

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH)
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3181

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2015

Research and Processing in Ayurveda

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Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any facility for standardisation and certification of the ayurvedic products and medicines in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government provides financial and technical assistance to various institutions for research and processing in Ayurveda and has started any schemes/ projects to promote ayurvedic system of medicine in the country, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to upgrade nature cure division in various hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that ayurvedic medicines are not given adequate encouragement in the country and if so, the steps taken to encourage ayurveda and set up ayurveda institutions in the country; and
- (e) the quantum and value of ayurvedic products exported to various countries during the last three years and the current year, product and country-wise and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote/boost the export of ayurveda products?

Answer

(a): The Government has set up Pharmacopoeia Commission of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy and a Pharmacopoeia Committee to develop the standards of Ayurvedic drugs. Quality standards of identity, purity and strength of Ayurvedic drugs including the permissible

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limits of heavy metals, pesticide residue, aflatoxins and microbial load are prescribed in the Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India published by the Government. As per Rule 158 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945, these standards are required to be complied with in the manufacture for sale or distribution of Ayurvedic drugs. In as far certification of Ayurvedic medicines is concerned, it is mandatory by Rule 157 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for the manufacturer to comply with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) specified in the Schedule 'T' of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and obtain a certificate on this account from the State Licensing Authority while seeking grant or renewal of license. Voluntary system of WHO-GMP Certification of Pharmaceutical Products by Drugs Controller General and quality certification by Quality Council of India is also in place for Ayurvedic medicines.

(b): Government has published documents of standards and guidelines including Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia, Formulary and Good Clinical Practice Guidelines for imparting technical assistance in the area of research and development of Ayurvedic. A Central Sector Scheme of Extramural Research has been implemented to provide financial support for research projects in Ayurveda, State/UT-wise details of the projects supported under the scheme are given in Annexure-I. For promoting intramural research in Ayurveda, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences is supported through the Central Scheme implemented by the Ministry of AYUSH. The Council has 30 peripheral institutes distributed in 24 states. State-wise list of Ayurvedic Research Centres of the Council is given in Annexure-II, out of which centres at Chennai, Kolkata, Gwalior, Cheruthuruthy and Patiala possess the facilities for standardization for research purpose.

(c): Government has implemented Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission since 29th September 2014, which inter alia includes the component of AYUSH services with the provision for up-gradation of AYUSH hospitals including that of Naturopathy. State/UT Governments are eligible for submitting the proposals through State Annual Action Plans as per the guidelines of National AYUSH Mission. Details of grant-in-aid released to the states during the financial year 2014-15 and first quarter of 2015-16 for their action plans including up-gradation of AYUSH hospitals and that of naturopathy are given in Annexure-III.

(d): Ayurveda is a recognized system of medicine in the country, which gets due support for its growth and development. The Government has upgraded Department of AYUSH to an independent Ministry for imparting focused attention towards overall development of Ayurveda and other AYUSH systems. The Government has set up National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur; Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyaapeeth, Delhi; All India Institute of Ayurveda, Delhi; North-Eastern Institute of Ayurveda & Homoeopathy, Shillong, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, New Delhi and Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Almora and regularly supporting Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar. Various Central Schemes and National AYUSH Mission have been implemented to facilitate educational, healthcare, research, manufacturing, drug testing, awareness building, international cooperation and promotional activities of Ayurveda and other AYUSH systems.

(e): As per information provided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry the quantum and value of Ayurvedic Products exported during the last three years and current year is as under:-

Export of Ayurvedic Medicines (ITCHS Code:30039011)

YEAR Total Export of Ayurvedic Medicines

Quantity in Kilograms Value in Indian Rupees

2012-13 2406473 1250121169

2013-14 1681966 1255768647

2014-15 1947866 1100382891

2015-16 (April-May) 227268 139118308

The country wise details of export of Ayurvedic Medicines during last three years and current year, as provided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, are given in Annexure-IV.

The Government has taken following steps to promote/boost the export of ayurveda products:-

i. Publication of Ayurvedic Pharmacopeia containing quality standards of 600 single drugs & 152 compound formulations has been made and Pharmacopeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy established to address quality concerns and accelerate the work of development of quality standards of drugs.

ii. Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and shelf life or date of expiry of various forms of Ayurvedic medicines notified under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, which are mandatory for licensing of Ayurveda drugs.

iii. Certification system of WHO-GMP and Pharmaceutical Products and voluntary quality certification of Ayurvedic drugs has been implemented by the Central Drug Standards Control Organization and Quality Council of India respectively.

iv. 27 State Drug Testing Laboratories and 46 State Pharmacies provided financial assistance for strengthening infrastructural and functional capacity for production and testing of Ayurvedic drugs and a component of Drugs Quality Control is provided in the National AYUSH Mission to support the state initiatives.

v. 39 Drug Testing Laboratories are approved under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules 1945 for testing of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs.

vi. Provisions have been made in the International Cooperation scheme to support the manufacturers for promoting export by registration of products in the foreign markets, development of drug dossiers and participation in international fairs & exhibitions.

vii. National Medicinal Plants Board has been set up for conservation and promotion of medicinal plants, which are used in the manufacturing of AYUSH medicines.