam, giving priority to medical personnel completing 100 days of COVID duties in forthcoming regular Government recruitments and deployment of medical interns in COVID Management duties under the supervision of their faculty.
18. 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.
19. Ministry of Ayush has released information for Ayurveda Practitioners for Prophylactic, Symptomatic Management of suspected and diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis.
20. Ministry of Ayush has released "Ayush Recommendations for the public on holistic health and well-being Preventive measures and care during COVID-19 and LONG COVID-19"

## Annexure-II

**State/UT wise number of people including 60 years and above age across the country to whom AYUSH prophylactic medicines have been distributed till 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 under “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” campaign by Ministry of Ayush.**

State	Number of beneficiaries
Andhra Pradesh	57657
Andaman and Nicobar	1672
Arunachal Pradesh	2953
Assam	23110
Bihar	43269
Delhi	141538
Sikkim	5981
Gujarat	39092
Himachal Pradesh	10399
Jammu	13763
Jharkhand	5237
Karnataka	14660
Kerala	82509
Madhya Pradesh	30776
Maharashtra	76019
Manipur	10420
Meghalaya	958
Mizoram	1339
Nagaland	7774
Orissa	45279
Punjab	6212
Puducherry	11300
Rajasthan	52998
Tamil Nadu	99615
Telangana	19275
Tripura	17797
Uttar Pradesh	65582
Uttarakhand	1769
West Bengal	43305
Ladakh	43
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>932301</b>

**Annexure-III**

**District-wise details of prophylactic medicines from Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy systems distributed to the people of Tamil Nadu including geriatric population by Ministry of Ayush and State Government of Tamil Nadu till 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2021.**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the District</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries of Above 60Years Age</b>
1	Coimbatore	168141
2	Tiruppur	195070
3	Cuddalore	320273
4	Dharmapuri	321348
5	Krishnagiri	338380
6	Dindigul	184135
7	Erode	1778945
8	Kancheepuram	43924
9	Thiruvallur	78420
10	Chengalpet	55508
11	Kanniyakumari	181152
12	Madurai	1555888
13	Theni	457845
14	Nagapattinam	1407737
15	Tiruvarur	1488884
16	Pudukottai	302131
17	Ramnad	252259
18	Salem	108588
19	Namakkal	118832
20	Sivagangai	1111677
21	Thanjavur	212573
22	Nilgiris	374195
23	Tirunelveli	320670
24	Thiruvannamalai	440541
25	Thoothukudi	180707
26	Trichy	420109
27	Karur	496815
28	Perambalur	204153
29	Ariyalur	247376
30	Vellore	203601
31	Villupuram	289207
32	Virudhu Nagar	99045
33	Chennai	109349
34	Kallakurichi	172
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14067650</b>