

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1722
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH AUGUST, 2024**

MAKING ACUPRESSURE/ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT UNIFORM

1722. DR. M. THAMBIDURAI :

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that large chunk of people are going in for acupressure / acupuncture treatment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has put undue restrictions on the healers / doctors treating the patients;
- (d) whether Government is aware that there is no uniform system of giving licences to the healers / doctors leading to different States having different systems for giving licenses to practice;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken by Government to have uniform system of giving licenses to the acupressure / acupuncture healers / doctors?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (f) : Based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Experts, practice of Acupuncture was qualified as a 'mode of therapy'. Thereafter, an Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC), constituted by the Department of Health Research, had recommended in 2018 that Acupuncture can be accepted as an independent system of healthcare for the indications for which there is evidence and expertise exists for teaching, training and certification.

After consideration of IDC report, 'Apex Committee on Acupuncture' (ACA) was constituted for the purpose of promotion and regulation of Acupuncture as a system of healthcare / therapy. Committee has also recommended that in order to implement the guidelines, the Government of India may take appropriate decision about establishing an appropriate regulatory mechanism so as to ensure a conducive environment and system for promotion and regulation of practice of acupuncture as a system of healthcare and therapy in the country.

The recommendations of Apex Committee on Acupuncture for establishing an appropriate regulatory mechanism are under active consideration of the Government. In this regard, a comprehensive consultation, involving multiple departments, including Ministry of AYUSH, has been completed.
