

- (c) National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) for all AYUSH Educational Institutions for admission for Undergraduate Course has been introduced.
- (d) All India Post Graduate Entrance Test (AIPGET) for all AYUSH Educational Institutions for admission for Post graduate Courses has been introduced.
- (e) AYUSH National Teachers Eligibility Test to be conducted for appointment of all teachers in AYUSH institutions and an unique verification code for such teachers shall be allotted by CCH/CCI before their appointment, is being introduced.
- (f) Aadhar based Geo location enabled attendance system for teaching staff, non-teaching staff, hospital staff and PG students is under process of implementation.

#### **Financial aid for establishing ayurvedic centres**

164. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

- (a) what steps are being taken by Government to promote Ayurveda in the country;
- (b) whether any financial assistance has been given to those who set up Ayurvedic centres; and
- (c) if so, the total quantum of assistance provided during the last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Under the Central Sector Scheme for Promotion of Information Education and Communication (IEC) in AYUSH, the Ministry of AYUSH takes up initiatives to create awareness about and to promote AYUSH systems of medicine including Ayurveda. These initiatives include organizing Arogya Fairs/Melas, Conferences, Exhibitions, Seminars, Workshops, Symposium and Ayurveda Parvs and also undertaking publicity campaigning through electronic multimedia, print media and social media amongst the citizens in the country.

The Ministry has also been observing Ayurveda Day on Dhanwantari Day every year since 2016 to create awareness regarding Ayurveda and its benefits.

(b) and (c) There is no scheme presently with the Ministry which gives financial assistance to those who set up Ayurvedic centres.

#### **Central regulatory system for AYUSH based medicines**

165. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Regulatory System is being constituted to check the quality of AYUSH based medicines in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the details of the functioning of such systems in Kerala;

(b) if not, the existing mechanism for that purpose at present; and

(c) whether the recruitment of the technical persons were completed, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 have exclusive provisions for regulation and quality control of Ayurvedic medicines. Central Government frames and amends the legal provisions and issues directions to the State Governments from time to time on the basis of emerging regulatory needs. As such State Governments are responsible to appropriately enforce the regulatory provisions for licensed manufacturing and quality control of Ayurvedic medicines, for which Licensing Authorities, Drug Controllers, Inspectors and Government Analysts are appointed.

Ministry of AYUSH has a Drug Control Cell to deal with regulatory matters of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and to coordinate with State Licensing/Drug Control Authorities in this regard. A vertical structure of AYUSH has been created within Central Drugs Standard Control Organization since 05.02.2018 to oversee the regulation of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy (ASU&H) drugs from Central level. Nine regulatory posts have been created. Technical Officers of the Ministry of AYUSH have been given additional charge of the central regulatory posts