Upgrading Ayush dispensaries under NAM

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Under National Ayush Mission (NAM), 12500 Ayush Health & Wellness Centre now known as Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayush) have been approved for operationalization by upgrading 10941 Ayush Dispensaries and 1559 Sub Health Centres and as reported by States/UTs, all are functional.

The total funds of Rs. 1872.71 Crore has been allocated/released and as reported by State/UT Governments, Rs. 1802.15 Crore has been utilized under NAM during the last two financial years.

Government of India has adopted a strategy of Co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs), thus enabling the choice to the patients for different systems of medicines under a single window. The engagement of Ayush doctors/ paramedics and their training is being supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under National Health Mission (NHM), while the support for Ayush infrastructure, equipment/ furniture and medicines is being provided by the Ministry of Ayush under National Ayush Mission (NAM), as shared responsibilities. 6302 PHCs, 3191 CHCs and 475 DHs have been co-located across the country as per the NHM-Medical Information System (MIS) database as on 31.12.2025.

National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India is implementing Central Sector Scheme on “Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants” throughout the country to promote the cultivation of medicinal plants wherein following activities are supported:

i. Information Education & Communication (IEC) activities like Training / Workshops / Seminars/ Conferences etc.
ii. In-situ conservation / Ex-situ conservation.
iii. Livelihood linkages with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) / Panchayats / Van Panchayats / Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) / Self Help Groups (SHGs).
iv. Research & Development.
v. Promotion, marketing and trade of medicinal plants produce.
vi. Forward and backward linkage in supply chain of medicinal plants (Integrated Component) under which the following activities are supported:

- Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material to raise the planting material of medicinal plants for cultivation.
- Information Education Communication (IEC) activities to aware the farmers.
- Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing to increase the marketability of the medicinal plants, adding value to the produce, increasing profitability and reducing losses.
- Testing and Certification of raw material.

The following measures are being implemented to ensure quality control of Ayurvedic medicines:

1. The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945 have exclusive regulatory provisions for Ayurvedic drugs. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements for

licensing of manufacturing units & medicines including proof of safety & effectiveness, compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T of the Drugs Rules, 1945 for Ayurvedic drugs and to follow the quality standards of drugs as prescribed in the Ayurvedic pharmacopoeia.

Drug Inspectors collect medicine samples regularly from manufacturing firms or sale shops within their jurisdiction and send them to Drug Testing Laboratory under Drug Control department for quality testing and if any sample is found to be 'Not of Standard Quality', appropriate action is initiated such as preventing the sale of the products from the market and appropriate legal actions as per Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules made thereunder.

2. The Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), a subordinate organization under the Ministry of Ayush, develops pharmacopoeial standards and formulary specifications for Ayurvedic drugs, which serve as the official compendia for determining their identity, purity, and strength. Compliance with these standards is mandatory under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules made thereunder. PCIM&H also functions as the Appellate Drug Testing Laboratory for Ayurvedic drugs and conducts regular capacity-building programmes for Drug Regulatory Authorities, Drug Analysts, and other stakeholders on standardization, quality control, and testing methodologies to strengthen the quality assurance system for Ayurvedic drugs.
3. Drug Testing Laboratories are being recognized under Rule 160 A to J of the Drugs Rules, 1945 for carrying out such tests of identity, purity, quality and strength of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Unani drugs. As on date, 118 private laboratories and 34 Drug Testing Laboratories of State/UTs are functional.
4. Ministry of Ayush has implemented Central Sector Scheme Ayush Oushadhi Gunvatta Evam Uttpadan Samvardhan Yojana (AOGUSY) to support Ayush Pharmacies and Drug Testing Laboratories to achieve higher standards under one of its components.
5. Further, the Ministry of Ayush promotes the following quality certification initiatives for Ayush products:

- Ayush Vertical in CDSCO: Strengthens regulatory oversight through joint inspections with State/UT licensing authorities and facilitates issuance of WHO Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (WHO-CoPP) for eligible Ayush drugs.
- QCI Quality Certification Scheme: Provides Ayush Standard Mark and Ayush Premium Mark based on third-party evaluation of compliance with domestic and international quality standards.

6. Further, the Ministry of Ayush launched the Ayush Quality Mark Programme on 19.12.2025 to strengthen quality assurance and enhance the global recognition of Ayush

This information was given by Union Minister of State (I/C) for Ayush, Shri Prataprao Jadhav in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

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