

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-4299
ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

“Promotion of Indian Traditional Medicine System”

4299. Shri Anil Firojiya:

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

- a) the major steps taken by the Government to promote Indian traditional medicine systems globally;
- b) whether the Government has launched any special scheme to promote the use of Ayurveda, Yoga and Homeopathy treatment methods during the pandemic and if so, the details thereof;
- c) the details of the new AYUSH schemes and initiatives undertaken by the Government to promote AYUSH health; and
- d) the details of the opportunities provided by the Government to young doctors and researchers for training and research in Indian traditional medicine systems?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH
(SH. PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) Ministry of Ayush has developed a Central Sector Scheme for the Promotion of International Co-operation in AYUSH (IC Scheme) under which the Ministry of Ayush provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to the export of AYUSH products & services; facilitates the International promotion, development and recognition of Ayush system of medicine; foster interaction of stakeholders and market development of AYUSH at international level; promote academics and research through the establishment of AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign countries and holding training workshop/symposiums for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about Ayush systems of Medicine at international level.

The Ministry of Ayush has taken the following steps towards the international recognition for Ayush systems of medicine:

- Collaboration with Foreign Countries by signing of country level Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for undertaking Ayush related activities on mutual interest. Signed 24 Country to Country MoUs for Cooperation in field of Traditional Medicine and Homoeopathy with foreign nations;
- Signing of MoUs with foreign institute for research/academic collaboration;
- 15 MoUs for establishment of Ayush Chairs in Foreign Universities/Institutes;
- Deputation of Ayush expert (short term/long term);
- Collaboration with World Health Organisation (WHO) or United Nations (UN) agencies for cooperation in the field of Ayush, support or organizing international training;
- Conference, seminar, expo etc. in India or abroad for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about Ayush systems of Medicine at international level;
- Establishment of 42 Ayush information cell (centre) in different countries across the world to provide authentic information about Ayush system;
- Representing Ayush in various bilateral meetings and multilateral forums, support for undertaking clinical research in Ayush at international level;
- Provides support to Indian Ayush Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to export of Ayush products & services etc.
- Offering AYUSH scholarships to foreign nationals for courses in recognized AYUSH institutions in India.
- International Day of Yoga (IDY), Celebrated annually on June 21, IDY has become a flagship event following its adoption by the United Nations in 2014, with large-scale participation across the globe through embassies, yoga practitioners, and local communities.
- Educational Initiatives such as support for yoga education through courses, and the establishment of Ayush chairs in foreign universities. The Yoga Certification Board (YCB), established by the Ministry of Ayush, provides internationally recognized certification for yoga professionals and institutions, ensuring quality standards in teaching and practice.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Ayush has undertaken following initiative to promote Ayush systems:

- Ministry of Ayush is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Ayush Mission (NAM) through State/UT Governments for development and promotion of Ayush system of medicines and providing financial assistance to them as per the proposals received in their State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs) as per NAM guidelines.
- Ministry of Ayush has developed a Central Sector Scheme for the Promotion of International Co-operation in AYUSH (IC Scheme) under which the Ministry of Ayush provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to the export of AYUSH products & services; facilitates the International promotion, development and recognition of Ayush system of medicine; foster interaction of stakeholders and market development of AYUSH at international level; promote academics and research through the establishment of AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign countries and holding training workshop/symposiums for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about Ayush systems of Medicine at international level.
- Ministry of Ayush has supported World Health Organization (WHO) to establish a Global Traditional Medicine Centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat, which has a strategic focus on evidence and learning, data and analytics, sustainability and equity, and innovation and technology to optimize the contribution of traditional medicine to global health and sustainable development.
- The Ministry also implements the Central Sector Scheme for Promotion of Information Education and Communication (IEC) in Ayush to create awareness regarding Ayush system of Medicine. This scheme aims to reach out to all sections of the population across the country. It provides assistance for organizing National/State Arogya Fairs, Yoga Fests/Utsavs, Ayurveda Parvs, etc. The Ministry also undertakes Multi-Media, Print Media Campaigns for creating awareness about the Ayush system.
- Ayush Oushadhi Gunvatta Evam Uttpadan Samvardhan Yojana (AOGUSY) to regulate Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homeopathy (ASU&H) medicines in India, utilizing the framework provided by the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, and its associated rules Strengthening and up-gradation of Ayush Pharmacies and Drug Testing Laboratories to achieve higher standards.

- **AYURGYAN Scheme:** The scheme aims to enhance and develop capacity in the Ayush healthcare sector at the country level. It seeks to improve health practices through sustainable Ayush methods, encourage professionals to undergo professional orientation, update knowledge of teachers and doctors, and promote the use of information technology for disseminating Ayush developments. The scheme also focuses on encouraging research and development in priority areas to validate claims and enhance the acceptability of Ayush approaches and drugs in the global market.
- **Ayurswasthya:** Ayurswasthya Yojana aims to address the diverse health challenges faced by India by merging and expanding two existing schemes - Public Health Intervention (PHI) and Centre of Excellence (COE). The scheme has three main components: Ayush and Public Health, Ayush for Sports Medicine, and Upgradation of facilities to the Centre of Excellence

The 12 National Institutes and 05 Research Councils under the aegis of Ministry of Ayush are also engaged in education, health care services, research and public awareness in Ayush systems of medicine. The Outpatient & Indoor patient services of these institutes provides comprehensive health care to public at large. The five Research Councils under Ministry of Ayush works with a common mandate of co-ordinating, formulating, developing and promoting research on scientific lines in their respective Ayush systems of medicine. These Institutes/ Research Councils also organizes Arogya Melas, Awareness Camps, Treatment Camps, Radio & TV talks, outreach programs like Swasthya Rakshan Program (SRP), Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) Research Program, Tribal Health Care Research Program (THCRP) for creating awareness on Ayush systems of healthcare among the general public.

An Ayush Research Portal has been developed for promotion and propagation of Ayush system where 43,614 evidence based research articles are listed. The link of the portal is <https://ayushportal.nic.in/default.aspx>

d) Government of India provides opportunities through the National Council for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) to promote research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Sowa-Rigpa (ASUS) sector are as follows:

- **Publication Grant:** NCISM is giving publication grant to the teachers, Under graduate and Post Graduate, and practitioners of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani medical system for publication of research papers in quality journals as per the guidelines.
- **STUDENTSHIP PROGRAM FOR AYURVEDA RESEARCH KEN (SPARK):** NCISM, in collaboration with the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), launched the Studentship Program for Ayurveda Research Ken (SPARK) for undergraduate students of Ayurveda colleges. In collaboration with NCISM, the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) and the Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) also launched a studentship program for the Siddha and Unani medical systems to develop research for undergraduate students of Siddha and Unani colleges, respectively.
- **Post Graduate scholars (PG-STAR):** NCISM in the collaboration with CCRAS has launched Scheme for Training in Ayurveda Research for Post Graduate scholars (PG-STAR).
- **LITERARY RESEARCH:** CCRAS is giving grant for literary research to the individuals and also working in collaboration with the teaching institutions for research purpose.
- **ANVESHANAM RASA-BHASMA:** Board of Ayurveda, NCISM, is inviting proposal from the Department of Rasashastra & Bhaishajya Kalpana or teachers of Rasashastra of recognised Ayurveda institutions & Ayurveda practitioners for preparation of new “Rasaushadhi” or “Bhasma of new material” which is not described in any Ayurveda classical texts.