

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:243

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HEALTH SECTOR

Gopalakrishnan Shri R.;Mohammed Shri Faizal P.P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has entered into agreements seeking cooperation in the health sector with a number of countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the details of the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)/Agreements signed by the Government with these countries during the last year and the current year;
- (c) whether the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi in collaboration with the Ohio University has initiated various health projects including setting up of Regenerative Medicine Centre, and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the other measures being taken by the Government to scale up international cooperation on health, medical research and education; and
- (e) the extent to which the aforesaid international cooperation is likely to address the challenges faced by the country in health sector?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 243 FOR 13TH MARCH, 2015

(a) & (b): Yes. During the last year and the current year, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare/Ministry of AYUSH have signed the following Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/ Statement of Intent (Sol) / Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC):

Department of Health & Family Welfare:

- (i) Maldives : 02 January 2014 To promote bilateral cooperation/exchange
- (ii) The Netherlands: 30 January 2014 and establish inter-ministerial and inter
- (iii) Japan : 01 September 2014 -institutional cooperation in the field of health
- (iv) The Food and Drug Administration To facilitate sharing of information on lack of USA: 10 February 2014 of compliance with accepted current Good Manufacturing Practice, Good Clinical Practice or Good Laboratory Practice by manufacturers of medical products
- (v) Multilateral MoU among Bangladesh, For elimination of Kala Azar in the South Bhutan, India, Nepal and Thailand, East Asia Region facilitated by the World Health Organization: 09 September 2014.
- (vi) AIIMS, New Delhi and Maastricht To institute academic cooperation in medical University, Netherland : 23 education, student programs, research and August 2014 exchange of academic staff
- (vii) AIIMS, New Delhi and Osaka Collaboration for research and development University, Japan : of novel surgical instruments and affordable 13 October 2014 medical devices

Department of Health Research:

- (i) ICMR and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), USA: 10 November 2014: Cooperation in AIDS vaccine development
- (ii) Department of Health Research and National Institute of Health & Care Excellence (NICE), UK : 14 June 2013: To strengthen evidence based clinical policy making in healthcare system through Medical Technology Assessment Board
- (iii) ICMR and Research Council of Norway on Health Research : 14 October 2014: To encourage research in a range of health areas of mutual interest including human vaccines, infectious diseases and anti-microbial resistance
- (iv) ICMR and the Russian Foundation for Basic Research: 11 December 2014 : Cooperation in specific areas of health research such as oncology, bioinformatics, neurosciences, new generation vaccines and HIV/AIDS.

Ministry of AYUSH:

- (i) Hungary: 17 October 2013: To strengthen, promote and develop co-operation in the field of traditional systems of medicine
  - (ii) Bangladesh: 09 September 2014: To strengthen, promote and develop cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy
  - (iii) Nepal: 25 November 2014: To strengthen, promote and develop Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine
- (c): The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi has not signed any agreement with the Ohio State University (OSU), USA, including for developing a National Centre for Regenerative Medicine at AIIMS. Only discussions have been held.
- (d) & (e): In addition to the bilateral agreements between India and other countries in the field of health cooperation, international cooperation is also achieved through the aegis of World Health Organization, SAARC forum and other international arrangements such as BRICS framework for strategic cooperation in health. The international cooperation facilitates capacity building, training, exchange of information, exchange of experts, health manpower development, technical support in establishing laboratories/hospitals and research in mutually identified areas, on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit. It provides opportunities for sharing and emulating best practices and learning from each other, to address the health challenges faced by the country. Technical guidance and support is also received in this regard from WHO from time to time. International cooperation activities are also aimed towards promotion and propagation of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) systems abroad.