

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 671  
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2022**

**CONTAINMENT AND TREATMENT OF COVID-19 UNDER AYUSH**

**671. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN :**

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated action for containment and treatment of covid-19 and its variants under AYUSH;
- (b) if so, the details of the facilities provided under AYUSH therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry conducted any study regarding the efficacy of AYUSH medicine for management of COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has issued permission to the Ministry for using its medicines for the treatment of COVID-19 and its variants and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is aware that criticism is going on from the side of modern medicine regarding the use of AYUSH medicines for the management of COVID-19 patients and create confusion among them; and
- (f) if so, the action taken thereon?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF AYUSH  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of AYUSH has undertaken various initiatives for management and mitigation of COVID-19 pandemic, details of which are at **Annexure-I.**
- (c) Ministry of AYUSH has also launched inter-disciplinary studies involving AYUSH interventions for COVID-19 based on recommendations of Task Force. Under various Research Organizations and National Institutes under Ministry of AYUSH, 140 research studies in the country are being conducted on AYUSH interventions.

- (d)** The Government of India has issued the “National Clinical Management Protocol for Management of COVID-19” based on Ayurveda and Yoga. The Ayurveda protocol includes guidelines for management of asymptomatic and mild COVID-19 cases and post-COVID management. The Ministry also issued “Guidelines for Registered Ayush Practitioners for managing the COVID-19 pandemic”, “Guidelines for Ayush Practitioners for COVID-19 Patients in Home Isolation”, and “Advisory on AYUSH interventions for Prophylaxis and Management of COVID-19”. All these guidelines are uploaded on the website of Ministry of AYUSH.

Ayush-64 and Kabasura Kudineer were re-purposed in management of asymptomatic, mild and moderate COVID-19 positive patients, based on research evidences. Recently, Ayur Care Kit was released for home isolation COVID-19 positive patients.

- (e) & (f)** No criticism has been received from the side of modern medicinal system regarding use of AYUSH medicines for the management of COVID-19 patients.

**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 (MoH&FW) 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 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 MoH&FW 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. Ministry of Ayush has formed an Inter-disciplinary AYUSH R&D Task Force chaired by Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan and having representation from scientists, including those from 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).
9. 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 inter-disciplinary studies involving AYUSH interventions for COVID-19 based on recommendations of Task force. Under various research organizations and National Institutes under Ministry of Ayush, 140 research studies in the country, are being conducted on AYUSH interventions.
10. AYUSH Sanjivani mobile app has also been developed by Ministry of Ayush and has documented the impact assessment of effectiveness, acceptance and usage of AYUSH advisories & measures in the prevention of COVID-19 through Mobile app based population study in around 1.35 crores respondents. 85.1% of the respondents reported use of AYUSH measures for prevention of COVID-19, among which 89.8% respondents agreed to have benefitted from the practice of AYUSH advisory.
11. 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 the same are 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.

12. Government of India has also released “National Clinical Management Protocol for management of COVID-19” based on Ayurveda and Yoga, prepared by National Task Force.
13. 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.
14. Ministry of Ayush has also issued advisory for Ayush practitioners on ethical practices during COVID-19 pandemic.
15. 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.
16. 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 available trained AYUSH human resources for clinical management of COVID-19 cases.
17. Ministry of Ayush has released Home care guidelines for children and Advisory for AYUSH Practitioners about prophylactic care for Children during the COVID-19 pandemic.
18. Ministry of Ayush has released information for Ayurveda Practitioners for Prophylactic, Symptomatic Management of suspected and diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis.
19. Ministry of Ayush has also released AYUSH recommendations for the public on holistic health and well-being, preventive measures and care during COVID-19 & LONG COVID-19.
20. Ministry of Ayush has released guidelines for Ayurveda Practitioners for COVID-19 patients in Home Isolation and Ayurveda & Unani based preventive measures for self-care during COVID-19 pandemic.
21. Ministry of Ayush has released an advisory on AYUSH interventions for prophylaxis & management of COVID-19 and AYUSH guidelines for COVID-19 cases for care givers.