

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3361

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014

AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE UNDER AYUSH

Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan; Innocent Shri ; Reddy Shri Konda Vishweshwar

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

- (a) the number of doctors in Allopathy, Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy, separately appointed against their sanctioned posts under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise including Kerala;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for integration of AYUSH System of medicines in the mainstream medical system in the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch insurance policies for patients taking alternate/ traditional Indian medicines for treatment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government for affordable healthcare of patients preferring alternate medication in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a): The State /UT wise Statement including Kerala regarding the number of Allopathy and AYUSH doctors sanctioned and appointed under National Health Mission (NHM)/ National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) during last three years and current year is placed at Annexure. The approval for contractual post of Medical Officers (MOs) under NHM is given for Allopathy and AYUSH. States/ UTs appoint the MOs of appropriate AYUSH systems of medicines as per their requirement. No disaggregated data on different systems of medicine of AYUSH supported under NHM/NRHM is maintained by Central Government.
- (b): The Mainstreaming of AYUSH is one of the core strategies in National Rural Health Mission which seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population by addressing the deficiencies in the existing health care delivery system. The NRHM seeks to revitalize local health traditions and mainstream AYUSH to strengthen the Public Health System at all levels. Under NRHM, engagement of AYUSH doctors/ paramedics is being supported, provided they are collocated with existing Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), with priority given to remote PHCs and CHCs. Support for AYUSH medicines is also being provided at the AYUSH co-located health facilities. Further, the support for AYUSH infrastructure, equipment / furniture and medicines are provided by Ministry of AYUSH under shared responsibilities.
- (c) & (d): Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority (IRDA) vide Gazette Notification IRDA/Reg/14/72/2013 dated 16.02.2013 has notified inclusion of AYUSH treatment for Health insurance coverage in specified Hospitals.
- (e): The Government has taken following steps for affordable healthcare of patients preferring AYUSH Systems in the country:
 - (i) Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM), the Government of India provides financial assistance to State/UT Governments for free essential AYUSH medicines to the patients, at co-located AYUSH facilities of Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) & District Hospitals (DHs) and exclusive AYUSH Hospitals/Dispensaries of State/UT Governments.
 - (ii) The National AYUSH Mission also provides financial assistance to States / UTs for cultivation of medicinal plants by adopting Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) so as to provide sustained supply of quality raw-materials at economical prices which in turn facilitate in making available affordable AYUSH Medicines to the public.