

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1603
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd AUGUST 2021**

DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE AYUSH MEDICINES AGAINST COVID-19

1603 SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

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

- (a) whether any effective AYUSH medicines could be developed in the country to control the ill effects of COVID-19 in the last 18 months
- (b) if so, the progress made so far by Government and private institutions in the country and
- (c) whether the medicine(s) found effective in the cure of COVID-19 affected persons has been given national and international level recognition?

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

(a): (i) Ministry of Ayush has formed an Interdisciplinary AYUSH R&D Taskforce chaired by Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan and having representation from scientists including ICMR, DBT, CSIR, AIIMS and AYUSH Institutions. The Interdisciplinary AYUSH Research and Development Taskforce has formulated and designed clinical research protocols for prophylactic studies and add-on interventions in COVID-19 positive cases through a thorough review and consultative process of highly reputed experts from different organizations across the country for studying four different interventions viz. Ashwagandha, Yashtimadhu, Guduchi + Pippali and a polyherbal formulation (AYUSH-64) .

(ii): Ministry of Ayush has also launched interdisciplinary studies involving AYUSH interventions for COVID-19 based on Taskforce recommendations. Under various research organizations and National Institutes under the Ministry of Ayush, 126 research studies at 152 centres in the country have been initiated on AYUSH interventions.

(iii): Government of India has released “National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for management of COVID-19” prepared by the National Taskforce in consensus from various expert committees.

(iv): During the second wave of this pandemic, AYUSH-64 and Kabasura Kudineer have been found helpful in asymptomatic, mild and moderate COVID-19 infection as an adjunct to standard care as per the studies conducted by the scientists of research institution of the country.

(v): Ministry of Ayush vide Gazette Notification dated 21.04.2020 facilitated the scientists, researchers and clinicians of any of recognized systems of medicine under Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and National Medical Commission Act, 2019 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.

(b): National Institutes and Research Councils under the Ministry of Ayush have conducted various studies to document the role of AYUSH interventions in Covid-19. 126 studies have been initiated by Research Councils and National Institutes which include 42 prophylactic studies, 40 interventional studies, 11 observational studies, 22 pre-clinical/experimental studies, 01 systematic review, 08 survey studies and 02 monographs preparation. The system-wise research studies include 66 from Ayurveda, 26 from Homoeopathy, 13 from Siddha, 08 from Unani and 13 from Yoga & Naturopathy. Total 90 studies have been completed and 10 manuscripts have been published.

These research studies are conducted at peripheral institutes of Research Council, National Institutes and other collaborative centres situated in different States/ UTs.

AYUSH-64 and Kabasur Kudineer has been identified for COVID-19 treatment. The research outcomes of the clinical trials has demonstrated efficacy of AYUSH- 64 in the treatment of asymptomatic & mild cases as standalone and for the management of mild and moderate COVID-19 as an adjunct to standard care. It was observed that AYUSH-64 as adjunct treatment to Standard Care resulted in significant improvement in clinical recovery. Further, Kabasur Kudineer, 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 helpful in the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 infection.

(c): i. AYUSH-64 and Kabasur Kudineer have been identified for COVID-19 treatment. The research outcomes of the clinical trials has demonstrated efficacy of AYUSH- 64 in the treatment of asymptomatic & mild cases as standalone and for the management of mild and moderate COVID-19 as an adjunct to standard care. It was observed that AYUSH-64 as adjunct treatment to Standard Care resulted in significant improvement in clinical recovery. Further, Kabasur Kudineer, a Siddha preparation was also subjected to clinical trials for studying the efficacy in COVID-19 patients by the Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) under the Ministry of Ayush and is also found helpful in the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 infection.

ii. In order to provide maximum benefit of AYUSH systems of medicine, a nationwide campaign has been undertaken for distribution of AYUSH-64 and Kabasura Kudineer through the Research Councils and the National Institutes under the Ministry of Ayush across the country, which is also being documented through AYUSH Sanjivani mobile application in this campaign.