

The co-location of AYUSH facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) & District Hospitals (DHs) and upgradation of exclusive AYUSH Hospitals, including Yoga & Naturopathy facilities are included in the AYUSH Services component of NAM. The State/UT Governments are required to forward their State Annual Action Plan (SAAP) for seeking grant-in-aid for this purpose.

Under flexible components of National AYUSH Mission, a provision has also been kept for AYUSH Wellness Centres, including Yoga & Naturopathy Centres.

Besides, the Government has established 5 Central Research Councils, including one each for Ayurveda and Yoga & Naturopathy, which have a network of institutions for carrying out research and some of these also extend healthcare services. The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences has 30 peripheral institutes, 24 of which extend healthcare services. The Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy is presently having one Research Institute and two more such institutes are under development.

- (b) The Government has not fixed any such specific targets.

Amendment to MTP Act

1715. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to amend Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act to allow ayurvedacharyas, homoeopaths and nurses to conduct MTP;

- (b) if so, the manner in which the Ministry would ensure safety of patients since these individuals lack in expertise and scientific knowledge on MTP;

- (c) whether the proposed move is against the Clinical Establishments Act which debars anyone, other than doctors, to perform medical procedures; and

- (d) if so, the reasons behind such a move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Government of India has formulated a Draft Bill on Amendments to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971 which has a proposal to allow ayurvedacharyas, homeopaths and nurses to conduct MTP under specific conditionalities.

Once the Amendment Bill receives Parliamentary sanction, subsequently the

Rules and Guidelines to be issued by the Government of India would lay down the specific conditionalities including the eligibility, permitted gestation limit, method of MTP, technologies to be used, place of service delivery and training and certification requirements under which these service providers would be permitted to provide MTP services. These measures would ensure safety of women seeking such services.

(c) and (d) The proposed move is not against the Clinical Establishment Act which currently does not have any clause which debars anyone, other than doctors, to perform medical procedures.

Private airlines operating in the country

†1716. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allowed private airlines to operate in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the basis on which Government has allowed private airlines to operate in the country despite Air India continuously running in losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There are seven Private Scheduled Airlines viz. Air Asia (India) Pvt. Ltd, Spice Jet Ltd, Interglobe Aviation Pvt. Ltd (Indigo), Jet Lite (India) Ltd, Jet Airways (India) Ltd, Go Airlines (India) Pvt. Ltd and LEPL Projects Ltd (Regional), which are providing Scheduled Air Transport Services in the country and one Private Scheduled Cargo Airline *i.e.* M/s Blue Dart Aviation Ltd.

(c) Government has allowed these private airlines to operate in the country in accordance with Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) Section 3, Series C, Part II(Scheduled Air Transport Services) and Part VIII (Scheduled Air Transport, Regional Service) to provide better connectivity to all parts of the country.

Levy of cancellation charges on passengers trapped in Srinagar/ Leh

†1717. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) had directed not to levy any kind of cancellation charges on cancellation of tickets by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.