



Ministry of AYUSH

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) is a flagship scheme of Ministry of AYUSH approved and notified on 29.09.2014. National AYUSH Mission (NAM) launched during 12th Plan for implementing through States/UTs. The basic objective of NAM is to promote AYUSH medical systems through cost effective AYUSH services, strengthening of educational systems, facilitate the enforcement of quality control of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani & Homoeopathy (ASU&H) drugs and sustainable availability of ASU&H raw-materials. It envisages flexibility of implementation of the programmes which will lead to substantial participation of the State Governments/UT.

The National Health Policy (NHP) 2017 has advocated mainstreaming the potential of AYUSH systems within a pluralistic system of Integrative healthcare. The focus is on holistic wellness approach aiming at prevention of diseases and promotion of health and wellbeing. In 2020, the Union Cabinet has approved Ministry's proposal to operationalise 12,500 Health and Wellness Centre (HWCs) under Ayushman Bharat in a phased manner from year 2019-20 to 2023-24. The existing AYUSH Dispensaries and Sub Health Centres would be upgraded into AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres (AYUSH HWC).

**Among the others, the main priority objectives of the scheme are:**

- To establish a holistic wellness model based on AYUSH principles and practices, to empower masses for 'self-care' to reduce the disease burden, out of pocket expenditure and to provide informed choice to the needy public.
- To provide cost effective AYUSH Services, with a universal access through upgrading AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries, co-location of AYUSH facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs).
- Support cultivation of medicinal plants by adopting Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) so as to provide sustained supply of quality raw-materials and support certification mechanism for quality standards, Good Agricultural/Collection/Storage Practices.

- Support setting up of clusters through convergence of cultivation, warehousing, value addition and marketing and development of infrastructure for entrepreneurs.

### **Scope of Convergence with MoPR**

Health has multiple determinants and therefore to successfully address the issue multi-sectoral coordination is necessary and therefore the linkages with line ministries & departments to successfully plan and carryout public health activities has already been envisaged in the scheme guidelines. The linkages with State department of health, AYUSH standalone hospitals, collocated facilities, educational institutions, national level organizations, schools, social groups, private bodies, community groups, local bodies, Panchayati Raj institutions, inter-sectoral convergence have already been included. Engagement of community level collectives such as Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNCs), MahilaArogyaSamiti (MAS), Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are already part of the activities under AYUSH HWCs. Inter-sectoral convergence for addressing dominants of health have been addressed.

### **Proposed activities for convergence at Anganwadi centres**

The Panchayati Raj Institution with its three-tier system functions as a units of local administration and governance. In the District Level Committees for programme planning and implementation, representation of ZillaParishad and Gram Panchayat has been envisaged. In consultation with the Village Panchayat/ Gram Panchayat, at the Panchayat Campus, yoga sessions are conducted. In the operational guidelines approved by the Union Cabinet, activities that need to be taken-up by the Ministry with convergence with the Panchayats. Such activities can be organised during public gatherings such as meetings in and around the Panchayat building, after giving due publicity to the public.

- i. **Clinical services:** At least one outreach clinical camp in a month by the Community Health Officer (CHO) at Gram Panchayat building may be conducted to provide clinical services including basic diagnostics (such as haemoglobin and blood glucose) and dispensing of essential medicines.
- ii. **Developing demonstrative medicinal plant garden in Panchayat building campus:** Cultivation of commonly used medicinal plants and their use in the prevention and management of diseases is an important activity under AYUSH HWC. Some popular medicinal plants in the region may be planted in the Panchayat building campus depending on its geographical location and space available. The State department AYUSH with the help of State Medicinal Plants Board and Horticulture department will

provide the planting materials and provide technical support in development of herbal garden. A brochure on selected medicinal plants has been prepared.

- iii. **Yoga camps at Panchayat buildings/campus:** Sessions through Yoga instructors deployed at nearby AYUSH HWC may be conducted once in a week or more frequently, depending on the feasibility, which may be mutually decided the AYUSH HWC & Panchayati Raj team.
- iv. **IEC activities:** Display of IEC materials in the Panchayat building/campus and IEC activities on healthy lifestyle like seasonal practices, physiological & behavioural code by AYUSH HWC team. Popularising AYUSH based nutritional food recipes based on local resources.
- v. **Training of Gram Panchayat functionaries:** Any field level workers available with Gram Panchayat may be trained in preventive AYUSH interventions by the CHO.

The funding for all above activities is available in the scheme. The Departments of Panchayati Raj and AYUSH in all respective States/UTs are to be requested for joint consultation and drawing the action plan for specific requirement for each AYUSH HWCs.